

# AGENDA



## Recommendation for Council Action

### AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: August 30, 2018

Item Number: **022**

### Transportation

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Section 12-4-64 (D) to reduce the length of an existing school zone by 170 feet on East Live Oak Street.

**District(s) Affected:** District 9

<b>Lead Department</b>	Austin Transportation
<b>Fiscal Note</b>	There is no financial impact for this item.
<b>For More Information</b>	Robert Spillar, 512-974-2488; Eric Bollich 512-974-7767; Gilda Powers, 512-974-7092

### Additional Backup Information:

The Austin Transportation Department recommends reducing the length of the existing school zone on East Live Oak Street near Travis Heights Elementary to increase compliance with the school zone, improve visibility of the school zone flasher and eliminate the need to significantly prune an established heritage tree.

The current location of the school zone flasher is obscured by a large branch of a mature tree. The Parks and Recreation Department requested assistance from the Austin Transportation Department to have the school zone flashers relocated in lieu of trimming the tree branch. In reviewing the request, the Traffic Engineer determined that compliance with the school zone and safety of students within the zone could be increased by reducing the length of the zone. Generally, the longer a school zone is, the lower compliance is, especially towards the ends of the zone. Moving the school zone flasher also eliminates the need to prune the tree.

In order to modify or alter the existing speed limit of a street, Texas laws require that a traffic engineering investigation be performed. A field investigation of East Live Oak Street was conducted by the Traffic Engineering Division of the Austin Transportation Department. The change does not pose a safety risk to students in area and will likely result in increased compliance with the posted speed limit.

The Transportation Engineering Division recommends adding the following amendment to the City Code Section 12-4-64 (D) Table of Speed Limits:

**Delete:** Live Oak Street (East) from 280 feet west of Alta Vista Avenue to 300 feet east of Alta Vista Avenue. (20 MPH Speed Limit).

**Add:** Live Oak Street (East) from 190 feet west of Alta Vista Avenue to 210 feet east of Alta Vista Street. (20 MPH Speed Limit).

Reducing the length of the school zone will improve compliance at the school crossing at Alta Vista Avenue.