

MEMORANDUM

To:

Traffic Study Files

From:

Austin Transportation Department

Date:

February 7, 2014

Subject:

Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation

Location:

Manor Road

Date(s) of Previous Investigation: None

A traffic engineering investigation has been conducted to determine if reduced speed school zones are appropriate on Manor Road near the Austin Achieve Public School for its students.

The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

Proximity of the School Crossing to the School

The school is located at 5908 Manor Road, approximately 150 feet north of the intersection of Manor Road and Sweeney Lane. The intersection of Manor Road and Sweeney Lane is a four-way intersection with the minor approaches of Sweeney Lane being stop-controlled.

Pedestrian Count

Pedestrians were counted in September 2013.

| Location | Child | Bicylist (child) | Adult | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|
| Crossing Manor Road at Sweeney Lane | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Crossing Sweeney Lane at Manor Road | 16 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| TOTAL | 24 | 0 | 0 | 24 |



Existing Roadway Conditions

| Location | Type of Controls | Number of Lanes | ADT: Two-Way | Posted Speed Limit | Street Width |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Manor Road | Uncontrolled | 4 | 9,043 | 35 MPH | 44 feet |
| Sweeney Lane | Stop | 2 | | 30 MPH | 30 feet |

Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol

The City's Child Safety Program does not have an adult crossing guard stationed at this intersection to assist students with crossing Manor Road.

Crash History

Austin Police Department's crash database was reviewed for crashes occurring between January 2012 and December 2013 within the proposed school zone. No crashes were documented at or in the vicinity of this intersection during this period.

Sight Distance

Unobstructed sight distance on Manor Road is approximately 375 feet north of Sweeney Lane. Unobstructed sight distance is virtually unlimited south of Sweeney Lane.

Sidewalks and Ramps

There are marked pedestrian crosswalks across Manor Road on both north and south sides of the intersection of Manor Road and Sweeney Lane which connects to sidewalks along Manor Road. There is also a marked pedestrian crosswalk across Sweeney Lane.

Recommendation

The intersection of Manor Road and Sweeney Lane is a four-way intersection with the minor approaches of Sweeney Lane being stop-controlled. Although the students are crossing in the marked crosswalk across Manor Road, it is an uncontrolled crosswalk. While marked crosswalks provide a better degree of pedestrian crossing protection, there is an expectation of drivers to make a reasonable decision of yielding to pedestrians in the crosswalk. Unfortunately, there is a possibility that this might not happen at all times.

Based on the analysis of the information provided in the above sections, reduced speed school zones of 20 miles per hour (mph) should be installed on Manor Road from 250 feet south of Sweeney Lane to 268 feet north of Sweeney Lane.

Figure 1 presents the study area and limits of proposed speed zones.



Existing 35 MPH

Proposed 20 MPH School Zone (during peak school times)

Figure 1: Study Area