

AGENDA



Thursday, November 1, 2007

Public Works

Item No. 24

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 within the area bounded by West Oltorf Street to the north, South 1st Street to the east, West Ben White Boulevard to the south, and Union Pacific Rail Road to the west.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$5,500 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, 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; and
- 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 West Oltorf Street to the north, South 1st Street to the east, West Ben White Boulevard to the south, and the Union Pacific Rail Road tracks 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 South 2nd Street from Banister Lane to South Center Street, Banister Lane from South 2nd Street to the Union Pacific Rail Road tracks, Barton Skyway from South 5th Street to Raywood Drive, Cumberland Road from South 5th Street to the end of Cumberland Road, Raywood Drive from Locke Lane to Cumberland Road, and Stone Crest Drive from Fieldcrest Drive to the end of Stone Crest Drive, because these streets are wider than 35 feet. Other exceptions are South 2nd Street from South Center Street to Audrey Drive, South 5th Street from West Oltorf Street to Juanita Street, Cumberland Road from South 1st Street to South 2nd Street, Cardinal Lane from South 1st Street to South 2nd Street, and South Center Street from South 1st Street to Birch Street, because these streets have parking restrictions. None of these exceptions are 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.

- 2nd Street (South) from Oltorf Street (West) to the end of 2nd Street (South).
- 2nd Street (South) from Audrey Drive to the end of 2nd Street (South).
- 2nd Street (South) from Herndon Lane to Huerta Street.
- 3rd Street (South) from Herndon Lane to Huerta Street.

3rd Street (South) from Oltorf Street (West) to the end of 3rd Street (South).
4th Street (South) from Oltorf Street (West) to the end of 4th Street (South).
4th Street (South) from Juanita Street to Terrell Hill Drive.
4th Street (South) from Terrell Hill Drive to Limon Lane.
5th Street (South) from Juanita Street to Cardinal Lane.
6th Street (South) from Oltorf Street (West) to Herndon Lane.
Audrey Drive from 2nd Street (South) to Garden Villa Lane.
Audrey Court from Garden Villa Lane to the end of Audrey Court.
Baird Lane from Locke Lane to the end of Baird Lane.
Birch Street from South Center Street to the end of Birch Street.
Birdwood Circle from Raywood Drive to the end of Birdwood Circle.
Cardinal Lane from 2nd Street (South) to Locke Lane.
Cumberland Road from 1st Street (South) to 5th Street (South).
Daphne Court from Garden Villa Lane to the end of Daphne Court.
Fieldcrest Drive from 6th Street (South) to Havenside Drive.
Flanagan Cove from Raywood Drive to the end of Flanagan Cove.
Gamez Cove from 2nd Street (South) to the end of Gamez Cove.
Garden Villa Court from Garden Villa Lane to the end of Garden Villa Court.
Garden Villa Lane from Banister Lane to the end of Garden Villa Lane.
Havenside Drive from Oltorf Street (West) to Fieldcrest Drive.
Herndon Lane from 1st Street (South) to the end of Herndon Lane.
Huerta Street from 2nd Street (South) to 3rd Street (South).
Juanita Street from 4th Street (South) to the end of Juanita Street.
Limon Lane from 4th Street (South) to the end of Limon Lane.
Locke Lane from Cardinal Lane to the end of Locke Lane.
Marcae Court from Audrey Drive to the end of Marcae Court.
Oak Crest Avenue from Peacock Lane to Herndon Lane.
Oak Crest Avenue from Oltorf Street (West) to the end of Oak Crest Avenue.
Peacock Lane from 1st Street (South) to Oak Crest Avenue.
Raywood Drive from Barton Skyway to Locke Lane.
South Center Street from Birch Street to the end of South Center Street.
Southwood Road from Havenside Drive to 6th Street (South).
Taffy Court from Garden Villa Lane to the end of Taffy Court.
Terrell Hill Drive from 1st Street (South) to 5th Street (South).
Twelve Oaks Lane from 1st Street (South) to the end of Twelve Oaks Lane.
Villa Court from Audrey Drive to the end of Villa Court.
Weathers Lane from Locke Lane to the end of Weathers Lane.