Thursday, April 2, 2009

Transportation RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 24

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 Webberville Road, Springdale Road, Airport Boulevard, the Fort Branch of Boggy Creek and the Austin and Northwestern Railroad.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$3200 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Transportation Department for 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, Leanne Vaughn, 974-5657.

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 Transportation Department recommends the 25 mile per hour speed limit for certain streets in the area bounded by Webberville Road, Springdale Road, Airport Boulevard, the Fort Branch of Boggy Creek, and the Austin and Northwestern Railroad. 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 Eastfield Avenue from Lott Avenue to Webberville Road because vehicular parking is prohibited on one or both sides of the street, and Sara Drive from Springdale Road to Spur Street because it is wider than 35 feet.

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.

Alf Avenue from Springdale Road to the end of Alf Avenue.

Brookswood Avenue from Alf Avenue to both ends of Brookswood Avenue.

Berger Street from Sara Drive to Ledesma Road.

Cessal Avenue from Garland Avenue to Ledesma Road.

Chico Street from Lott Avenue to Garland Avenue.

Christie Drive from Ledesma Road to Tura Lane.

Delores Avenue from Webberville Road to Lott Avenue.

Denfield Street from Sara Drive to Tanney Street.

Dewey Street from Spur Street to Berger Street.

Don Ann Street from Prock Lane to Alf Avenue.

Eastfield Avenue from Nickols Avenue to Lott Avenue.

Ebert Avenue from Sara Drive to Berger Street.

Estes Avenue from Chico Street to Prock Lane.

Garland Avenue from Richardine Avenue to Ledesma Road.

Ledesma Road from Springdale Road to Terry Drive.

Lott Avenue from Mansell Avenue to both ends of Lott Avenue.

Louis Avenue from Mason Avenue to Webberville Road.

Mansell Avenue from Ledesma Road to Eastfield Avenue.

Map Circle from Munson Street to the end of Map Circle.

Map Street from Sara Drive to Tanney Street.

Mark Street from Sara Drive to Tanney Street.

Marks Circle from Munson Street to the end of Marks Circle.

Mason Avenue from Ledesma Road to Lott Avenue.

Mendoza Drive from Ledesma Road to Mason Avenue.

Munson Street from Springdale Road to Don Ann Street.

Nickols Avenue from Santa Anna Street to the end of Nickols Avenue.

Omega Avenue from Prock Lane to Ledesma Road.

Prock Lane from Sara Drive to the end east of Omega Avenue.

Prock Lane from Springdale Road to the end east of Don Ann Street.

Rainbow Ridge Circle from Mason Avenue to the end of Rainbow Ridge Circle.

Reyes Street from Springdale Road to Mansell Avenue.

Richardine Avenue from Prock Lane to Ledesma Road.

Santa Anna Street from Springdale Road to the end of Santa Anna Street.

Sara Drive from Spur Street to Prock Lane.

Saucedo Street from Alf Avenue to both ends of Saucedo Street.

Shuberg Street from Delores Avenue to the end of Shuberg Street.

Spur Street from Sara Drive to Tanney Street.

Star Light Terrace from Mason Avenue to the end of Star Light Terrace.

Tanney Street from Springdale Road to Spur Street.

Terry Drive from Ledesma Road to Tura Lane.

Tura Lane from Christie Drive to the end of Tura Lane.

Wilcox Avenue from Brookswood Avenue to the end of Wilcox Avenue.