

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF IOWA COLONY, TEXAS, DESIGNATING **SCHOOL ZONES**; SETTING A **20 MILE PER HOUR** SPEED LIMIT AND **PROHIBITING CELL PHONE** USE THEREIN; PROVIDING OFFENSES AND A PENALTY OF UP TO \$200 FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE AND ADDITIONAL PENALTIES UNDER STATE LAW; AND CONTAINING RELATED PROVISIONS.

Whereas Chapters 542 and 545 of the Texas Transportation Code authorize cities to designate speed limits and school zones and to authorize signs and markings therefor; and

Whereas Section 545.425 of the Texas Transportation Code authorizes cities to post signs prohibiting the use of cell phones or other wireless communication devices in school zones; and

Whereas all requirements of law have been satisfied concerning the school zones, traffic regulations, signs, and markings established or authorized by this ordinance; and

Whereas this ordinance promotes the public health, safety, and welfare and helps to alleviate traffic hazards and to protect school children and others;

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IOWA COLONY, TEXAS ("THE CITY"):**

**PART ONE**  
**SCHOOL ZONES**

**1. Bel Nafegar Sanchez Elementary School Zone**

- a. School zones are hereby designated at the following locations in the City:
  - i. On **Ames Boulevard** starting at a point 1,120 feet northward along Ames Boulevard from the center of the intersection of Ames Boulevard with Sterling Lakes Drive/Sterling Lakes Drive West, and continuing southward along Ames Boulevard to a point 1125 feet northward from the centerline of Meridiana Parkway.
  - ii. On **Sterling Lakes Drive and Sterling Lakes West Drive** starting at the gate on Sterling Lakes Drive located approximately 170 feet eastward from the center line of Ames Boulevard, then extending westward for approximately 1102 feet from that gate along Sterling Lakes Drive and Sterling Lakes West Drive to a point at the western end of an opening in the median of Sterling Lakes West Drive, which point is the western end of this school zone and is also located approximately 215 feet eastward along the center line of Sterling Lakes West Drive from the centerline of Green Paradise Drive.

b. The school zones designated in this section shall be in effect at each of the following times: (1) from **7:15 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. and from 3:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.** on each day that the Alvin Independent School District conducts any class at **Bel Nafegar Sanchez Elementary School**, regardless whether a light is flashing on a school zone sign; and (2) at any time, regardless whether within the above hours, when a light is flashing on the school zone sign for the location in question.

## **2. Meridiana Elementary School**

a. School zones are hereby designated at the following locations in the City:

- i. On **Meridiana Parkway** from a point 470 feet eastward along Meridiana Parkway from the centerline of the intersection of Meridiana Parkway with Iowa Colony Boulevard, to a point 490 feet westward along Meridiana Parkway from the centerline of the intersection of Meridiana Parkway with Iowa Colony Boulevard.
- iii. On **Iowa Colony Boulevard** from a point 1,450 feet northward of the centerline of the intersection of Iowa Colony Boulevard with Meridiana Parkway, and extending southward along Iowa Colony Boulevard to a point 1,023 feet south of the centerline of the intersection of Iowa Colony Boulevard and Meridiana Parkway.

b. The school zones stated in this section shall be in effect at each of the following times: (1) from **7:15 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. and from 3:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.** on each day that the Alvin Independent School District conducts any class at **Meridiana Elementary School**, regardless whether a light is flashing on a school zone sign; and (2) at any time, regardless whether within the above hours, when a light is flashing on the school zone sign for the location in question.

## **3. Caffey Junior High School Zones**

a. School zones are hereby designated at the following locations in the City:

- i. On **Meridiana Parkway** starting at a point 260 feet westward along Meridiana Parkway from the centerline of Pursley Boulevard, and extending east to the Iowa Colony city limit line.
- ii. On **Pursley Boulevard** starting at a point 260 feet southward from the centerline of Meridiana Parkway, and extending northward along Pursley Boulevard to the Iowa Colony city limit line.

b. The school zones designated in this section shall be in effect at each of the following times: (1) from **7:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. and from 4:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.** on each day that the Alvin Independent School District conducts any class at **Caffey Junior High School**, regardless whether a light is flashing on a school zone sign; and (2) at any time, regardless whether within the above hours, when a light is flashing on the school zone sign for the location in question.

#### **4. Iowa Colony High School Zones**

a. School zones are hereby designated at the following locations in the City:

i. On **Davenport Parkway** starting at a point 360 feet westward along Davenport Parkway from the centerline of Discovery Drive, and extending east along Davenport Parkway to a point 360 feet east of the centerline of Iowa Colony Boulevard.

ii. On **Iowa Colony Boulevard** starting at a point 360 feet northward from the centerline of Davenport Parkway, and extending southward along Iowa Colony Boulevard to a point 2,157 feet south of the centerline of Davenport Parkway.

iii. On **Discovery Drive** starting at its intersection with Davenport Parkway and extending generally southward along Discovery Drive a distance of 2068 feet.

b. The school zones designated in this section shall be in effect at each of the following times: (1) from **6:35 a.m. until 7:20 a.m. and from 2:50 p.m. until 3:20 p.m.** on each day that the Alvin Independent School District conducts any class at **Iowa Colony High School**, regardless whether a light is flashing on a school zone sign; and (2) at any time, regardless whether within the above hours, when a light is flashing on the school zone sign for the location in question.

#### **5. School Zone Speed Limit**

a. The maximum prima facie speed limit for vehicles in a school zone designated by this ordinance is hereby set at **twenty miles per hour** while the school zone is in effect.

b. The speed limits herein established are hereby determined and declared to be the maximum prima facie reasonable, prudent, and safe speeds for vehicles at the locations and times herein stated; and those speed limits are hereby fixed at the rate of speed indicated for vehicles traveling at the locations and times herein stated. Speeds greater than those stated herein are hereby found to be unreasonable and unsafe. No person shall operate a vehicle at a speed greater than the maximum prima facie speed limit at the location and time herein stated.

**6. Wireless Communications in School Zone**

The City of Iowa Colony hereby adopts the restrictions on wireless communications under Texas Transportation Code section 545.425 in all school zones in the City.

**PART TWO  
TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES**

1. Traffic control devices of the types stated in Exhibit "A" hereto shall be placed in the locations stated in Exhibit "A", which is attached and incorporated herein in full.

**PART THREE  
GENERAL**

**1. Violations and Penalties**

A violation of this ordinance shall be a misdemeanor punishable upon conviction by a fine not to exceed \$200, but if state law sets a higher fine or a higher maximum fine, then the state law shall govern and control.

**2. Repeal of Prior School Zones**

- a. The school zones established in this ordinance repeal and replace any prior school zones on any of the same locations.
- b. In addition, this ordinance repeals all prior school zones on Ames Boulevard, starting at the centerline of Meridiana Parkway and continuing northward along Ames Boulevard for 1,815 feet.
- c. However, regardless of any other provision, the school zones repealed by this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect as to any violations occurring before this ordinance takes effect.

**3. Other Ordinances**

- a. Nothing in this ordinance shall impair any other ordinance or other authority for any traffic regulation, sign, or marking except as specified herein.
- b. To the extent of any conflict with the speed or scope of any speed limit in any other ordinance, this ordinance shall govern and control; provided, however, that the other ordinance shall govern any violation occurring before the date of this ordinance.

c. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this ordinance shall not impair the validity or authorization for any traffic sign authorized by Ordinance No. 2019-22, which provides for traffic enforcement in Sterling Lakes Subdivision.

**4. Severance Clause**

If any part of this ordinance, of whatever size, is ever declared invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.


**5. Effective Date**

This ordinance shall be effective at a location immediately upon the placement of signs or markings authorized or ratified by this ordinance at that location; provided, however, that this authorization shall be retroactive to the date of any previous order by the Police Chief authorizing said signs or markings.

**6. Declaration of Emergency**

The City Council hereby finds that that an emergency or an urgent public necessity requires the passage of this ordinance without two readings. The emergency is the danger to the health and lives of school children that would result from traffic at dangerous speeds around schools, if the effective date of this ordinance were delayed for a month for the second reading. Therefore, this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage upon the first reading, and upon placement of signs as provided herein for the location involved in any violation.

**PASSED, APPROVED, and EFFECTIVE on FIRST READING on DECEMBER 19, 2022.**



MICHAEL BYRUM-BRATSEN, MAYOR  
CITY OF IOWA COLONY, TEXAS

ATTEST:



KAYLEEN ROSSER, CITY SECRETARY  
CITY OF IOWA COLONY, TEXAS




FURTHER PASSED AND APPROVED on **SECOND READING** on 1/23/2023,  
2022.



MICHAEL BYRUM-BRATSEN, MAYOR  
CITY OF IOWA COLONY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

  
KAYLEEN ROSSER, CITY SECRETARY  
CITY OF IOWA COLONY, TEXAS

Iowa Colony/Ordinance/School Zone (12-19-22)



**EXHIBIT "A" TO  
SCHOOL ZONE ORDINANCE -  
TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES**

**A. School Zone/Reduced Speed Ahead**

The following traffic control devices shall be placed in advance of the entry into each school zone designated by this Ordinance, where the difference between the non-school zone speed limit and the school zone speed limit is more than 15 miles per hour, and these traffic control devices shall face traffic approaching the school zone: Types S4-or S4-5a under the Texas Uniform Manual on Traffic Control Devices.

**B. School Speed Limit Flashing Assembly with Prohibition of Wireless Communications**

The following traffic control devices shall be placed at the entry into a school zone designated by this Ordinance from a street with a speed limit of 40 miles per hour or more, and these traffic control devices shall face traffic entering the school zone: a School Speed Limit Flashing Assembly, Types S4-3P, R2-1, S4-1P, S4-6P, and S7-1T, under the Texas Uniform Manual on Traffic Control Devices.

**C. School Speed Limit Assembly with Prohibition of Wireless Communications**

The following traffic control devices shall be placed at the entry into a school zone designated by this Ordinance from a street with a speed limit of less than 40 miles per hour, and these traffic control devices shall face traffic entering the school zone: a School Speed Limit Assembly, Types S2-3P, R2-1, S4-1P, and S4-6P, under the Texas Uniform Manual on Traffic Control Devices.

**D. End School Zone**

The following traffic control devices shall be placed at the exit from each school zone designated by this Ordinance, facing traffic exiting the school zone: Type S5-2 under the Texas Uniform Manual on Traffic Control Devices.