



**COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY**

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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DOUBLE TRAFFIC FINES IN SCHOOL ZONES

On September 25, 2003 for the first time, Alameda County will designate double traffic fine zones at Creekside Middle School on Center Street in Castro Valley. The double fine zone will be marked by the first installation of double traffic fine signs. The California Highway Patrol will be the primary enforcement agency patrolling this area.

The double traffic fines were authorized by the passage of AB 1886 on September 16, 2002, which allowed, upon approval by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, for enhanced traffic fines to be imposed in specially-posted school zones. The double fines will raise revenue for pedestrian and bicycle improvements in school zones to promote the safety of school children and other pedestrians. Examples of possible improvements to be funded by these fines include bicycle lanes, wider sidewalks, increased street lighting, and educational programs.

The next school to be designated as a double traffic fine zone will be Bay Elementary School on Bockman Road in San Lorenzo. The Alameda County Public Works Agency will install signs at Bay Elementary School during the week of September 29, 2003. Other schools will be added to this program as funding becomes available. Schools will be designated as double traffic fine zones using a set of prioritization criteria based on school zone traffic volumes, reported collision history, pedestrian and bicycle activity, school population, pedestrian accessibility, etc.

This law is scheduled to sunset in January 1, 2007, unless extended by future statute.

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