



CITY COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM

CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

AGENDA TOPIC: Approval of the second reading of an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas, amending the Fair Oaks Ranch Code of Ordinances Chapter 12 Traffic and Vehicles, Article 12.01 General Provisions, Section 12.01.003(3) by reducing the maximum speed limit on Rolling Acres Trail from Ammann Road to Silver Spur Trail to 30 mph

DATE: October 16, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Administration

PRESENTED BY: Carole Vanzant, CPM, ICMA-CM, Assistant City Manager

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:

Chapter 12, Section 12.01.003 of the City Code of Ordinances provides the adopted speed limits for all city streets. The Texas Transportation Code section 545.356 states the City Council, for a highway or part of a highway in the municipality, has the authority to alter, by ordinance, the Texas prima facie speed limit of thirty (30) miles per hour (mph) from the results of an engineering and traffic investigation.

Since 1989, the City Council has adopted or affirmed, by ordinance, the maximum, prudent speed limit on Rolling Acres Trail as follows:

- June 1989 – adopted 35 mph between Ammann Road and Silver Spur Trail.
- June 1991 – adopted 40 mph between Ammann Road to Post Oak Trail.
- September 1995 – adopted 30 mph between Silver Spur to Scarteen – approximately 0.4 miles.
- September 2001 – re-adopted 35 mph between Ammann Road and Silver Spur Trail.
- January 2009 – affirmed 35 mph between Ammann Road and Silver Spur Trail.

On May 7, 2025, the Transportation Safety Advisory Committee (“TSAC”) reviewed a citizen request to reduce the speed limit on Rolling Acres Trail to 30 mph due to the following reasons:

- Narrowness and curviness of the road
- Being used as a cut through from Ammann Road to Ralph Fair Road
- Pedestrian safety due to high vehicle volume especially between Ammann Road and Meadow Creek Trail
- Residential risks with routine tasks (retrieving mail, walking, and placing garbage bins out) when two-way traffic necessitates vehicles to move off the asphalt
- Various posted speed limits (Note: when speed limit changed to 35 mph in 2001, the applicable existing posted speed limit signs were not replaced.)

The submitter noted by reducing the speed limit to 30 mph, it will provide greater time for homeowners to identify oncoming vehicles to take appropriate evasive measures. It will also provide a level of traffic safety consistent with the speed limits on Meadow Creek Trail, Keeneland Drive, Fair Oaks Parkway, and Dietz Elkhorn Road. At the meeting, staff provided TSAC:

1. A copy of the City’s Transportation Map found in the Comprehensive Plan categorizing Rolling Acres Trail as a connector street.
 - a. A connector street is defined as *a road for minor circulation within neighborhoods carrying moderate traffic. They collect traffic from larger areas, or from multiple local streets.*
 - b. Other streets in the area are 35 mph (Post Oak Trail and Silver Spur Trail).
2. Confirmation the City has no high vehicle volume complaints on file for Rolling Acres Trail.
3. Data from January 2024 through August 2025 stating
 - a. Fourteen speeding warnings and citations were issued.
 - b. Three reported vehicle accidents – two involving a deer, another involving a mailbox.
4. For driver awareness, a suggestion to place two advisory “curve ahead” signs depicting 30 mph on the sharp curve south of Ammann Road and east of Meadow Creek Trail.

TSAC voted unanimously to recommend *reducing Rolling Acres Trail from Ammann Road to Silver Spur Trail to 30 mph due to inconsistent posted speed limits, narrow road, sightline issues, sunlight problems, mailboxes being hit, and high pedestrian and cyclist traffic; requested staff add cautionary ahead curve signs as suggested; and encouraged the submitter to obtain citizen input for presentation to the City Council.*

Post-meeting, cautionary curve ahead signs were installed, with the concurrence of the City Manager. At the October 2nd City Council meeting, staff presented:

1. The submitter-prepared, distributed citizen survey with poll results.
 - a. Ninety-eight surveys were distributed on Rolling Acres Trail with twenty-six responses received.
 - b. Sixty-two percent of respondents support lowering the speed limit to 30 mph.
2. A depiction of the radar feedback device three locations from August 20 through September 7. The collection data reflects:
 - a. Average daily vehicle count

Southbound:	Top – 844	Mid – 113	Lower – 65
Northbound:	Top – 806	Mid – 144	Lower - 105
 - b. Total average speed

Southbound:	Top – 33.7	Mid – 31.2	Lower – 21.6
Northbound:	Top – 26.2	Mid – 30.1	Lower – 22.5
 - c. 85th percentile of speed

Southbound:	Top – 34.9	Mid – 34.1	Lower – 28.3
Northbound:	Top – 27.3	Mid – 32.9	Lower – 27.4

The City Council approved the first reading of an ordinance reducing the maximum speed limit on Rolling Acres Trail from Ammann Road to Silver Spur Trail to 30 mph.

POLICY ANALYSIS/BENEFIT(S) TO CITIZENS:

1. Provides for the continued improvement of the residents' quality of life relative to transportation safety.
2. Complies with the Texas Transportation Code section 545.356 Authority of Municipality to Alter Speed Limits.
3. Provides for a citizen-government partnership.

LONGTERM FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Multiple speed limit signs to be posted; cost is \$250 each.

LEGAL ANALYSIS:

Ordinance approved as to form.

RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED MOTION:

Consent Item: I move to approve the second reading of an ordinance amending the City of Fair Oaks Ranch Code Ordinances, Chapter 12 Traffic and Vehicles, Article 12.01 General Provisions, Section 12.02.003 (3) by reducing the maximum speed limit on Rolling Acres Trail from Ammann Road to Silver Spur Trail to 30 mph.