



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 22-2018, **Agenda Item #:** 56.

6/9/2022

### **Posting Language**

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Section 12-4-64 (D) to reduce speed limits, during certain times, for students attending various schools; and provide for emergency passage.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Transportation Department.

### **Fiscal Note**

This item has no fiscal impact.

### **Prior Council Action:**

February 3, 2022 - Ordinance No. 20220203-031 to establish a maximum speed limit of 35 mph for Salt Springs Drive from William Cannon Drive (East) to Thaxton Road, was approved on an 11-0 vote.

February 3, 2022 - Ordinance No. 20220203-032 to establish a maximum speed limit of 45 mph for Slaughter Lane (West) from Ranch to Market (R.M.) 1826 to Escarpment Boulevard, was approved on an 11-0 vote.

February 3, 2022 - Ordinance No. 20220203-033 to establish a maximum speed limit of 30 mph on Nuckols Crossing Road from St. Elmo Road (East) to Pleasant Valley Road (South); St. Elmo Road (East) from Nuckols Crossing Road to Todd Lane/Pleasant Valley Road (South); and 35 mph from St. Elmo Road (East) from IH 35 (South) East Frontage Road to Todd Lane/Pleasant Valley Road (South), was approved on an 11-0 vote.

### **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:**

In order to establish, modify, or alter the existing speed limit of a street, Texas traffic laws require that a traffic engineering investigation be performed. Based on engineering investigations completed by the Austin Transportation Department (ATD), Council approved Ordinance Nos. 20220203-031, 20220203-032, and 20220203-033, to reduce the normal posted speed limits on sections of Salt Springs Road, West Slaughter Lane, and Nuckols Crossing Road, respectively.

To adhere to Texas Administrative Code of establishing school zone speed limits no greater than 15 miles per hour (mph) under the accompanying normal posted speed limit, and to follow ATD's standard practice of not establishing school zone speed limits not less than 20 mph, existing school zones on these should be reduced following these standard practices:

1. Salt Springs Drive (Palm Elementary School)
2. West Slaughter Lane (Gorzycki Middle School)
3. Nuckols Crossing Road (Widen Elementary School/Mendez Middle School)

---

On the Request for Council Action dated February 3, 2022, ATD did not include recommended modifications to existing school zones listed above. Therefore, this action for June 9, 2022, approves an ordinance to amend City Code Section 12-4-64 (D) to reduce speed limits, during certain times, for students attending the above schools following these standard practices.

Additionally, ATD completed an engineering investigation under separate Request for Council Action for June 9, 2022, to recommend modifications to normal posted speed limits citywide on Level 3 and 4 streets as defined by the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan outside of the Urban Core, defined as the area outside bounded by US 183, SH 71/US 290, and Loop 1 (MoPac).

Included in the normal posted speed limits recommended to be lowered based on this engineering investigation, existing school zone speed limits on these three street segments are recommended to be lowered following the standard practices presented above:

1. Kramer Lane (McBee Elementary School)
2. Metric Boulevard (Parmer Lane Elementary School/Westview Middle School)
3. Slaughter Lane (Casey Elementary School)

Based on this engineering evaluation, the Office of the City Traffic Engineer has determined the following school zone speed limit modifications should be entered into the City's Code of Ordinances based on ATD's evaluation of safe and prudent speeds. ATD, under the authority of the Office of the City Traffic Engineer, recommends this item for Council action to set new school zone speed limits on the identified streets. Existing extents for the six street segments will not change.

#### **Amendment to Code Section 12-4-64 (D) (Table of Speed Limits)**

##### **Delete:**

Kramer Lane from Selma Drive to 720 feet east of Plains Trail (McBee Elementary School). (25 MPH)

Metric Boulevard from 250 feet south of Scofield Lane to 250 feet north of Scofield Lane (Parmer Lane Elementary School/Westview Middle School). (30 MPH)

Slaughter Lane from 295 feet west of Texas Oaks Drive to 365 feet east of Texas Oaks Drive (Casey Elementary School). (30 MPH)

Nuckols Crossing Road from 200 feet north of Palo Blanco Lane to 200 feet south of Village Square Drive (Widen Elementary School/Mendez Middle School). (25 MPH)

Slaughter Lane West from 1,100 feet north of Barstow Avenue to 900 feet south of R.M. 1826 (Gorzycki Middle School). (35 MPH)

Salt Springs Drive from 206 feet north of Asa Drive/Colton-Bluff Springs Road to 206 feet south of Tara Drive (Palm Elementary School). (25 MPH)

##### **Add:**

Kramer Lane from Selma Drive to 720 feet east of Plains Trail (McBee Elementary School). (20 MPH)

Metric Boulevard from 250 feet south of Scofield Lane to 250 feet north of Scofield Lane (Parmer Lane Elementary School/Westview Middle School). (25 MPH)

Slaughter Lane from 295 feet west of Texas Oaks Drive to 365 feet east of Texas Oaks Drive (Casey

---

Elementary School). (25 MPH)

Nuckols Crossing Road from 200 feet north of Palo Blanco Lane to 200 feet south of Village Square Drive (Widen Elementary School/Mendez Middle School). (20 MPH)

Slaughter Lane West from 1,100 feet north of Barstow Avenue to 900 feet south of R.M. 1826 (Gorzycki Middle School). (30 MPH)

Salt Springs Drive from 206 feet north of Asa Drive/Colton-Bluff Springs Road to 206 feet south of Tara Drive (Palm Elementary School). (20 MPH)

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Mobility, Safety.