



**CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

Meeting Date: March 2, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

From: B. Francis, City Manager

Subject: Ordinance 21-03 Allow School Buses on Hoffner, First Reading

Background: BIMC Section 30-3 states: Vehicles in excess of six tons (12,000 GVWR—gross vehicle weight rating) are prohibited from traveling on Hoffner Avenue within the city unless for a local delivery within the neighborhoods abutting Hoffner Avenue within the city. This is to prevent large and heavy trucks from travelling on Hoffner and possibly damaging the bridge.

Orange County Public School Transportation Service Manager, Adam Zubritsky, contacted me to ask if the City could change the code to allow for school buses to travel on Hoffner because they have a few stops to make in order to pick up students. The average school bus weighs in excess of 14,000 pounds and therefore the City has restricted school buses from travelling on Hoffner Avenue.

In researching the bridge weight limits, according to DOT, the bridge is rated to 32 metric tons (35 US tons) and therefore the school buses do not exceed this weight restriction. School buses also do not pose the same problems that the City has with larger trucks.

This change would also be beneficial in the event that Cornerstone Charter Academy were to ever start providing transportation to its students.

If approved, the staff will develop the proper ordinance.

Staff Recommendation: Change the code to exempt school buses from the Hoffner restriction.

Suggested Motion: I move that we move Ordinance 21-03 to a second reading at the March 16, 2021 Council meeting.

Alternatives: Do not change the code.

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Attachments: Ordinance 21-03