

MEMORANDUM

To:

Traffic Study Files

From:

Austin Transportation Department

Date:

May 8, 2014

Subject:

Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation

Location:

W. Rundberg Lane

Date(s) of Previous Investigation: None

A traffic engineering investigation has been conducted to determine if reduced speed school zone is appropriate on W. Rundberg Lane for students attending the Jaime Padron Elementary School.

Austin Independent School District School (AISD) is constructing the new school scheduled to be open in 2014-2015 school year. This will increase pedestrian activity on W. Rundberg Lane. Pedestrians including elementary students living in this residential area along W. Rundberg Lane and surrounding streets are anticipated to cross this street if they choose to walk or bicycle between home and school.

W. Rundberg Lane is listed as a major arterial roadway in the Austin Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan (AMATP). Major arterial roadways are expected to carry larger traffic volumes. As a result, AISD has requested a school zone in the vicinity of the school.

The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

Proximity of the School Crossing to the School

The proposed Jaime Padron Elementary School is located in the southwest quadrant of W. Rundberg Lane and Metric Boulevard. The adjacent land uses are primarily residential consisting of large apartment complexes along W. Rundberg Lane except for a warehouse located immediately north of the proposed school.

A pedestrian crosswalk along with ADA compliant curb ramps is proposed to be installed across W. Rundberg Lane approximately 900 feet south of its intersection with Metric Boulevard and

will be supplemented by school signs. Additionally, a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) is also proposed at this location. The City of Austin's Child Safety Program has committed to provide an adult crossing guard at this crosswalk on W. Rundberg Lane to assist students walking to and from school.

Pedestrian Count

Because the school does not open till 2014-2015 school year, no students have been counted crossing W. Rundberg Lane. However, pedestrians from the surrounding neighborhood consisting of large apartment complexes along W. Rundberg Lane are expected to cross as a part of their route to and from the school.

Existing Roadway Conditions

W. Rundberg Lane is four-lane divided major arterial roadway with a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour in the vicinity of the proposed school.

Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol

An adult crossing guard will be stationed at proposed crosswalk on W. Rundberg Lane to assist students with crossing W. Rundberg Lane.

Sight Distance

There are no sight distance problems within the limits of the school zone on W. Rundberg Lane.

Sidewalks

There are sidewalks on both sides of W. Rundberg Lane in the vicinity of the proposed crosswalk.

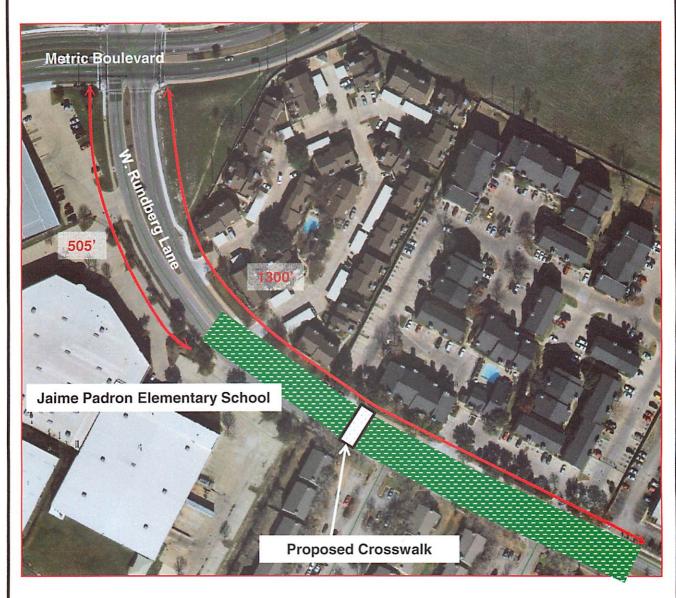
Recommendation

The proposed Jaime Padron Elementary School will increase pedestrian activity on W. Rundberg Lane which is a major arterial roadway expected to carry larger traffic volumes. A pedestrian crosswalk along with a PHB is proposed on W. Rundberg Lane approximately 900 feet south of its intersection with Metric Boulevard. Additionally, an adult crossing guard will be stationed at this crosswalk to walk students to and from school.

Based on the analysis of the information provided in the above sections, a reduced speed school zone of 20 miles per hour (mph) should be installed on W. Rundberg Lane from 505 feet south of Metric Boulevard to 1300 feet south of Metric Boulevard.

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





Proposed 20 MPH School Zone (during peak school times)

Figure 1: Study Area