

# TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION ITEM

CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

AGENDA TOPIC: Consideration and possible action reducing the speed limit on Rolling Acres

Trail from 35 mph to 30 mph

DATE: May 7, 2025

REQUESTER Doug Miller, Resident

Received: March 31, 2025

#### **REQUEST**

#### <u>Location/Situation for Review and Description of Concerns</u>

Rolling Acres Trail is a narrow "Back 40" residential road that extends from Ammann Rd to Silver Spur Trail. As indicated by the tire ruts on each side of the road, vehicles often move to the right and off the asphalt to pass each other, making high traffic periods more dangerous for drivers. Portions of Rolling Acres Trail receive very high traffic, especially between Meadow Creek Trail and Ammann Road as drivers cut through to get from 3351 to Ammann. Traffic load is reduced, but still significant, from Meadow Creek to Post Oak.

Despite this narrow road condition and high traffic demand, the current speed limit of 35 MPH is higher than similar residential roads in much better condition. For example, Keenland is a wide, two-lane road with wide shoulders and has a speed limit of 30 MPH, as does Meadow Creek, Fair Oaks Parkway (from 3351 to Dietz Elkhorn), and Dietz Elkhorn (from 3351 to Fair Oaks Parkway). The current Rolling Acres Trail speed limit of 35 MPH increases the risks involved with routine residential tasks such as getting the mail and putting out garbage bins, especially in the highest traffic section between Ammann Rd and Meadow Creek where high two-way traffic necessitates jumping off to the side of the road when two cars pass by in opposite directions. Similarly, walking or walking a dog on Rolling Acres requires frequent jumping off the road to allow two vehicles to pass. Reducing the speed limit to 30 MPH would provide greater time to identify traffic and take evasive measures (such as stepping off the road) and would provide a level of traffic safety consistent with the speed limits on Meadow Creek, Keenland, Fair Oaks Parkway, and Dietz Elkhorn.

#### **Desired Outcome/Resolution**

Reduce the speed limit on Rolling Acres Trail from 35 MPH to 30 MPH to improve safety of drivers, residents, and pedestrians.

#### STAFF REPORT

1. The City's Comprehensive Plan - <a href="https://fairoaksranchtx.org/DocumentCenter/View/1963/Ord-2018-06---Complete-Comp-Plan---6-22-18">https://fairoaksranchtx.org/DocumentCenter/View/1963/Ord-2018-06---Complete-Comp-Plan---6-22-18</a>) identifies types of city streets categorized in five basic groups, designated on the Transportation Map found on page 44.

- a. Rolling Acres Trail is a connector street.
- b. Page 38 defines a connector street as a road for minor circulation within neighborhoods carrying moderate traffic. They collect traffic from larger areas, or from multiple local streets.
- 2. The City has no complaints on file of speeding or volume of cars.
- 3. Other connector streets in this area are posted 35 mph (see attached Road Speed Limits map).
- 4. In 2024 through April 1, 2025, police issued 12 speeding warnings and citations:
  - a. Three in the 7200 block
  - b. Two in the 7400 block
  - c. Three in the 7600 block
  - d. Two in the 7700 block
  - e. Two in the 8000 block
- 5. In October and December 2024 there were two reported accidents one involving a deer, another involving a mailbox.
- 6. Staff recognizes the sharp curve immediately south of Ammann Road and east of Meadow Creek Trail is a potential safety issue. For awareness, staff suggests placement of two advisory speed signs depicting 30 mph on opposing ends of the curve. The estimated cost for two signs is \$300



### **COMMITTEE ACTION/RECOMMENDATION**

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

## Road Speed Limits In The City of Fair Oaks Ranch

**Prima Facie:** 30 mph speed limit is the statutory speed that applies when no specific ordinance has been established. They serve as a reasonable and prudent default speed based on general traffic safety principles.

<u>Sec. 12.01.003</u> in the city's code of ordinances.

