

AGENDA



Thursday, September 25, 2008

Public Works

Item No. 49

RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending City Code Section 12-4-64(D) to establish a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour on certain streets within the area bounded by W. Ben White Boulevard, W. Stassney Lane, Union Pacific Railroad tracks, and S. 1st Street; and to correct an entry in Section 12-4-64(D).

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$6,900 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: Ronnie Bell 974-7015, Thomas Kennerly 974-7246, Anthony Alvarado 974-7287, 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; 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 W. Ben White Boulevard, W. Stassney Lane, Union Pacific Railroad tracks, and S. 1st Street. The lower speed limit will reduce the potential for vehicle-pedestrian accidents. The ordinance includes a finding that the previous prima facie speed limit is unreasonable or unsafe, in accordance with the statute. Most of the streets within the area are eligible for a 25-mile per hour speed limit. The exceptions are Emerald Forest Drive from Cardiff Drive to W. Stassney Lane, Emerald Wood Drive from Emerald Forest Drive to S. 1st Street, James Casey Street from W. Ben White Boulevard to W. St Elmo Road, Lansing Drive from Emerald Forest Drive to the end of Lansing Drive, Orland Boulevard from S. 1st Street to Vinson Drive, Radam Circle from W. Stassney Lane to the end of Radam Circle, Radam Lane from James Casey Street to S. 1st Street, W. St Elmo Road from S. 1st Street to Vinson Drive, and Vinson Drive from Cardiff Drive to Aberdeen Drive because these streets are wider than 35 feet or vehicular parking is prohibited on one or both sides of the street. None of these exceptions are included in the recommended Code changes. 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 Orland Boulevard to St Elmo Road (West).
 3rd Street (South) from St Elmo Road (West) to Philco Drive.
 Aberdeen Circle from Aberdeen Drive to the end of Aberdeen Circle.
 Aberdeen Drive from Vinson Drive to Emerald Wood Drive.
 Arbor Circle from 1st Street (South) to the end of Arbor Circle.

Brompton Circle from Ramble Lane to the end of Brompton Circle.
Cardiff Drive from Vinson Drive to Aberdeen Drive.
Cedar Glen from Salem Walk Drive (west intersection) to Salem Walk Drive (east intersection).
Clifford Drive from 1st Street (South) to the end of Clifford Drive.
Emerald Forest Circle from Emerald Forest Drive (north intersection) to Emerald Forest Drive (south intersection).
Emerald Forest Cove from Emerald Forest Circle to the end of Emerald Forest Cove.
Emerald Meadow Drive from Meadow Creek Drive (north intersection) to Meadow Creek Drive (south intersection).
Englewood Drive from Philco Drive to Aberdeen Drive.
Glen Hollow Drive from Meadow Creek Drive to Emerald Wood Drive.
Glen Oak Drive from Emerald Forest Drive to Aberdeen Drive.
Hill Wood Drive from Emerald Forest Drive to Aberdeen Drive.
Hunters Glen from Radam Circle to the end of Hunters Glen.
Jeffburn Cove from Salem Walk Drive to the end of Jeffburn Cove.
Lennox Drive from Orland Boulevard to Vinson Drive.
Lishill Cove from Ramble Lane to the end of Lishill Cove.
Meadow Creek Circle from Meadow Creek Drive to the end of Meadow Creek Circle.
Meadow Creek Cove from Lansing Drive to the end of Meadow Creek Cove.
Meadow Creek Drive from Lansing Drive to Emerald Wood Drive.
Philco Drive from Vinson Drive to 1st Street (South).
Pine Meadow Drive from Emerald Forest Drive to Cedar Glen.
Raintree Boulevard from Orland Boulevard to Philco Drive.
Ramble Lane from 1st Street (South) to Salem Walk Drive.
Salem Hill Drive from Emerald Forest Drive to the end of Salem Hill Drive.
Salem Meadow Circle from Radam Circle (north intersection) to Radam Circle (south intersection).
Salem Walk Drive from Cedar Glen to Stassney Lane (West).
Vinson Drive from Aberdeen Drive to St Elmo Road (West).