
City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Eric Oscarson, Director of Public Works

MEETING: November 14, 2022

SUBJECT:

Consider an ordinance altering the Speed Limit along Hemphill Street between NE Alsbury Boulevard and the city limits from 35 miles per hour to 45 miles per hour; directing the City Manager or designee to erect the appropriate signage and incorporating the recitals into the body of the ordinance. *(First and Final Reading) (Staff Presenter: Eric Oscarson, Director of Public Works)*

SUMMARY:

In April 2022, staff received complaints about speeding along Hemphill Street. In reviewing the complaints, staff discovered that Hemphill St. was designed as a major collector with a recommended speed limit of 45 MPH but was posted at 35 MPH. In May, staff completed a speed survey which identified that the average speed at the 85th percentile was 43 MPH. Based on that information, staff initiated a traffic speed study to determine the appropriate speed limit for Hemphill from NE Alsbury Blvd to the city limits.

A traffic speed study was completed by Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. on June 30, 2022. To evaluate the area, speed and traffic volume data were collected at Windridge Lane for a period of twenty-four (24) hours on Tuesday, May 24th, 2022. Based upon the results of this study, the 85th percentile speed for NB and SB traffic was approximately 43 mph, just south of Windridge Lane. The results included 2,530 NB and 2,168 SB total passenger cars. In most instances, a speed limit based on the 85th percentile speed best reflects the expectations of the largest proportion of drivers; is found by most to be a safe and comfortable limit; facilitates speed enforcement; and offers the greatest chance of achieving some uniformity in speeds on a given road.

Based on the collected data and roadway geometry of Hemphill Street, Kimley-Horn & Associates and staff recommend a posted speed limit of 45 mph.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve as presented
- 2) Deny

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve an ordinance altering the Prima Facie Speed Limit along Hemphill Street between SW Alsbury Boulevard and the city limits from 35 miles per hour to 45 miles per hour; directing the City Manager or designee to erect the appropriate signage and incorporating the recitals into the body of the ordinance.

STAFF CONTACT:

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