



**Matt Mahoney**  
Lieutenant  
Police Department  
410 East Peltason Dr., Irvine, CA 92697-4900

December 2, 2020

The safety of the University Hills community is of paramount importance to the UCI Police Department. We are committed to working with the residents to ensure the safety of residents, motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

Traffic safety plays an important role in keeping the members of any community safe. Traffic safety can best be accomplished through the collaboration of stakeholders. Enforcement, by itself, is not effective. Education, Engineering, and Enforcement are key components to maximizing and concentrating efforts at achieving a safe community.

Recently, concerns have been shared with the UCI Police Department regarding the residential speed limit of 25 miles per hour (MPH) set in University Hills. Certain speed limits, called *prima facie* limits, are established by California law and include the 25 MPH speed limit in business and residential districts, as well as the 25 MPH limit in school zones when children are present.

For some residents, even 25 MPH may seem too fast in a residential area. Still, the law is clear that a speed limit lower than the residential legal standard of 25 MPH cannot be enacted locally, nor can it be enforced by the police.

The UCI Police Department is working with the Irvine Campus Housing Authority (ICHA) staff to explore alternatives to encourage motorists to think about safety whenever they leave their homes or drive through University Hills. These alternatives may include driver feedback signs that show the speed of vehicles, conspicuous posting of speed limit and other traffic safety signs, including traffic safety information and reminders in newsletters and articles, and high visibility by UCI police officers.

As we work with ICHA staff, we would love to hear from residents about the ideas you may have to help ensure the University Hills community continues to be safe for all residents and visitors.

Sincerely,

Matt Mahoney  
Lieutenant  
UCIPD