

AGENDA



Thursday, November 6, 2008

Public Works
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION
Item No. 30

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 E. Oltorf Street, S. Congress Avenue, Woodward Street, and I.H. 35 (South) West Frontage Road.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$2,700 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 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, 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;
- 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. Oltorf Street, S. Congress Avenue, Woodward Street, and I.H. 35 (South) West Frontage Road. 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 St. Edwards Drive from I.H. 35 (South) West Frontage Road to the end of St. Edwards Drive and Long Bow Lane from S. Congress Avenue to Carnarvon Lane because these streets are wider than 35 feet or vehicular parking is prohibited on one or both sides of the street. They are not 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.

Carnarvon Lane from St. Edwards Drive to Long Bow Lane.
 East Side Drive from St. Edwards Drive to Oltorf Street (East).
 Friar Tuck Lane from St. Edwards Drive to East Side Drive.
 Kentshire Circle from East Side Drive to the end of Kentshire Circle.
 Little John Lane from East Side Drive (north intersection) to East Side Drive (south intersection).
 Long Bow Lane from Carnarvon Lane to the end of Long Bow Lane.
 Nottingham Lane from St. Edwards Drive to Friar Tuck Lane.
 Sherwood Lane from St. Edwards Drive to Oltorf Street (East).
 St. Edwards Circle from St. Edwards Drive (west intersection) to St. Edwards Drive (east intersection).