ORDINANCE NO. 20120823-053

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12-4-64(D) OF THE CITY CODE TO DELETE FROM THE TABLE OF SPEED LIMITS DAVIS LANE FROM BRODIE LANE TO GUIDEPOST TRAIL, WHICH WILL REVERT THE SEGMENT TO A 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT, AND TO ESTABLISH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 25 MPH ON DAVIS LANE FROM WESTGATE BOULEVARD TO GUIDEPOST TRAIL.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

- PART 1. Section 12-4-64(D) (*Table of Speed Limits*) is amended to delete the following: Davis Lane from Brodie Lane to Guidepost Trail. (25 mph)
- PART 2. Section 12-4-64(D) (*Table of Speed Limits*) is amended to add the following: Davis Lane from Westgate Boulevard to Guidepost Trail. (25 mph)
- **PART 3.** The amendments made in this ordinance are based on the results of a traffic engineering investigation, or "speed study," attached as Exhibit "A".
- **PART 4.** The amendments made in this ordinance shall be incorporated in alphabetical order and the existing entries reordered accordingly.
- **PART 5.** This ordinance takes effect on September 3, 2012.

PASSED AND APPROVED

August 23 , 2012	& Keekgym
·	Lee Leffingwell
	Mayor
APPROVED: Mey Deu	ATTEST: Muley a Hentre
Karen M. Kennard	Shirley A. Gentry /
City Attorney	City Clerk



MEMORANDUM

To:

Traffic Study Files

From:

Eric Bollich, P.E., PTOE
South Austin Supervisor
Traffic Engineering Division
Austin Transportation Department

Date:

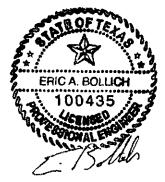
July 20, 2012

Subject:

Speed Zone Investigation

Location:

Davis Lane - Brodie Lane to West Gate Boulevard



7/20/12

Date(s) of Previous Investigation: None

A Traffic Engineering Investigation has been conducted by the Austin Transportation Department to determine the appropriate speed limit on Davis Lane between Brodie Lane and West Gate Boulevard.

Location Conditions

Davis Lane is a two-lane arterial street that runs in a general west-east direction between Brodie Lane and Manchaca Road. Within this half-mile study segment, Davis Lane has a generally rural cross section: 22 feet of travel way, open ditches, and limited clear zones from the edges of pavement. Vertical curves limit stopping sight distance for drivers stopping or slowing to utilize driveways along this segment. Most of the adjacent land is undeveloped or comprises large residential lots.

Figure 1 presents a map of the study area, the existing speed limit, and the proposed speed limit based on the following data and analysis.

Speed and Volume Data

Speed and volume data were collected in April 2012 to determine the appropriate posted speed limit for Davis Lane. The 85th percentile speed is 12 mph to 15 mph over the existing posted speed.

Block Number	Street Segment	Existing Speed	85% Speed		Traffic Volume
		Limit	EB	WB	
3300	From Brodie Ln to Cameron Loop	25	37	38	7,233
3100	From Cameron Loop to West Gate Blvd	25	39	40	6,012

Figure 2 presents a speed zone map summarizing the collected data.

Crash Data

Austin Police Department's crash database was reviewed to analyze all documented crashes on the study segment within the previous two years. Three crashes were documented during this period; no discernible pattern from excessive speed is present.

Date /	Direction				,		
Time	At Fault	Other	Weather	Light	Road	Injury	Comments
3/9/11 7:40 AM	EB	EB	Clear	Day	Dry	Minor	Followed too closely; failure to control speed; driver inattention
10/27/11 3:00 PM	.wB	N/A	Clear	Day	Dry	Minor	Faulty evasive action; unsafe speed (under limit); driver inattention
12/22/11 7:00 AM	EB	N/A	N/A	Dawn	N/A	None	Failure to control vehicle

General Comments

In 2007, Austin City Council passed Ordinance No 20071101-013 that set speed limits to 25 mph for certain streets bounded by Davis Lane, Manchaca Road, Slaughter Lane, and Brodie Lane. A speed study was not conducted for Davis Lane in this determination; the street met criteria per Texas Transportation Code 545.356 that allows municipalities to set the speed limit to lower than 30 miles per hour.

Recommendation

The collected 85th percentile speed data would suggest an appropriate speed limit of 35 mph or 40 mph for the study segment. However, based on analysis of other factors, it is my engineering judgment that the speed limit on Davis Lane should be 30 mph between Brodie Lane and West Gate Boulevard because of these considerations:

- Rural cross section (22 feet of travel way, open ditches, and limited clear zones)
- Vertical curves limiting stopping sight distance for drivers utilizing driveway
- The context of Davis Lane between West Gate Boulevard and Manchaca Road, which is currently posted at 30 mph and has segments of similar cross section

Speed limits on Davis Lane should be investigated again for appropriate speed limits after possible modifications to the cross section in the future.

