

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Shetter and members of the Burleson City Council

From: Aaron Russell, P.E., Public Works Director

Date: April 6, 2009

Subject: Ordinance B-788-09, establishing prima facie speed limits on the I35-W East and West Frontage Roads through the City of Burleson. (First Reading)

Council Action Requested:

Approve Ordinance B-788-09 establishing the prima facie speed limits along the I-35W East and West Frontage Roads through the City of Burleson, Texas. (First Reading)

Background Information:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) began the Hidden Creek Parkway overpass and ramp modifications project along I-35W in Burleson, Texas in May 2006. After this project was completed in April 2008, the traffic patterns for motorists utilizing the frontage roads were significantly altered. City staff believed that a modification to the existing regulatory speed limit signage along the frontage roads was needed. City staff also believed that the speed limits through the Burleson corridor should be adjusted to reflect the recently completed construction modifications.

City staff requested that TxDOT conduct an engineered speed study for the I-35W frontage roads within the City limits of Burleson and review the location of existing signage as well. TxDOT complied with the request and initiated a study in May 2008. The limits of the study began at the northern city limit along I-35W and ended at the southern city limit along I-35W. The findings of the study indicated that modifications to the speed limits along the frontage road and new signage locations were warranted. A strip map comparing the existing signage and maximum speed limits to the recommendations of the study is attached for review.

Board/Citizen Input:

Findings and recommendations of the speed study provided by TxDOT with review by the Burleson Police Department

Financial Considerations:

No city expenditures are required. TxDOT will provide all signage necessary to delineate the newly established speed limit zones along the I-35W frontage roads upon approval of this ordinance.

Attachments:

Ordinance B-788-09

Recommendations from TDOT letter dated March 03, 2009

Map with existing and proposed maximum speed limits along I-35W frontage roads

Staff Contact:

Robert T. House, P.E., Deputy City Engineer

817-447-5400 x303

thouse@burlesontx.com

Ordinance B-788-09

SPEED ZONE ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE ALTERING THE PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS ESTABLISHED FOR VEHICLES UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE TRANSPORTATION CODE, CHAPTER 545, SECTION 545.356, UPON THE BASIS OF AN ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION UPON CERTAIN STREETS AND HIGHWAYS, OR PARTS THEREOF, WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF BURLESON AS SET OUT IN THE ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING A PENALTY OF A FINE NOT TO EXCEED \$200.00 FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 545 Paragraph 545.356, provides that whenever the governing body of the City shall determine upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that any prima facie speed therein set forth is greater or less than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist at any intersection or other place or upon any part of a street or highway, with the City taking into consideration the width and condition of the pavement and other circumstances on such portion of said street or highway, as well as the usual traffic thereon, said governing body may determine and declare a reasonable and safe prima facie speed limit thereat or thereon by the passage of an ordinance , which shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected at such intersection or other place or part of the street or highway, Now therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Burleson, Texas:

Section 1. Upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation heretofore made as authorized by the provisions of the Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 545, Paragraph 545.356, the following prima facie speed limits hereafter indicated for vehicles are hereby determined and declared to be reasonable and safe; and such speed limits are hereby fixed at the rate of speed indicated for vehicles traveling upon the named streets and highways, or parts thereof, described as follows:

Highway: I-35W (East & West Frontage Roads)
City: BURLESON
County: **JOHNSON**

Control-Section:0014-03

Beginning at Mile Point 14.419 (Burleson City Limit) north a distance of 7.681 miles to Mile Point 22.100, zoned at fifty (50) miles per hour

Beginning at Mile Point 22.100 north a distance of 1.042 miles to Mile Point 23.142 (Tarrant/Johnson County Line), zoned at forty-five (45) miles per hour

Highway: I-35W (East & West Frontage Roads)
City: BURLESON
County: **TARRANT**

Control-Section:0014-02

Beginning at Mile Point: 1.00 (Tarrant/Johnson County Line) north a distance of 1.187 miles to Mile Point 2.187 (Burleson/Ft. Worth City Limit Line), zoned at forty (40) miles per hour

Section 2. Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not more than two hundred (\$200.00) dollars.

This ordinance modifies previous ordinances pertaining to the above referenced highway.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 2009.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Secretary

Mayor

First Reading: _____

April 6, 2009
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P.O. BOX 6868 • FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76115-0868 • (817) 370-6500

March 3, 2009

CONTACT: TE

Speed Zoning in Burleson
Control & Section: 0014-03 & 0014-02
Highway: IH 35W
County: Johnson & Tarrant

Mr. Aaron Russell, P.E.
Director of Public Works
City of Burleson
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028

Dear Mr. Russell:

Considering recent engineering and traffic investigations by our Traffic Operations Section, we recommend the following posted speed limits on IH 35W Frontage Roads in Burleson:

Johnson County:

Control-Section: 0014-03

- MP 14.419 north 7.681 miles to MP 22.100; zoned at 50-MPH.
- MP 21.000 north 1.042 miles to MP 23.142; zoned at 45-MPH.

Tarrant County:

Control-Section: 0014-02

- MP 1.00 north 1.187 miles to MP 2.187, zoned at 40-MPH.

We are enclosing a copy of the updated strip map reflecting the proposed speeds. If the City Council concurs with our recommendations, we ask that the City pass an ordinance establishing the proposed speed zones. We are also enclosing a copy of a typical speed zone ordinance for their consideration. Please send a copy of the ordinance to this office when it is passed.

If you should have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Clark Fulbright at (817) 370-6771.

Sincerely,

Theresa A. Lopez, P.E.
Assistant Director of Transportation Operations
Fort Worth District

DCFJ
Enclosures

