

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION ITEM CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

AGENDA TOPIC:	Consideration and possible action on reducing the speed limit on FM 3351 (Ralph Fair Road) from 55 mph to 45 mph within the city limits of Fair Oaks Ranch
DATE:	May 7, 2025
REQUESTER	Doug Miller, Resident

Received: March 31, 2025

REQUEST

Location/Situation for Review and Description of Concerns

FM 3351 connects I-10 and Highway 46 through Bexar, Comal, and Kendall counties and passes through approximately 4.2 miles of the City of Fair Oaks Ranch. The speed limit is 55 mph. Within the city limits, FM 3351 fronts two churches, an elementary school, a shopping center with a gas station, numerous single-family homes, and numerous residential feeder roads. As traffic loads have increased, a second traffic light within the city limits was added to the Fair Oaks Parkway intersection to allow cross traffic to merge onto FM 3351.

However, all the residential feeder roads have experienced reduced merging and turn safety, as vehicles attempt to merge onto or exit FM 3351 as traffic has increased and vehicles attempting to merge into smaller traffic windows, causing motorists on FM 3351 to slow down and/or brake aggressively to adjust to the merging traffic.

Reducing the speed limit to 45 MPH within the city limits would improve the safety of merging and exiting FM 3351. With the current 45 MPH speed limit posted through the current bridge construction area, improved merging and exiting safety margin has been demonstrated within the construction zone at Keeneland Drive and Silver Spur. This improvement in vehicle safety should be permanently implemented within the city limits on FM 3351.

While traveling on state highways and Farm to Market roads through other Texas towns, a reduction in speed limit provides additional vehicle safety. Fair Oaks Ranch will also benefit from increased public safety with a lower speed limit where increased merging and exiting on FM 3351 occurs due to the increased population density and commercial activity in this area.

Desired Outcome/Resolution

Reduce the speed limit on FM 3351 from 55 mph to 45 mph within the city limits of Fair Oaks Ranch.

STAFF REPORT

- The City's Comprehensive Plan - <u>https://fairoaksranchtx.org/DocumentCenter/View/1963/Ord-2018-06---Complete-</u> <u>Comp-Plan---6-22-18</u> identifies types of city streets categorized in five basic groups, designated on the Transportation Map found on page 44.
- 2. FM 3351 is an arterial street. Page 38 of the Comp Plan defines an arterial street as a road serving to connect the region, or connect major highways, with higher speeds and heavy traffic.
- 3. FM 3351 is in TxDot's jurisdiction.
- 4. The TxDot regional engineer advised the City the following:
 - a. Our district consists of 12 counties.
 - b. Requests to reduce speed limits on their roads are placed in a que.
 - c. A study of speed reduction is performed. It includes the 85th percentile speed while considering any conflicts and safety issues in the area such as driveways.
- 5. Mr. Miller also submitted his request to TxDot.
- 6. The City has no complaints on file of speed limit issues or entering/exiting onto local streets.
- 7. There are two existing stop lights in the city limits and two immediately positioned outside the city limits.

COMMITTEE ACTION/RECOMMENDATION

If the Committee desires for City Council to authorize an official submittal to TxDot to consider reducing the speed limit on FM 3351 (Ralph Fair Road) from 55 mph to 45 mph within the city limits of Fair Oaks Ranch, please include the safety finding(s) in the motion.

I move to recommend...... based on