



MEMORANDUM

To: Traffic Study Files

From: Eric Bollich, P.E., PTOE
South Austin Area Engineer
Austin Transportation Department

Date: May 23, 2014

Subject: Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation

Location: Escarpment Boulevard and Davis Lane



Date(s) of Previous Investigation: None

A traffic engineering investigation has been conducted to determine if a reduced speed school zone is appropriate along Escarpment Boulevard at Davis Lane near Mills Elementary School (the "school") for its students. The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

Proximity of the School Crossing to the School

The school is located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Escarpment Boulevard and Davis Lane (the "study intersection"); a traffic signal controls this intersection. The proposed school zone is adjacent to the side of the school.

Pedestrian Count

Pedestrians were counted at the study intersection during the peak morning period of the school on May 22, 2014.

Location	Elementary Child	Elementary Bike	Adult	Total
Crossing Escarpment Blvd at Davis Ln	10	42	21	73
Crossing Davis Ln at Escarpment Blvd	6	21	15	42
Total	16	63	36	115



Existing Roadway Conditions

Escarpment Boulevard is classified as a four-lane divided major arterial, while Davis Lane is classified as a four-lane collector.

Location	Number of Lanes	ADT: Two-Way	Posted Speed Limit	Street Width
Escarpment Blvd	4	12,820	40 MPH	95 feet
Davis Ln	4	3,945	35 MPH	70 feet

Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol

Two crossing guards currently work the study intersection. Pedestrians are expected to cross Escarpment Boulevard and Davis Lane within marked crosswalks at the study intersection.

Crash History

Austin Police Department's crash database was reviewed for documented crashes occurring between April 2012 and April 2014 within the proposed school zone. Three crashes were documented during this period.

Date / Time	Direction		Weather	Light	Road	Injury	Comments
	At Fault	Other					
08/28/12 20:34	SB	?	Clear	Dark	Dry	None	Ran red light
12/15/12 14:25	NB	NB	Clear	Day	Dry	Minor	Driver turned right into passing bicyclist
08/30/13 16:22	NB	SB	Clear	Day	Dry	None	Driver made u-turn into oncoming vehicle

Sight Distance

Sight distance exceeds the length of the proposed school zone along Escarpment Boulevard.

Sidewalks and Ramps

Sidewalks are located along both sides of both streets within the proposed school zone. Ramps are located on all corners of the study intersection.

Recommendation

Based on the analysis of this information, a reduced speed school zone of 25 miles per hour (mph) should be installed along Escarpment Boulevard from 550 feet north of Davis Lane to 400 feet south of Davis Lane.

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



Figure 1: Study Area

Existing 40 MPH

Proposed 25 MPH School Zone (during peak school times)