

AGENDA



Thursday, April 2, 2009

Transportation
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 25

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 East Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Springdale Road, East 51st Street, and Ed Bluestein Boulevard.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$3700 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Transportation 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, 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 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Springdale Road (East), 51st Street (East), and Ed Bluestein Boulevard. 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 Broadhill Drive from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East) to the end of Broadhill Drive, Hutchinson Drive from 51st Street (East) to Rayburn Lane, and Bundyhill Circle from Bundyhill Drive to the end of Bundyhill Circle due to street widths greater than 35 feet. 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.

Bentsen Lane from Krueger Lane to Tower Trail.
 Bundy Crest Circle from Bundyhill Drive to the end of Bundy Crest Circle.
 Bundyhill Drive from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East) to the end of Bundyhill Drive.
 Carsonhill Drive from Bundyhill Drive to the end of Carsonhill Drive.
 Connally Lane from Tower Trail to the end of Connally Lane.
 Eastdale Drive from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East) to Northdale Drive.
 Hilldale Drive from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East) to Northdale Drive.
 Howden Circle from Single Shot Circle to Bundyhill Drive.
 Hutchinson Drive from Rayburn Lane to Bentsen Lane.
 Krueger Lane from Rayburn Lane to Bentsen Lane.

Northdale Drive from Oldfort Hill Drive to Tannehill Lane.
Oldfort Hill Drive from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East) to Northdale Drive.
Rayburn Lane from Krueger Lane to the end of Rayburn Lane.
Rusk Court from Rayburn Lane to the end of Rusk Court.
Russet Hill Drive from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East) to Northdale Drive.
Seabrook Street from Carsonhill Drive to Broadhill Drive.
Single Shot Circle from Walden Circle (south intersection) to Walden Circle (north intersection).
Tannehill Lane from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (East) to Northdale Drive.
Tower Trail from Rayburn Lane to Bentsen Lane.
Walden Circle from Bundyhill Drive to the end of Walden Circle.
Walworth Street from Broadhill Drive to Oldfort Hill Road.
York Hill Drive from Russet Hill Drive to Northdale Drive.