

AGENDA



Thursday, May 22, 2008

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 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Airport Boulevard, the railroad tracks, and Rosewood Avenue/Oak Springs Drive.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$4,400 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Public Works Department for the installation of necessary signs.

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

For More Information: Alan Hughes 974-7202, Kristi Weston 974-7264, Robin Field 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 East Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Airport Boulevard, the railroad tracks, and Rosewood Avenue/Oak Springs Drive. 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 Hargrave Street from Rosewood Avenue to West 12th Street and Walnut Avenue from Rosewood Avenue to Hargrave Street due to street widths greater 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.

13th Street (East) from Alexander Avenue to Airport Boulevard.
 14th Street (East) from Alexander Avenue to east end of 14th Street (East).
 14th ½ Street (East) from 14th Street (East) to Airport Boulevard.
 16th Street (East) from Harvey Street to Airport Boulevard.
 16th Street (East) from Alexander Avenue to Clifford Avenue.
 17th Street (East) from Harvey Street to Mc Kinley Avenue.
 18th Street (East) from Harvey Street to Mc Kinley Avenue.
 18th ½ Street (East) from Harvey Street to Mc Kinley Avenue.
 Alexander Avenue from 12th Street (East) to 16th Street (East).
 Bedford Street from Rosewood Avenue to the north end of Bedford Street.
 Clifford Avenue from 13th Street (East) to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East).

Crest Avenue from Ridgeway Drive to Oak Grove Avenue.
Euneva Street from Bedford Street to Sol Wilson Avenue.
Graham Street from Walnut Avenue to the end of Graham Street.
Harvey Street from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East) to the south end of Harvey Street.
Holmes Court from Walnut Avenue to the end of Holmes Court.
Mc Kinley Avenue from 12th Street (East) to 18th ½ Street (East).
Oak Grove Avenue from 12th Street (East) to Crest Avenue.
Pandora Street from Sol Wilson Avenue to the end of Pandora Street.
Ridgeway Drive from Oak Springs Drive to Sol Wilson Avenue.
Sanchez Street from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East) to 14th Street (East).
Sol Wilson Avenue from Hargrave Street to the east end of Sol Wilson Avenue.
Sol Wilson Avenue from Harvey Street to the west end of Sol Wilson Avenue.
Summers from Sol Wilson Avenue to 12th Street (East).
Wheat Avenue from Hargrave Street to the east end of Wheat Avenue.