



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 22-2016, **Agenda Item #:** 54.

6/9/2022

### **Posting Language**

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 12-4-64(D) (*Table of Speed Limits*) to establish a prima facie speed limit of 30 miles per hour for Escarpment Boulevard from Padua Drive to Bernia Drive.

### **Lead Department:**

Austin Transportation Department

### **Fiscal Note:**

This item has no fiscal impact.

### **For More Information:**

Anna Martin, Assistant Director, 512-974-7105; Eric Bollich, Managing Engineer, 512-974-7767; Gilda Powers, Administrative Manager, 512-974-7092

### **Additional Backup Information:**

Escarpment Boulevard is an undivided two-way, two-lane, collector roadway, approximately 1.5 miles long between SH 45 and its southern terminus with an existing speed limit of 35 miles per hour (MPH). This roadway provides the primary access to the Avana Neighborhood and Bear Creek Elementary School. The segment of Escarpment Boulevard between Padua Drive and Bernia Drive within these total extents is approximately 0.5 miles long and experiences the highest levels of pedestrian traffic due to its proximity to Bear Creek Elementary.

In order to establish, modify or alter the existing speed limit of a street, the Texas traffic laws require that a traffic engineering investigation be performed. The Austin Transportation Department (ATD) conducted an investigation of Escarpment Boulevard in accordance with the procedures specified in the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Procedures for Establishing Speed Zones, 2015 and the Federal Highway Administration's USLIMITS2 tool.

ATD recommends lowering the existing speed limit of 35 MPH to 30 MPH on Escarpment Boulevard from Padua Drive to Bernia Drive to establish a prima facie speed limit of 30 MPH that is more appropriate for the context of the roadway given the connectivity it provides for residential streets and pedestrian activity.

ATD recommends the following amendment to City Code Section 12-4-64 (D) (Table of Speed Limits). By deleting this existing code, the street segment of Escarpment Boulevard between Padua Drive and Bernia Drive would revert to a prima facie speed limit of 30 MPH.

### **Delete:**

Escarpment Boulevard from SH 45 to its terminus south of SH 45. (35 MPH)

### **Add:**

Escarpment Boulevard from SH 45 to Padua Drive. (35 MPH)

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**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Mobility, Safety