

MEMORANDUM



To:

Traffic Study Files

From:

Dipti Borkar-Desai, P.E.

North Area Supervisor

Traffic Engineering Division

Austin Transportation Department

Date:

August 7, 2012

Subject:

Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation

Location:

Teasdale Terrace

Date(s) of Previous Investigation: None

A traffic engineering investigation has been conducted to determine if a reduced speed school zone should be installed on Teasdale Terrace at Tartan Lane (the study intersection) for students attending Dobie Middle School.

Austin Independent School District School (AISD) is adding a kindergarten center serving kindergarten and pre-kindergarten to the campus at Dobie Middle School beginning with the 2012-2013 school year. This will increase pedestrian activity in the vicinity of the study intersection. Pedestrians including pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students living in the Heritage Hills and Windsor Hills Neighborhoods are anticipated to cross this street if they choose to walk or bicycle between home and school. Figure 1 presents a map of the study area.

The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

Proximity of the School Crossing to the School

The proposed school crossing at the study intersection is located near the north property line of the school. The adjacent land uses are primarily residential. The Heritage Hills and Windsor Hills neighborhoods surround the intersection of Teasdale Terrace and Tartan Lane. There are no commercial properties in the vicinity of the intersection and a City of Austin park is located south of the school property across Rundberg Lane.

Pedestrian Count

Because the 2012-2013 school year has not begun, no students have been counted crossing Teasdale Terrace. Pedestrians from throughout the Heritage Hills and Windsor Hills neighborhoods are expected to cross as a part of their route to and from Dobie Middle School.

Existing Roadway Conditions

Location	Type of Controls	ADT Two Way	Posted Speed Limit	Street Width
Teasdale Terrace	Uncontrolled	1628	30 MPH	40 feet
Tartan Lane	Stop	< 1,000	30 MPH	44 feet

Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol

The City's Child Safety Program has committed an adult crossing guard at this intersection if a school zone is established.

Crash History

Austin Police Department's crash database was queried for crashes near the study intersection between July 2011 and July 2012. None were reported during this time period.

Sight Distance

Unobstructed sight distance is approximately 350 feet south of Tartan Lane. Sight distance is approximately 155 feet north of Tartan Lane.

Sidewalks and Ramps

A sidewalk is installed along the entire length of the west side of Teasdale Terrace between Rundberg Lane and Northcape Drive. Along the east side of Teasdale Terrace, a sidewalk extends from Rundberg Lane along the west side of the AISD property across Tartan Lane and to approximately 30 feet north of Tartan Lane. Tartan Lane forms a "T" intersection with Teasdale Terrace and there are ADA compliant ramps with marked crosswalks located on the south and north sides of the intersection.

Recommendation

Based on the analysis of this information, it is my engineering judgment that a reduced speed school zone of 20 miles per hour be installed on Teasdale Terrace from 240 feet south of Tartan Lane to 250 feet north of Tartan Lane and operates between 7:00 AM and 8:30 AM and 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM.