

#### MEMORANDUM

To:

Traffic Study Files

From:

Lee Austin, P.E.

Central Austin Area Engineer

**Austin Transportation Department** 

Date:

Subject:

Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation

Location:

Harris Avenue, 800 block

# **Date(s) of Previous Investigation:**

A traffic engineering investigation has been conducted to determine if a reduced speed school zone is appropriate on Harris Avenue from 153 feet east of Hampton Road to 385 feet west of Hampton Road at Lee Elementary School for its students. The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

#### **Proximity of the School Crossing to the School**

The proposed reduced speed school zone on Harris Avenue is directly adjacent to one of the main entrances to the school campus where pedestrians can be expected to be crossing.

#### **Pedestrian Count**

No pedestrian count was taken, however, a consistent pattern of pedestrians crossing Harris Avenue to enter the school campus has been observed as a continued practice over time.

# **Existing Roadway Conditions**

Location	Number of Lanes	ADT: Two-Way	Posted Speed Limit	Street Width 30 feet	
Harris Avenue	2	940 vehicles	25 MPH		

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# Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol

There is an adult crossing guard present at this location.

#### **Crash History**

Austin Police Department's crash database was reviewed for crashes occurring between Janruary 2009 and Janruary 2014 within the proposed school zone. One crash was documented during this period.

West 10<sup>th</sup> Street

Date /	Direction		Weather	Light	Road	Injury	Comments
Time	At Fault	Other	Weather	Light	Road	IIIjui y	Commonts
8/22/11 1:07 PM	WB	WB	Clear	Day	Dry	None	U-turned not in safety, at Hampton Road

# **Sight Distance**

Sight distance exceeds the lengths of the proposed school zones on Harris Avenue due to the flat, straight nature of the street.

## Sidewalks and Ramps

A sidewalk exists all along the south curb of Harris Avenue, past school property and beyond the limits of the the proposed reduced speed school zone.

#### Recommendation

Based on the analysis of this information, a reduced speed school zone of 20 miles per hour (mph) should be installed on Harris Avenue from 153 feet east of Hampton Road to 385 feet west of Hampton Road directly adjacent Lee Elementary School.

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