

ORDINANCE NO. 20120426-061

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12-4-64(D) OF THE CITY CODE TO ADD A PORTION OF WEST GATE BOULEVARD TO THE LIST OF STREETS HAVING A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 35 MPH; AND ADDING A PORTION OF WEST GATE BOULEVARD AND KENTISH DRIVE TO THE TABLE OF STREETS HAVING A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 20 MPH AT CERTAIN TIMES FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING COWAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; AND TO PROVIDE FOR EMERGENCY PASSAGE.

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

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

West Gate Boulevard from U.S. 290 to Slaughter Lane [~~Cameron Loop~~] (35 MPH Speed Limit).

PART 2. Section 12-4-64(D) (*Table of Speed Limits*) is amended to add the following street sections:

West Gate Boulevard from 165 feet north of Cohoba Drive to 230 feet south of Cohoba Drive (20 MPH School Zone) (Cowan Elementary School).

Kentish Drive from West Gate Boulevard to 835 feet east of West Gate Boulevard to reflect existing field conditions. (20 MPH School Zone) (Cowan Elementary School).

PART 3. The amendments made in this ordinance are based on the results of traffic engineering investigations, or “speed studies,” attached as Exhibits “A” and “B”.

PART 4. The amendment made in this ordinance shall be incorporated in alphabetical order and the existing entries reordered accordingly.

PART 5. Council finds that school is 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

_____, April 26, 2012

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§
§ _____
Lee Leffingwell
Mayor

APPROVED: _____
Karen M. Kennard
City Attorney

ATTEST: _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk

EXHIBIT A



MEMORANDUM

To: Traffic Study Files

From: Eric Bollich, P.E., PTOE, South Austin Supervisor
Traffic Engineering Division
Austin Transportation Department

E. Bollich
4/13/12

Date: April 13, 2012

Subject: SPEED ZONE INVESTIGATION

Location: West Gate Boulevard

Date(s) of Previous Investigation: None

A Traffic Engineering Investigation has been conducted by the Traffic Engineering Division to determine the appropriate speed limit on West Gate Boulevard from Cameron Loop to Slaughter Lane. Figure 1 presents a map of the study area.

Speed and Volume Data

Speed and volume data were collected in April 2012 to determine the appropriate posted speed limit for West Gate Boulevard.

Block Number	Street Segment	Existing Speed Limit	85% Speed		Traffic Volumes
			NB	SB	
9800	From Slaughter Lane to Aftonshire Way	30	42	43	4638
9700	From Aftonshire Way to Nesbit Drive	30	43	41	3938
9400	From Nesbit Drive to Cohoba Drive	30	43	43	3228
8900	From Cohoba Drive to Davis Lane	30	43	43	4519
8600	From Davis Lane to Cameron Loop	30	41	36	3943

Figure 2 presents a speed zone map summarizing the collected data.

General Comments

Between Slaughter Lane and Cohoba Drive, the prima facie speed limit is 30 miles per hour. South of Aftonshire Way, adjacent land uses include commercial businesses, a church, and multi-family properties. Between Aftonshire Way and Nesbit Drive, adjacent land is undeveloped. North of Nesbit Drive, adjacent land uses include single-family residences, all of which back to West Gate Boulevard.

An extension of West Gate Boulevard was completed between Cohoba Drive and Cameron Loop in March 2012. This new segment is approximately 3,200 feet long. Between Cohoba Drive and Davis Lane, adjacent land uses include condominiums on the west side of the street, all of which back to West Gate Boulevard; Cowan Elementary School is on the east side of the street. North of Davis Lane, a commercial property is in development on the northeast corner of West Gate Boulevard and Davis Lane; a majority of adjacent land along this segment is undeveloped.

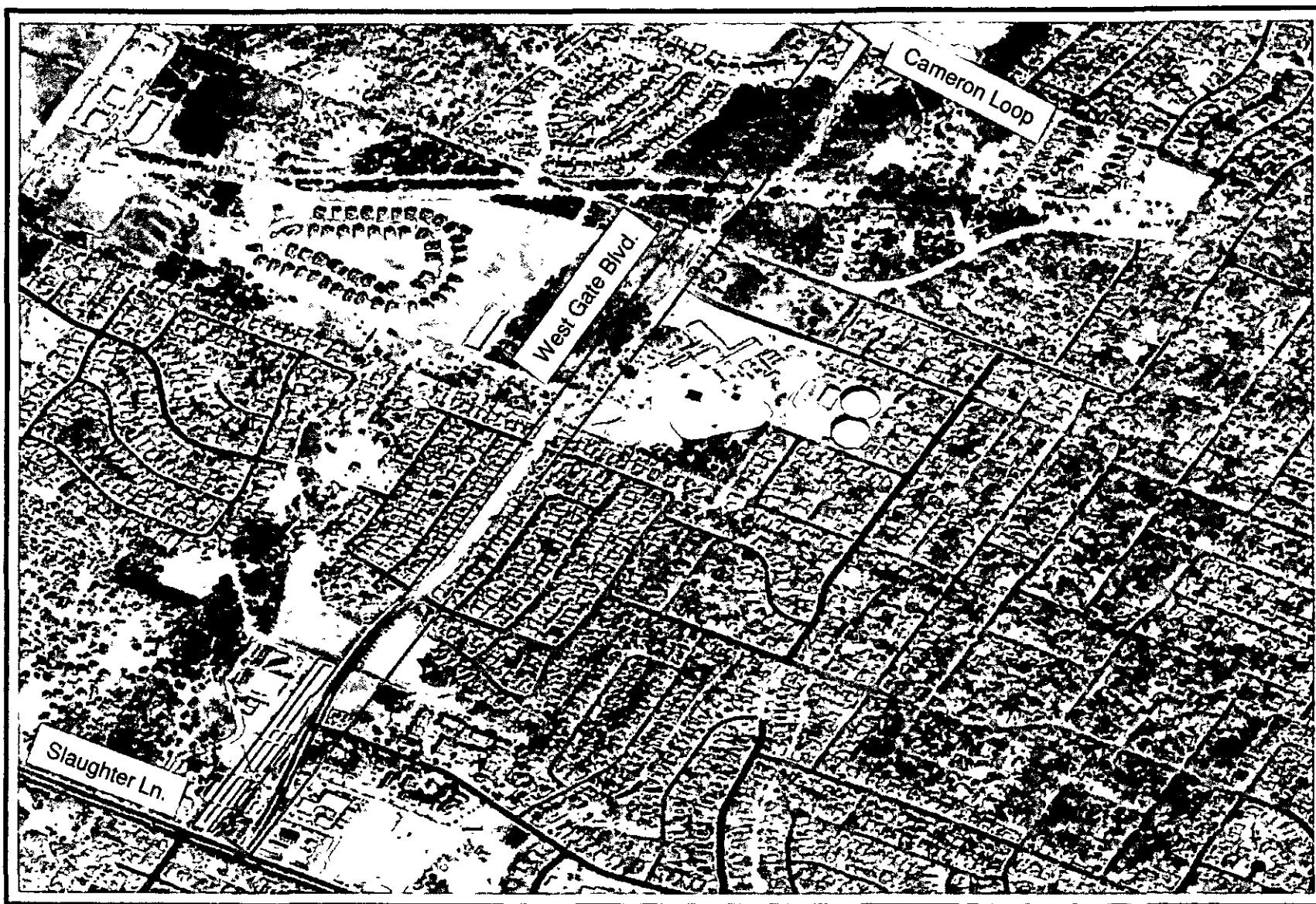
The newly completed extension of West Gate Boulevard provides a uniform design of a four-lane divided arterial from Slaughter Lane to north of William Cannon Drive, a distance of approximately three miles. The existing speed limit on this segment, which has comparable land uses, is 35 miles per hour.

Based on the analysis of this information, it is my engineering judgement that the speed limit on West Gate Boulevard should be 35 miles per hour from Slaughter Lane to Cameron Loop.

Respectfully submitted,

_____ Eric Bollich, P.E., PTOE South Austin Supervisor Traffic Engineering Division	_____ Date
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AUSTIN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT



ATD



West Gate Boulevard

Location Map



Comments							
Roadside Development	Dentist	Car Wash	Public Storage	Back of homes	Back of Townhomes	Undeveloped	
Accidents (attach summary if >5)	○						
Advisory Speeds (see attached ball bank form)							
Recommended Speed Zones	← 35 MPH →						
<div style="text-align: center;"> Toward Slaughter Ln. </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> Roadway Cameron Loop Toward </div>	Slaughter Ln. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">43</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">55-60</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2457</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">41</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">55-60</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2113</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">43</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">55-60</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1720</div>	Cohoba Dr. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">43</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">55-60</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2522</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">43</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">55-60</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1997</div>	Davis Ln. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">36</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">45-50</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2044</div>	Piney Creek Bend <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">41</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">50-55</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1899</div>
Recommended Speed Zones	← 35 MPH →						
Advisory Speeds (see attached ball bank form)							
Accidents (attach summary if >5)							
Roadside Development	C Mart	Church	Apartments	Undeveloped	Back of Homes	Elem. School	Undeveloped
Comments							

85th Percentile Speed

Top Speed Measured

Number of Vehicles Checked



Mid Block Accident



Intersection Accident



Match Line

SPEED ZONE MAPScale = Not to scale

EXHIBIT B



MEMORANDUM

To: Traffic Study Files

From: Eric Bollich, P.E., PTOE, South Area Supervisor
Traffic Engineering Division
Austin Transportation Department

E. Bollich
4/13/12

Date: April 13, 2012

Subject: Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation

Location: West Gate Boulevard and Cohoba Drive

Date(s) of Previous Investigation: None

A Traffic Engineering Investigation has been conducted by this department to determine if a Reduced Speed School Zone should be installed on West Gate Boulevard near Cohoba Drive. Figure 1 presents a map of the study area.

The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

Proximity of the School Crossing to the School

The proposed school crossing at the intersection of West Gate Boulevard and Cohoba Drive is located approximately 1000 feet southwest of Cowan Elementary School. School property abuts the east side of West Gate Boulevard between Davis Lane and approximately 130 feet north of Cohoba Drive. The extension of West Gate Boulevard between Davis Lane and Cohoba Drive was opened in March 2012; no pedestrian facilities (ramps, median breaks, crosswalks) are provided along this segment of roadway extension.

Pedestrian Count

Location	Date	Time	Volume	Approx. Age
Crossing West Gate Boulevard at Cohoba Drive	3/22/12	2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	17	10 children under 12 years; 7 adults
Crossing Cohoba Drive at West Gate Boulevard	3/22/12	2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	15	14 children under 12 years; 1 adult

Existing Roadway Conditions

Location	Type of Controls	ADT Two Way	Posted Speed Limit	Street Width
West Gate Boulevard	Uncontrolled	3228	30 MPH	60 feet
Cohoba Drive	Stop	N/A	25 MPH	36 feet

Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol

The City's Child Safety Program has committed an adult crossing guard at this crossing if a school zone is established. No guard or patrol currently works this crossing.

Crash History

Austin Police Department's crash database was culled for crashes near the study intersection between March 2007 and March 2012.

Type	Number at Intersection	Number Mid-Block
Pedestrian-Vehicle Crashes	0	0
Vehicle-Vehicle Crashes	2	0

Sight Distance

Approximately 800 feet of unobstructed views are provided looking north and south on West Gate Boulevard from Cohoba Drive.

Sidewalks

Sidewalks exist along both curblines of West Gate Boulevard for the entirety of the street. Sidewalks exist along the north curblines of Cohoba Drive for the entirety of the street and along the south curblines between West Gate Boulevard and Sanford Drive.

Other

Before the completion of the roadway extension, West Gate Boulevard terminated at Cohoba Drive, forming a "T" intersection. Pedestrians now face more conflicts with traffic in crossing West Gate Boulevard. The proposed school zone would allow all pedestrians west of West Gate Boulevard to cross at a single location (Cohoba Drive) with the assistance of an adult crossing guard.

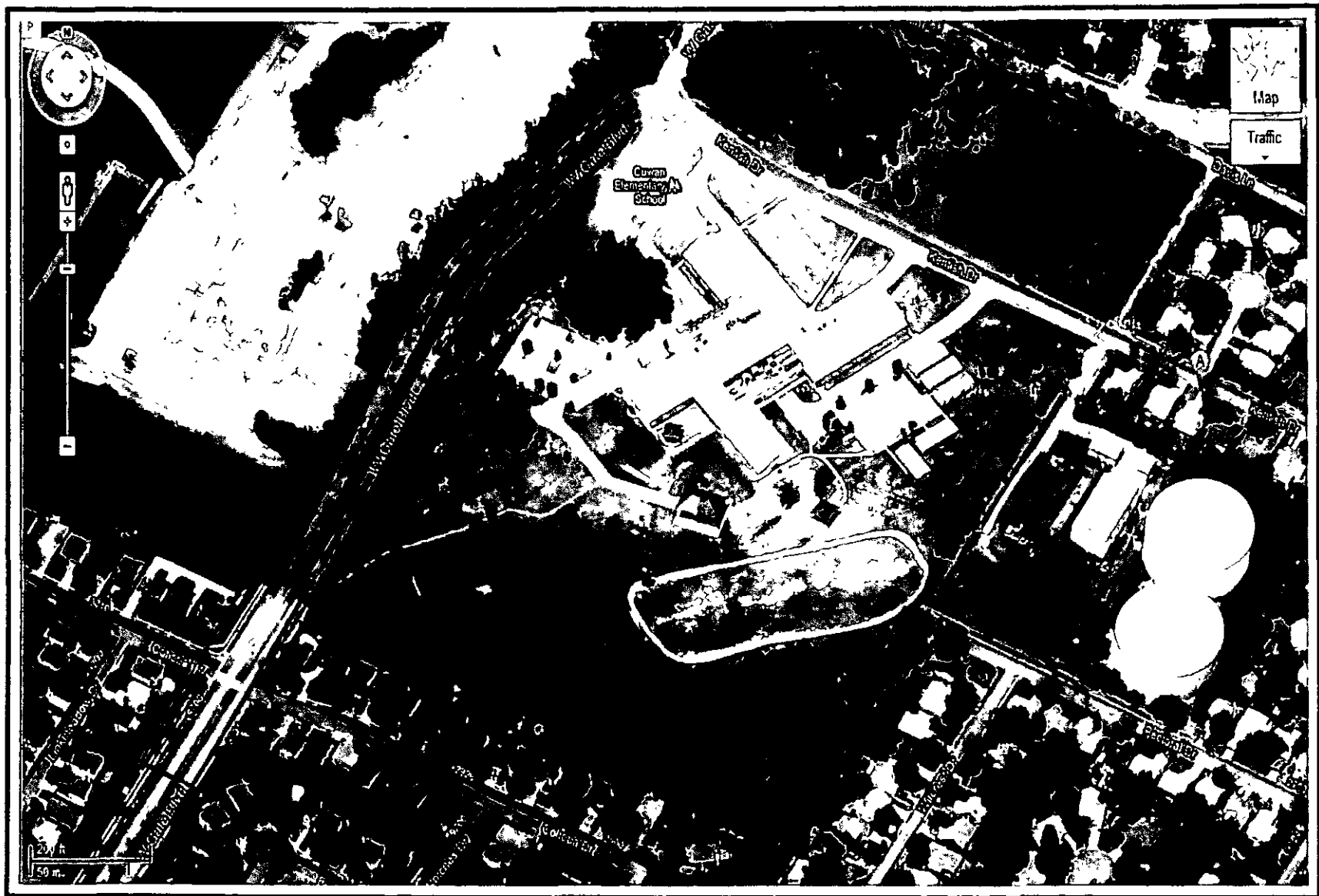
Sidewalks exist along both curblines of West Gate Boulevard for the entirety of the street. Sidewalks exist along the north curblines of Cohoba Drive for the entirety of the street and along the south.

Based on the analysis of this information, it is my engineering judgment that a Reduced Speed School Zone of 20 mph when flashing on West Gate Boulevard should be installed from 165 north of Cohoba Drive to 230 feet south of Cohoba Drive.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Bollich, P.E., PTOE,
South Area Supervisor
Traffic Engineering Division

AUSTIN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT



ATD



West Gate Blvd.@ Cohoba Dr. school zone (Cowan Elem. School)

Location Map

