BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission

Recommendation Number: (20161115-003A): Residential Speed Limits

WHEREAS traffic safety is an issue of utmost importance in the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS the residential density and design of the Mueller "urban village" result in a high number of pedestrians and cyclists; and

WHEREAS the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and other road users is particularly impacted by vehicle speed; and

WHEREAS the City of Austin is interested in exploring techniques to reduce cyclist and pedestrian death and injury; and

WHEREAS the survival rate from a collision between a pedestrian and a motor vehicle is five times greater at 20 mph than at 30 mph, and

WHEREAS lower speeds increase driver reaction time and also reduce the likelihood of a collision; and

WHEREAS higher speeds reduce the field of vision for a driver and increase the likelihood a driver will fail to see a pedestrian or other road user in time to avoid a collision; and

WHEREAS members of the Mueller Community have shown a willingness to innovate urban living concepts; and

WHEREAS the Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission advises Austin City Council on implementation of the Mueller Master Plan, including traffic and design-related items;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission respectfully requests the Austin City Council to direct City staff or other appropriate entities to pursue legislation at the 85th Texas Legislature to allow Texas' largest cities to reduce the default minimum speed limit from 30 to 25 mph.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council should direct City staff to plan and execute a pilot project in the Mueller neighborhood that both lowers the speed limit and encourages slower motor vehicle speeds through street design.

Date of Approval: __11/15/2016_____

Record of the vote: _Unanimous on a 9-0 vote _____

Attest: _Michael Jones_____