

AGENDA



Thursday, November 6, 2008

Public Works

Item No. 31

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 William Cannon Drive, Pleasant Valley Road, and Onion Creek District Park.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$5,250 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, 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 William Cannon Drive, Pleasant Valley Road, and Onion Creek District Park. 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 Onion Creek Drive from S. Pleasant Valley Road (north intersection) to 200 feet south of Vine Hill Drive, Onion Creek Drive from S. Pleasant Valley Road (south intersection) to Firefly Drive, and Springville Lane from S. Pleasant Valley Road to Onion Creek 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.

Catclaw Court from Thornhill Drive to the end of Catclaw Court.
 Dragonfly Court from Onion Creek Drive to the end of Dragonfly Court.
 Firefly Drive from Onion Creek Drive (west intersection) to Onion Creek Drive (east intersection).
 Glowworm Circle from Firefly Drive to the end of Glowworm Circle.
 Honeybee Bend from Firefly Drive to Springville Lane.
 Katydid Lane from Wild Onion Drive to Onion Creek Drive.
 Ladybug Street from Katydid Lane to Springville Lane.

Little Cypress Lane from Thatch Lane to Onion Creek Drive.
Onion Crossing Court from Vine Hill Drive to the end of Onion Crossing Court.
Onion Crossing Drive from Onion Creek Drive to Thornwood Drive.
Sand Hill Drive from Pleasant Valley Road (South) to Shady Cedar Drive.
Shady Cedar Drive from Vine Hill Drive to Onion Creek Drive (west intersection).
Springville Lane from Pleasant Valley Road (South) to Onion Creek Drive.
Thatch Court from Thornhill Drive to the end of Thatch Court.
Thatch Lane from Onion Creek Drive to the end of Thatch Lane.
Thornhill Drive from Thatch Lane to Onion Creek Drive.
Thornwood Court from Thornhill Drive to the end of Thornwood Court.
Thornwood Drive from Pleasant Valley Road (South) to Shady Cedar Drive.
Vine Hill Drive from Onion Crossing Drive to Onion Creek Drive.
Walking Stick Lane from Springville Lane to the end of Walking Stick Lane.
Wild Onion Drive from Katydid Lane to Springville Lane.