



**RCA  
CITY OF AUSTIN  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 82  
AGENDA DATE: Thu 06/23/2005  
PAGE: 1 of 2**

**SUBJECT:** Approve an ordinance amending Section 12-4-41 of the City Code to delete Avery Ranch Boulevard from 1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to Quarry Oaks Trail from the list of streets having a maximum speed limit of 35 miles per hour; and amending Section 12-4-42 to extend the 40 miles per hour speed limit on Avery Ranch Boulevard from 1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to 150 feet west of Staked Plains Drive, to create a consistent 40 mph speed zone for the length of Avery Ranch Boulevard west of Parmer Lane.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding in the amount of \$850 is available in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Approved Operating Budget of the Public Works Department for the installation of the appropriate speed limit signs.

**FISCAL NOTE:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING** Public Works  
**DEPARTMENT:**

**DIRECTOR'S  
AUTHORIZATION:** Sondra Creighton

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Peter Marsh, 974-7021; Laura Bohl, 974-7064

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** May 8, 2003, Council approved an ordinance to establish a speed limit of 40 miles per hour on Avery Ranch Boulevard from Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to 1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane and 35 miles per hour on Avery Ranch Boulevard from 1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to Quarry Oaks Trail.

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** N/A

**PURCHASING:** N/A

**MBE / WBE:** N/A

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In order to modify or alter the prima facie speed limit of street, the Texas Traffic Laws require that traffic engineering investigation be performed. The investigation was conducted by the Transportation Division of the Public Works Department, in accordance with the procedures specified in the Texas Procedures for Establishing Speed Zones, 1997.

A study was initiated to establish the speed limit on Avery Ranch Boulevard west of Parmer Lane (FM 734).

Avery Ranch Boulevard has recently been extended to the west, from its previous terminus at Quarry Oaks Trail. There is currently a 40 mph and 35 mph speed limit on Avery Ranch Blvd. between Parmer Lane and Quarry Oaks Trail. West of Quarry Oaks Trail to Staked Plains Drive there is existing, or proposed, development on the property abutting Avery Ranch Boulevard.

The traffic engineering investigation determined that 40 mph is an appropriate speed limit for Avery Ranch Boulevard from Parmer Lane to 150 feet west of Staked Plains Drive. As a result of this investigation, the Transportation Division recommends the following:



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**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 82  
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PAGE: 2 of 2**

**Amendment to Code Section 12-4-41 (35 MPH Speed Limit):**

**Delete: Avery Ranch Boulevard, from 1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to Quarry Oaks Trail.**

**Amendment to Code Section 12-4-42 (40 MPH Speed Limit):**

**Extend: Avery Ranch Boulevard, from 1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to 150 feet west of Staked Plains Drive.**



## M E M O R A N D U M

**To:** Traffic Study Files

**From:** Peter Marsh, P.E., Transportation Division  
Public Works Department

**Date:** June 3, 2005

**Subject:** **SPEED ZONE INVESTIGATION**  
Location: Avery Ranch Boulevard from Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to 3,500 feet west of Staked Plains Drive

Date(s) of Previous Investigation: March 18, 2003

A Traffic Engineering Investigation has been conducted by this Division to determine the posted speed limit on Avery Ranch Boulevard from Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to 3,500 feet west of Staked Plains Drive where Avery Ranch Boulevard currently terminates, a total distance of approximately 1.6 miles (See Figure 1). The following information was collected and analyzed.

**Speed / Volume Data Collected:**

Block Number	Street Segment	Existing Speed Limit	85% Speed (mph)		Traffic Volumes (vpd)	
			EB	WB	EB	WB
14600	Avery Ranch Blvd. 325' E. of Canoa Hills Drive	40 mph	48	45	2,643	2,619
14500	Avery Ranch Blvd. 380' E. of Quarry Oaks Trail	35 mph	46	44	1,821	1,868
14400	Avery Ranch Blvd. 625' W. of Quarry Oaks Trail	None	49	48	1,345	1,348
14100	Avery Ranch Blvd. 840' E. of Staked Plains Drive	None	49	49	1,183	1,201
14000	Avery Ranch Blvd. 325' W. of Staked Plains Drive	None	46	43	72	85
13800	Avery Ranch Blvd. 1,360' W. of Staked Plains Drive	None	54	49	68	34
13600	Avery Ranch Blvd. 2,255' W. of Staked Plains Drive	None	55	52	33	39

Speed Zone Investigation  
Location: Avery Ranch Blvd.  
Study #2005-006

**NOTE:** Current speed limit to the east of the study area is 40 mph on Avery Ranch Blvd. from the intersection with Parmer Lane to 1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane, and 35 mph from that point to Quarry Oaks Trail.  
Current speed limit to the west of the study area – none, roadway ends.

**General Comments:**

Avery Ranch Boulevard is the major street that serves the Avery Ranch subdivision west of Parmer Lane, and is open to traffic from Parmer Lane to the end of the subdivision, a distance of approximately 1.6 miles. Avery Ranch Boulevard is classified as a major arterial, four lane divided street (Avery Ranch Boulevard is the new name for the Davis Springs Road listing in the 2001 AMATP) which will ultimately connect US 183 with RM 620.

There is an existing 40 mph speed limit from the intersection with Parmer Lane to 1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane, from that point to the intersection with Quarry Oaks Drive the existing speed limit is 35 mph.

There are currently four streets that intersect with Avery Ranch Boulevard that provide access to existing residential developments, the most westerly of these is Staked Plains Drive, which is the limit of the residential construction. Avery Ranch Boulevard however is constructed and open to vehicular traffic for a further 3,500 feet to the west of Staked Plains Drive, where Avery Ranch Boulevard terminates with a street end barricade.

Staked Plains Drive is the access route from Avery Ranch Boulevard to a new Leander ISD elementary school that is scheduled to open in August 2005, that will serve the Avery Ranch subdivision and the surrounding area. Sidewalks are being constructed on both sides of Avery Ranch Boulevard in the vicinity of Staked Plains Drive and it can be anticipated that there will be pedestrian traffic along and across Avery Ranch Boulevard going to and from the school.

Speed and volume data was collected at a total of seven locations, three of these locations were on the undeveloped section of Avery Ranch Boulevard, to the west of Staked Plains Drive. The number of total vehicles in the sample at these three locations did not meet the recommended number of cars (125) required to determine an accurate 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed, therefore no speed zone is recommended for this section of Avery Ranch Boulevard until such time as traffic volume increases to provide sufficient vehicles.

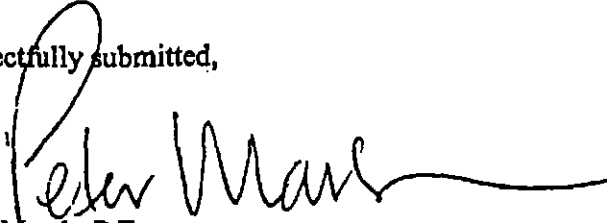
Based on the analysis of this information, it is my engineering judgment that:

- The existing 40 mph speed limit on Avery Ranch Boulevard from Parmer Lane (FM 734) to 1500 feet west of Parmer Lane is appropriate and should remain.
- The existing 35 mph speed limit on Avery Ranch Boulevard from 1500 feet west of Parmer Lane to Quarry Oaks Trail should be increased to 40 mph
- The section of Avery Ranch Boulevard from Quarry Oaks Trail to 150 feet west of Staked Plains Drive should have a speed limit of 40 mph.
- The section of Avery Ranch Boulevard from 150 feet west of Staked Plains Drive to the end of Avery Ranch Boulevard should have no speed zone and the existing prima facie non-urban speed limit should remain.

Therefore the speed limit on Avery Ranch Boulevard should be:

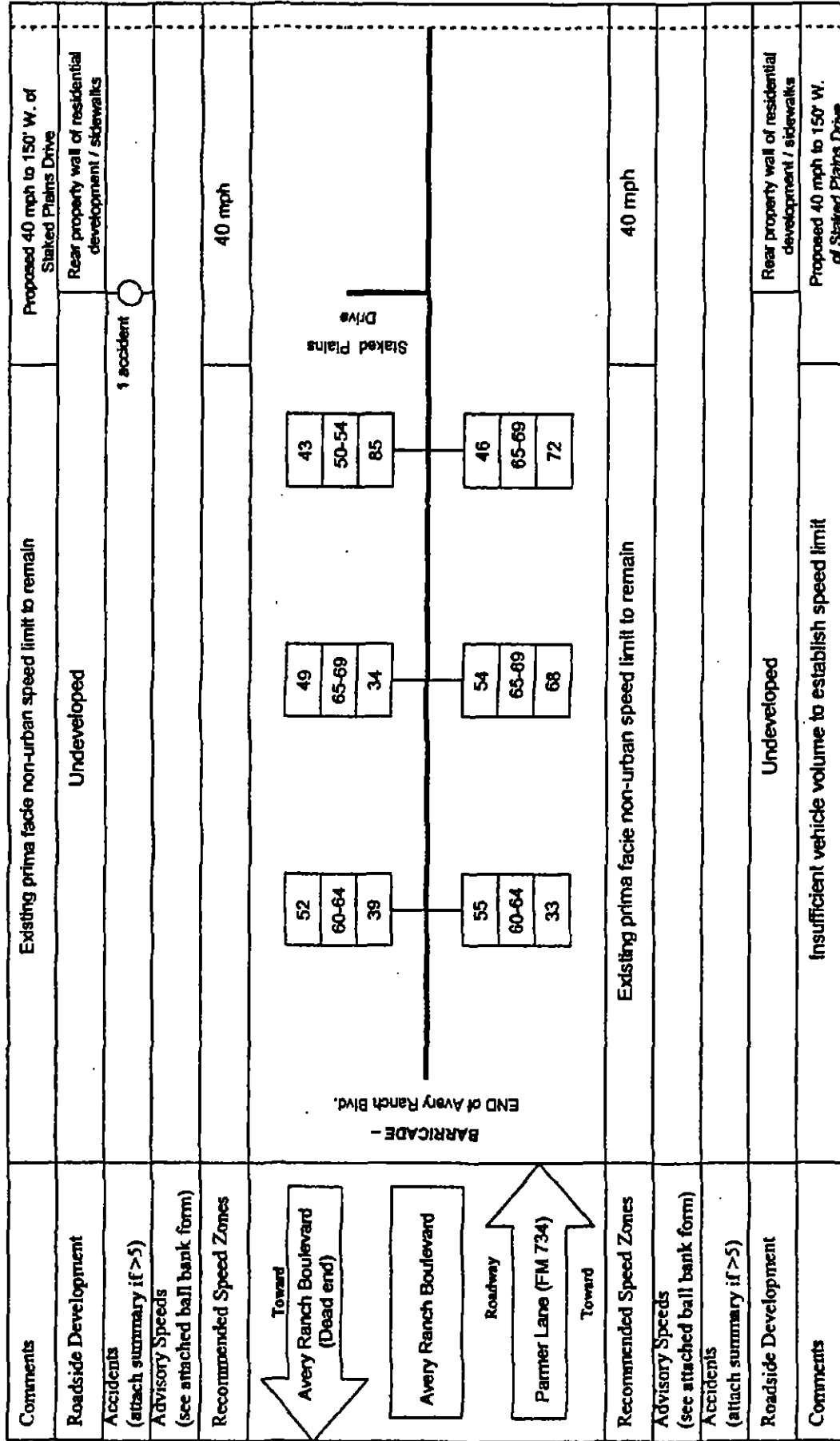
40 miles per hour from the intersection with Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to 150 feet west of the intersection with Staked Plains Drive.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Marsh", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Marsh, P.E.,  
Transportation Division

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**



# SPEED ZONE MAP - Sheet # 1

Comments	Existing speed limit 35 mph	Existing speed limit 35 mph
Roadside Development	Rear property wall of residential development / sidewalks	Undeveloped
Accidents		
(attach summary if >5)		
Advisory Speeds		
(see attached ball bank form)		
Recommended Speed Zones	40 mph	Existing 40 mph speed limit to remain
<div> <div>Toward</div> <div>Avery Ranch Boulevard (Dead end)</div> <div>Avery Ranch Boulevard</div> <div>Roadway</div> <div>Palmer Lane (F.M. 734)</div> <div>Toward</div> </div>	<div> <div>49 mph</div> <div>65-69</div> <div>1,201</div> <div>48 mph</div> <div>60-64</div> <div>1,348</div> <div>44 mph</div> <div>60-64</div> <div>1,868</div> <div>45 mph</div> <div>65-69</div> <div>2,619</div> </div> <div> <div>49 mph</div> <div>65-69</div> <div>1,183</div> <div>49 mph</div> <div>60-64</div> <div>1,345</div> <div>46 mph</div> <div>60-64</div> <div>1,821</div> <div>48 mph</div> <div>65-69</div> <div>2,643</div> </div>	<div>Palmer Lane</div> <div>Royal Tara Cove</div> <div>Canoe Hills Drive</div> <div>Quarry Oaks Trail</div> <div>Palmer Lane</div>
Recommended Speed Zones	40 mph	Existing 40 mph speed limit to remain
Advisory Speeds		
(see attached ball bank form)		
Accidents		
(attach summary if >5)		
Roadside Development	Rear property wall of residential development / sidewalks	Undeveloped
Comments	Existing speed limit 35 mph	

## SPEED ZONE MAP - Sheet # 2

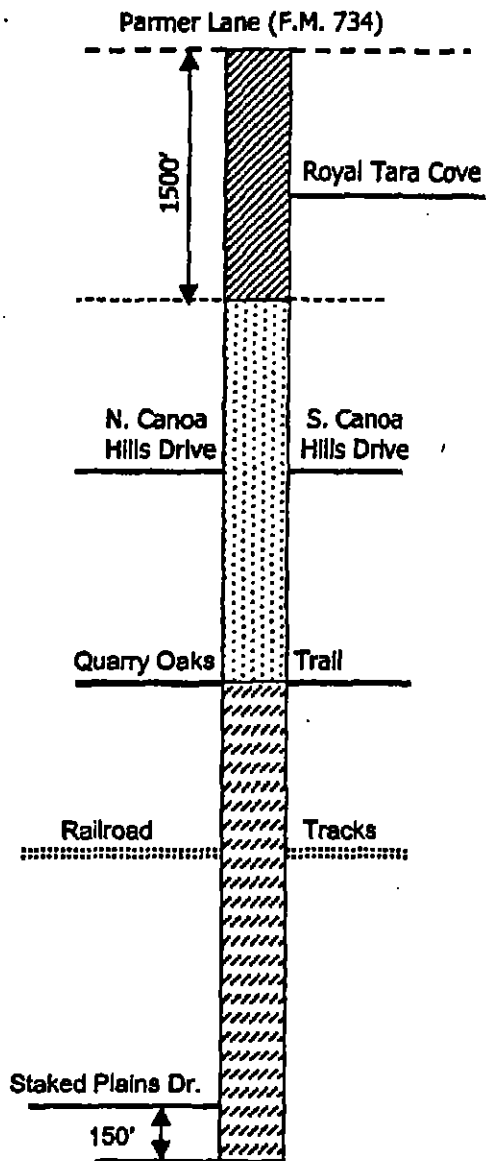
85th Percentile Speed	Mid Block Accident
Top Speed Measured	Intersection Accident
Number of Vehicles Checked	Match Line

Scale 1" = 600'

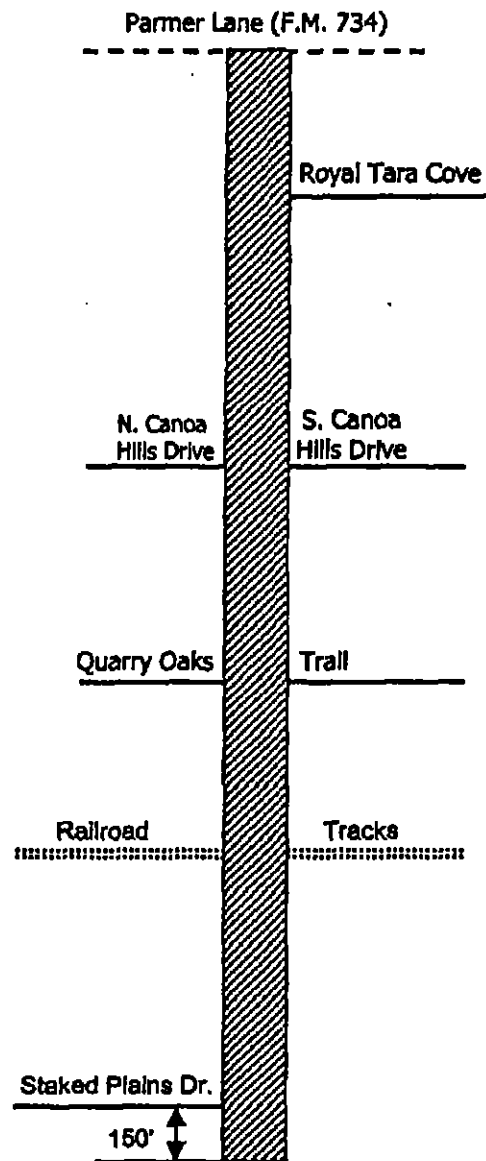
Speed Zone Investigation: 2005-000

(revised by JRF 2-18-05)

## Existing



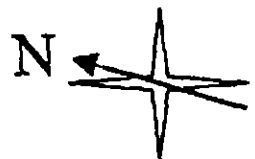
## Proposed



  
No Posted Speed  
Limit

  
40 mph

  
35 mph





**ORDINANCE NO.**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12-4-41 OF THE CITY CODE BY REMOVING A PORTION OF AVERY RANCH BOULEVARD FROM THE LIST OF STREETS HAVING A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 35 MILES PER HOUR; AND AMENDING SECTION 12-4-42 TO EXTEND THE 40 MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT ON A PORTION OF AVERY BOULEVARD.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

**PART 1.** Section 12-4-41 (*Maximum Speed Limit of 35 Miles Per Hour*) of the City Code is amended to remove:

Avery Ranch Boulevard from 1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane to Quarry Oaks Trail.

**PART 2.** Section 12-4-42 (*Maximum Speed Limit of 40 Miles Per Hour*) is amended as follows:

Avery Ranch Boulevard from Parmer Lane (F.M. 734) to 150 feet west of Staked Plains Drive [~~1,500 feet west of Parmer Lane (F.M. 734)~~].

**PART 3.** The amendments made in this ordinance shall be incorporated in alphabetical order and the existing subsections renumbered accordingly.

**PART 4.** This ordinance takes effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

**PASSED AND APPROVED**

\_\_\_\_\_, 2005      §  
                                 §  
                                 § \_\_\_\_\_  
                                 Will Wynn  
                                 Mayor

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
David Allan Smith  
City Attorney

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Shirley A. Brown  
City Clerk

# Avery Ranch Boulevard — Existing and Proposed speed limits

