



CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION ITEM

CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

AGENDA TOPIC: Consideration and possible action approving a resolution of the City Council of the City of Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas authorizing the placement of two radar feedback signs on Dietz Elkhorn Road west

DATE: May 1, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

PRESENTED BY: Carole Vanzant, CPM, Assistant City Manager
Julie Lovelace, Accounting Manager

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:

In July 2024, the City Council established the Transportation Safety Advisory Committee ("TSAC") to assist in the Council in the continuance of the city's quality of life through a citizen-government partnership that promotes safe and secure public roads and walks. The TSAC rules of procedures state TSAC shall review transportation safety issues related to public transportation infrastructure that has been properly submitted to the Committee either by Fair Oaks Ranch citizens or by the City, and after due consideration and affirmative Committee vote, recommend action for City Council consideration.

- January 2025 – The City received a resident request to consider placing two radar feedback signs on the western end of Dietz Elkhorn Road between the four-way stop at Old Fredericksburg Road (for eastbound traffic) and the curve around the law firm property across from the Vantage Apartments (for westbound traffic). The request proposed that radar signage will help slow down the traffic in the area.
- February 5, 2025 – After reviewing and discussing the request, TSAC recommended the City place the two FY 2024-25 budgeted radar feedback signs on Dietz Elkhorn Road west.
- February 20, 2025 – The City Council concurred with TSAC's recommendation. The City Manager noted a resolution authorizing the placement of the signs for City Council's consideration and possible action would be placed on a future agenda.

A radar feedback sign is an interactive sign composed of a speed-measuring device and a message sign which displays the speed of approaching vehicles. Its purpose is to slow cars down by making drivers aware they are driving at a speed above the posted limit. They are used as a traffic calming device.

To determine the appropriate locations on Dietz Elkhorn Road west, the City conducted an in-house study of speed limits and vehicle counts on March 11 – 31 at the western end of Dietz Elkhorn Road west and from April 1 – 15 at the eastern end. The captured data shows:

- Daily average vehicle counts per location:
 - Western end 3,688
 - Eastern end 3,184

- Total average speed per location:
 - Western end 33.2 mph
 - Eastern end 35.3 mph
- 85th percentile of speed per location (the speed at or below which 85% of drivers will operate under free-flowing conditions. Traffic and Transportation Engineers use the 85th percentile speed as a guide to set the speed limit at a safe speed, minimizing crashes and promoting uniform traffic flow along a roadway).
 - Western end 40.2 mph
 - Eastern end 41.9 mph

Exhibit A provides additional details of these results.

Although more vehicles travel on the western end of Dietz Elkhorn Road west, speeding occurs more at the eastern end. The staff's recommendation is to place two radar feedback signs on the eastern end of Dietz Elkhorn Road west.

POLICY ANALYSIS/BENEFIT(S) TO CITIZENS:

- Priority 4.1 of the Strategic Action Plan is to Enhance and Ensure Continuity of Police Services.
- Reflects input from TSAC and citizens promoting transparency and responsive governance.
- Traffic calming devices preserve quality-of-life characteristics relative to transportation safety.

LONGTERM FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY IMPACT:

- Two radar feedback signs are in this fiscal year's budget.
- Staff will present a prioritized list of radar feedback sign locations at a FY 2025-26 budget workshop as directed by the Council.

LEGAL ANALYSIS:

Approved as to form by City Attorney's office.

RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED MOTION:

I move to approve a resolution authorizing the placement of the two radar feedback signs on Dietz Elkhorn Road west.