



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-2874, **Agenda Item #:** 74.

9/19/2019

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Section 12-4-64(D) (Table of Speed Limits) to establish a maximum speed limit of 35 miles per hour on a section of Riverside Drive (East) from 250 feet east of Crossing Place to 250 feet east of Vargas Drive and a maximum speed limit of 40 miles per hour from 250 feet east of Vargas Drive to S.H. 71.

Lead Department

Austin Transportation Department

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2019 Operating Budget of the Austin Transportation Department for installation of necessary signs.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

To modify or alter the existing speed limit of a street, Texas traffic laws require that a traffic engineering investigation be performed. An investigation of Riverside Drive (East) was conducted by the Transportation Engineering Division of the Austin Transportation Department in accordance with the procedures specified in the Texas Procedures for Establishing Speed Zones, 2015, including factors affecting roadway safety (street curvature, driveway density, crash history).

This ordinance change is part of ATD's initial group of speed modification reports to evaluate operating speeds and safety on the City's primary arterial streets to recommend appropriate speed limits based on factors affecting roadway safety. This effort is included in ATD's Vision Zero initiative and its emerging Speed Management Program. ATD is also evaluating the appropriateness of a citywide arterial speed limit alternative to discuss with Council at a later date.

The Transportation Engineering Division recommends making the following amendments to City Code Section 12-4-64 (D) (Table of Speed Limits) to establish a maximum speed limit of 35 miles per hour on a section of Riverside Drive (East) from 250 feet east of Crossing Place to 250 feet east of Vargas Drive and a maximum speed limit of 40 miles per hour from 250 feet east of Vargas Drive to S.H. 71. These amendments will extend existing maximum speed limits, resulting in a continuous speed limit of 35 miles per hour from 1st Street (South) to 250 feet east of Vargas Road and a continuous speed limit of 40 miles per hour from 250 feet east of Vargas Road to U.S. Highway 183.

Delete: Riverside Drive (East) from Ben White Boulevard (East)/U.S. Highway 71 to the end of U.S. Highway 183. (40 MPH)

Delete: Riverside Drive from 250 feet east of Crossing Place to 250 feet east of Vargas Road. (40 MPH)

Delete: Riverside Drive from 250 feet east of Vargas Road to S.H. 71. (45 MPH)

Delete: Riverside Drive (East) from Ben White Boulevard (East)/U.S. Highway 71 to the end of U.S. Highway
Riverside Drive from 1st Street (South) to 250 feet east of Crossing Place. (35 MPH)

Add: Riverside Drive (East) from 1st Street (South) to 250 feet east of Vargas Road. (35 MPH)

Add: Riverside Drive (East) from 250 feet east of Vargas Road to U.S. Highway 183. (40 MPH)