Thursday, June 24, 2010

Transportation RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 68

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending Section 12-4-64(D) of the City Code to reposition the existing 20 miles per hour school zone on Texas Oaks Drive and add a portion of Slaughter Lane to the list of streets having a maximum speed limit of 30 miles per hour during certain times in a school zone for students attending Casey Elementary School; and providing for emergency passage.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$27,421.68 is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Child Safety Fund in the Public Works Department for installation of necessary signs and flashers.

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

For More Information: Gary W. Schatz 974-7189, Anthony Alvarado 974-7287, Leanne Vaughn 974-5657.

In order to modify or alter the existing speed limit of a street, the Texas Traffic Laws require that a traffic engineering investigation be performed. Traffic speed and volume trends, student crossing activity, and crash history were evaluated by the Austin Transportation Department to determine if modifications were appropriate to improve the safety for the students attending Casey Elementary School. Based on this investigation, the Austin Transportation Department recommends adding the following to the City Code Section 12-4-64 (D):

Amendment to Code Section 12-4-64 (D) (Table of Speed Limits):

Add: Slaughter Lane from 295 feet west of Texas Oaks Drive to 365 feet east of Texas Oaks Drive (30 MPH School Zone). The regular speed zone along Slaughter Lane is 45 MPH and was established by Ordinance 930916-B. Under speed limit procedures established by Texas Traffic Laws, the maximum speed limit change from a regular speed zone to a school speed zone is 15 MPH. Therefore a school speed limit of 30 MPH is recommended for this location.

Delete: Texas Oaks Drive from 165 feet north of Texas Sun Drive to 16 feet south of Saddle Horn Drive (20 MPH School Zone).

Add: Texas Oaks Drive from 180 feet north of Texas Sun Drive to 170 feet south of Texas Sun Drive (20 MPH School Zone).