



MEMORANDUM

To: Traffic Study Files

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

Date: August 28, 2012

Subject: Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation

Location: Freidrich Lane



8/28/12

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 Freidrich Lane near the Uphaus Early Childhood Center (the "Center") for students attending this facility.

Austin Independent School District School (AISD) opened the Center in August 2012 for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students. Pedestrians access the Center by parking along the east side of Freidrich Lane and crossing the street. It is anticipated that pedestrians could also access the Center from the adjacent neighborhood via Ponciana Neighborhood Park, crossing Freidrich Lane in the process.

The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

Proximity of the School Crossing to the School

The proposed school zone is immediately in front of the Center, a length of approximately 700 feet. Adjacent to the Center are the Ponciana Neighborhood, Paisano Mobile Home Park, and Southpark Office Center.

Pedestrian Count

On August 27, 2012, 57 pedestrians were counted crossing Freidrich Lane between 2:00 PM and 3:00 PM. This total meets the City's threshold for establishing a reduced speed school zone.

Existing Roadway Conditions

In conjunction with construction of the Center, Freidrich Lane was widened to 40 feet. The prima facie speed limit is 30 mph with an estimated daily traffic of fewer than 1,500 vehicles per day.

Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol

The City's Child Safety Program will provide a crossing guard after curb ramps and sidewalk are installed along the east side of Freidrich Lane. These items will be moved to the top of Neighborhood Connectivity Division's request list as funding becomes available. No guard or patrol currently works this area.

Crash History

Austin Police Department's crash database was reviewed for crashes on Freidrich Lane adjacent to the Center between August 2009 and August 2012. None were reported during this time period.

Sight Distance

Sight distance is virtually unlimited along Freidrich Lane adjacent to the Center.

Sidewalks and Ramps

Sidewalk is along the entirety of the west curb of Freidrich Lane between Ponciana Drive and the Paisano Mobile Home Park. No ramps are located along either the west or east curbs adjacent to the Center.

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 Freidrich Lane between Ponciana Drive and the end of Freidrich Lane at the entrance to the Paisano Mobile Home Park.