

AGENDA



Thursday, November 1, 2007

Public Works

Item No. 14

RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending Section 12-4-64(D) of the City Code to establish a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour on certain streets bounded by East Riverside Drive to the north, South Pleasant Valley Road to the east, East Oltorf Street to the south, and IH 35 East Frontage Road to the west.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$5,400 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Public Works Department for installation of necessary signs.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Richard Kroger, 974-7219, Thomas Kennerly, 974-7246, Anthony Alvarado, 974-7287, Laura Bohl, 974-7064.

Texas Transportation Code Section 545.356 allows a city to set a speed limit lower than 30 miles per hour, but not less than 25 miles per hour, on a highway if:

- the highway is not an officially designated or marked highway or road in the state highway system;
- the highway is 35 feet or less in width;
- vehicular parking is not prohibited on one or both sides of the street;
- the highway has less than four lanes used for vehicular travel; and
- the Council finds that the previous prima facie speed limit is unreasonable or unsafe.

The City of Austin Public Works Department recommends the 25 mile per hour speed limit for certain streets in the area bounded by E. Riverside Drive to the north, S. Pleasant Valley Road to the east, E. Oltorf Street to the south, and I.H. 35 East Frontage Road to the west. The lower speed limit will reduce the potential for vehicle-pedestrian accidents. Most of the streets within the area are eligible for a 25 mile per hour speed limit. The exceptions are Anken Drive from Willow Creek Drive to S. Pleasant Valley Road, Briar Hill Drive from Crooked Lane to Woodland Avenue, Burton Drive from E. Riverside Drive to E. Oltorf Street, Parker Lane from E. Riverside Drive to E. Oltorf Street, Royal Crest Drive from Woodland Avenue to E. Riverside Drive, Valley Hill Circle from Burton Drive to the end of Valley Hill Circle, Willow Creek Drive from E. Riverside Drive to E. Oltorf Street, Willow Hill Drive from S. Pleasant Valley Road to the end of Willow Hill Drive, Woodland Avenue from I.H. 35 East Frontage Road to Willow Creek Drive, because these streets are wider than 35 feet. They are not included in the recommended Code changes. The ordinance includes a finding that the previous prima facie speed limit is unreasonable or unsafe, in accordance with the statute.

Staff recommends that Section 12-4-64(D) be amended to add the following streets to the list of streets with a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour.

Antler Drive from Fawn Drive to Matagorda Street.
 Bellaire Drive from Elmhurst Drive to Taylor Gaines Street.
 Breeze Holw from Windoak Drive to the end of Breeze Holw.
 Cedar Ridge Drive from Woodland Avenue to the end of Cedar Ridge Drive.
 Circle Haven from Windoak Drive to the end of Circle Haven.

Crooked Lane from Cedar Ridge Drive to Briar Hill Drive.
Deerfield Drive from Matagorda Street to Parker Lane.
Elmhurst Drive from I.H. 35 (South) East Frontage Road to Taylor Gaines Street.
Fawn Drive from Matagorda Street to Parker Lane.
Inglewood Street from Summit Street to Manlove Street.
Loma Drive from Sunny Vale Street to Old East Riverside Drive.
Lupine Lane from Loma Drive to the end of Lupine Lane.
Manlove Street from Inglewood Street to the end of Manlove Street.
Mariposa Drive from Parker Lane to the end of Mariposa Drive.
Mariposa Drive from Burton Drive to the end of Mariposa Drive.
Matagorda Street from Woodland Avenue to Windoak Drive.
Oak Heights Drive from Taylor Gaines Street to Bellaire Drive.
Old East Riverside Drive from Summit Street to Riverside Drive (East).
Summit Street from Riverside Drive (East) to Woodland Avenue.
Sunny Vale Street from I.H. 35 (South) East Frontage Road to Loma Drive.
Sylvan Drive from Summit Street to Deerfield Drive.
Taylor Gaines Street from I.H. 35 (South) East Frontage Road to Parker Lane.
Upland Drive from Old Riverside Drive to Lupine Lane.
Windoak Drive from Parker Lane to Matagorda Street.