

ORDINANCE NO. 20160818-068

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE SECTION 12-4-64(D) TO ADD A 25 MPH SCHOOL ZONE TO A PORTION OF PEARSON RANCH ROAD FOR THE SAFETY OF STUDENTS ATTENDING ELSA ENGLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; AND PROVIDE FOR EMERGENCY PASSAGE.

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

PART 1. City Code Section 12-4-64(D) (*Table of Speed Limits*) is amended to add:

Pearson Ranch Road from 200 feet north of Iveans Way to 28 feet south of Iveans Way. (25 mph)

PART 2. The amendment made in this ordinance is based on the results of a traffic engineering investigation, or "speed study," attached as Exhibit "A".


PART 3. The amendment made in this ordinance shall be incorporated in alphabetical order and the existing entries reordered accordingly.

PART 4. Council finds that school will soon be in session, and the need for a school zone at this site constitutes an emergency. Because of this emergency, this ordinance takes effect immediately on its passage for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

PASSED AND APPROVED

_____, August 18, 2016

APPROVED:



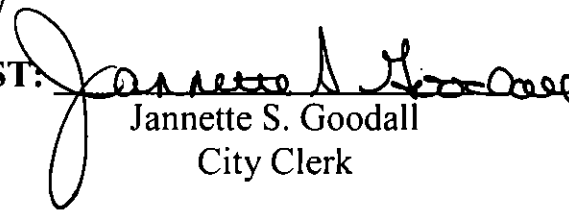
Anne L. Morgan
City Attorney

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Steve Adler
Mayor

ATTEST:

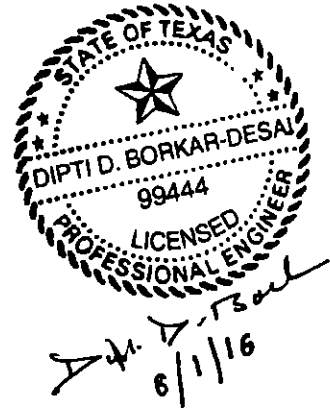


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk

EXHIBIT A



MEMORANDUM



To: Traffic Study Files
From: Austin Transportation Department
Date: August 1, 2016
Subject: Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation
Location: Pearson Ranch Road

Date(s) of Previous Investigation: None

A traffic engineering investigation has been conducted to determine if reduced speed school zone is appropriate on Pearson Ranch Road for students attending the Elsa England Elementary School.

General Conditions

Pearson Ranch Road functions as a four-lane median divided collector from Avery Ranch Boulevard to approximately 1,300 feet south of Avery Ranch Boulevard and transitions into an undivided two-lane road in the remaining section. This two-lane cross section is planned to be widened to a four-lane divided cross section in the near future. The adjoining property is currently vacant with two construction accesses off Pearson Ranch Road, north of Iveans Way.

The Elsa England Elementary School is located on Pearson Ranch Road, south of Iveans Way. This section of Pearson Ranch Road fronting the school is under Williamson County jurisdiction. The school is accessed by two driveways. One of these driveways aligns with Iveans Way at its intersection with Pearson Ranch Road.

The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

Proximity of the School Crossing to the School and Pedestrian Count

The Elsa England Elementary School is located on Pearson Ranch Road, south of Iveans Way. The adjacent land in the immediated vicinity of this intersection is currently undeveloped. However, a few pedestrians, including elementary students living in the residential area located

further west of this intersection along Iveans Way and surrounding streets, use this intersection to cross this street if they choose to walk or bicycle between home and school. It is anticipated that there will be an increase in pedestrian activity once all the residential development is completed.

Existing Roadway Conditions

Pearson Ranch Road functions as a four-lane median divided collector from Avery Ranch Boulevard to approximately 1,300 feet south of Avery Ranch Boulevard and transitions into an undivided two-lane road in the remaining section.

Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol

The City of Austin's Transportation Department and Public Works Department Safe Routes to School Program will coordinate with Elsa England Elementary school staff to discuss about the feasibility of an adult crossing guard at this intersection in the near future.

Sight Distance

There are no sight distance problems within the limits of the school zone on Pearson Ranch Road.

Sidewalks

There is a continuous sidewalk on the east side of Pearson Ranch Road while the sidewalk on the west side ends approximately 2,380 feet south of Avery Ranch Boulevard. As a result, there are no curb ramps or crosswalk at the intersection of Pearson Ranch Road and Iveans Way. However, this infrastructure will be installed when the two-lane cross section of Pearson Ranch Road will be widened to a four-lane divided cross section in the near future.

Recommendation

Based on the analysis of the information provided in the above sections, a reduced speed school zone of 25 miles per hour (mph) should be installed on Pearson Ranch Road from 200 feet north of Iveans Way to 28 feet south of Iveans Way (Austin City Limit).

The limits of the reduced speed school zone might need to be re-evaluated once the widening of Pearson Ranch Road is completed and adjacent land is developed in the future.

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



 Proposed 25 MPH School Zone (during peak school times)

Figure 1: Study Area