



Thursday, November 02, 2006

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**Public Works
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

ITEM No. 16

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending Section 12-4-24 of the City Code to establish a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour on residential streets within the area bounded by South Congress Avenue, West Oltorf Street, South First Street, Barton Springs Road and West Riverside Drive

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$3,500 is available in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Operating Budget of the Public Works Department for installation of necessary signs.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required

**Additional Backup
Material**

(click to open)

Ordinance

For More Information: Richard Kroger, 974-7219, Thomas Kennerly, 974-7246, Laura Bohl, 974-7064.

In 2005, the Legislature amended the Texas Transportation Code to allow a city to set a speed limit lower than 30 miles per hour, but not less than 25 miles per hour, on a highway if:

- the highway is not an officially designated or marked highway or road in the state highway system;
- the highway is 35 feet or less in width;
- vehicular parking is not prohibited on one or both sides of the street;
- and • the highway has less than four lanes used for vehicular travel.

Texas Transportation Code Section 545.356 allows that the City Council may lower the speed limit along the residential streets in the area bounded by South Congress Avenue, West Oltorf Street, South First Street, Barton Springs Road, and West Riverside Drive to 25 miles per hour. Just over half of the streets within the area are eligible under State law for a 25 mile per hour speed limit. The exceptions are Haywood Avenue from West Riverside Drive to its end, West Monroe Street from South Congress Avenue to Newton Street, West Annie Street between South Congress Avenue and South First Street, and West Mary Street between South Congress Avenue and South First Street because these streets are wider than 35 feet. Other exceptions are Nellie Street from South Congress Avenue to Newton Street, Newton Street from Nellie Street to West Elizabeth Street, Wilson Street from West Oltorf Street to West Live Oak Street, College Avenue from West Oltorf Street to South Congress Avenue, Bartlett Street from South Congress Avenue to Euclid Avenue, West Elizabeth Street from South Congress Avenue to South First Street, West Live Oak Street from South Congress Avenue to South First Street, and West Gibson Street from South Congress Avenue to Newton Street because these streets have extensive parking restrictions. None of these ineligible sections of streets are in the recommended Code changes.

Staff recommends that Section 12-4-24 be amended to add the following streets to the list of streets with a maximum speed of 25 miles per hour:

Crockett Street from South Congress Avenue to its end
Durwood Street from West Oltorf Street to its end
Euclid Street from West Oltorf Street to West Live Oak Street
Eva Street from West Live Oak Street to

Crockett Street Eva Street from West Johanna Street to West Gibson Street Fletcher Street from Wilson Street to Euclid Avenue Forest Avenue from West Oltorf Street to Fletcher Street Lindell Avenue from West Live Oak Street to its end Newton Street from West Live Oak Street to Crockett Street Newton Street from West Johanna Street to West Elizabeth Street Roma Street from West Monroe Street to West Milton Street West James Street from Newton Street to South Congress Avenue West Johanna Street from South First Street to South Congress Avenue West Milton Street from South Congress Avenue to its end West Monroe Street from Newton Street to South First Street Wilson Street from West Live Oak Street to West Johanna Street.

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 12-4-24 OF THE CITY CODE TO ESTABLISH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 25 MILES PER HOUR WITHIN THE AREA BOUND BY SOUTH CONGRESS AVENUE, WEST OLTORF STREET, SOUTH FIRST STREET, BARTON SPRINGS ROAD AND WEST RIVERSIDE DRIVE.

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

PART 1. Section 12-4-24 (*Maximum Speed of 25 Miles Per Hour*) of the City Code is amended to add the following streets:

Crockett Street from South Congress Avenue to its end.

Durwood Street from West Oltorf Street to its end.

Euclid Avenue from West Oltorf Street to West Live Oak Street.

Eva Street from West Live Oak Street to Crockett Street.

Eva Street from West Johanna Street to West Gibson Street.

Fletcher Street from Wilson Street to Euclid Avenue.

Forest Avenue from West Oltorf Street to Fletcher Street.

Lindell Avenue from West Live Oak Street to its end.

Newton Street from West Live Oak Street to Crockett Street.

Newton Street from West Johanna Street to West Elizabeth Street.

Roma Street from West Monroe Street to West Milton Street.

West James Street from Newton Street to South Congress Avenue.

West Johanna Street from South First Street to South Congress Avenue.

1 West Milton Street from South Congress Avenue to its end.

2 West Monroe Street from Newton Street to South First Street.

3 Wilson Street from West Live Oak Street to West Johanna Street.

4 **PART 2.** The City Council finds that the prima facie speed limit previously applicable to
5 the streets, or portions of streets, identified in Part 1 of this ordinance is unreasonable or
6 unsafe, and the reduction in speed limit on these streets will reduce the potential for
7 vehicle-pedestrian accidents.

8
9 **PART 3.** The amendments made in this ordinance shall be incorporated in alphabetical
10 order and the existing subsections renumbered accordingly.

11 **PART 4.** This ordinance takes effect on _____, 2006.

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13 **PASSED AND APPROVED**

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17 _____, 2006

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18 Will Wynn
19 Mayor

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22 **APPROVED:**

23 David Allan Smith
24 City Attorney

25 **ATTEST:**

26 Shirley A. Gentry
27 City Clerk