



ENGINEERING SERVICES

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: Hulon T. Webb, Jr., P.E., Director of Engineering Services

Through: Mario Canizares, Town Manager
Chuck Ewings, Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services

Re: Speed Limit Ordinance: FM 1461 (SH 289 – FM 2478)

Town Council Meeting – April 11, 2023

Agenda Item:

Consider and act upon an ordinance amending Section 12.09.003, "Speed Limits on Specific Streets," of Chapter 12 "Traffic and Vehicles," of the Town's Code of Ordinances by modifying the prima facie speed limit on FM 1461 (Frontier Parkway).

Description of Agenda Item:

On March 23, 2023, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) informed the Town of Prosper that they have recently completed a speed study on FM 1461 from SH 289 (Preston Road) to FM 2478 (Custer Road) through the City of Celina and Town of Prosper. This study sampled the speed of vehicles on the roadway to determine the 85th percentile speed, which is the speed at which the majority of drivers drive at or below. The results of the study found that the 85th percentile speed on FM 1461, between Preston Road and Custer Road, varied between 52 and 57 mph, compared to the existing speed limit of 55 mph.

TxDOT typically sets the speed limit at the nearest value to the 85th percentile speed ending in 5 or 0, however the posted speed limit may be lowered up to 10 mph (12 miles per hour for locations with crashes higher than statewide average) below the 85th percentile speed if some of the following conditions are present:

- Roadway pavement width of 20 feet or less
- Curves and hills
- Hidden driveways and other developments
- High number of driveways
- Crash history
- Rural residential or developed area
- Lack of striped, improved shoulders

Due to the high number of driveways along this stretch of roadway, TxDOT has recommended that the existing speed limit of 55 mph be reduced to 50 mph, which is a reduction of 5 mph below both the existing speed limit and the 85th percentile speed.

Even though TxDOT completed the speed study and recommends the speed limit, local communities must adopt the speed limit by ordinance to become effective. Upon approval of this ordinance, and similar ordinance in the City of Celina for the north side of FM 1461 (westbound traffic), TxDOT will install the necessary speed limit signs.

Budget Impact:

There is no impact since TxDOT will complete the installation of the speed limit signs.

Legal Obligations and Review:

Terrence Welch of Brown & Hofmeister, L.L.P., has reviewed the ordinance as to form and legality.

Attached Documents:

1. Ordinance
2. Speed Study Results

Town Staff Recommendation:

Town staff recommends that the Town Council adopt an ordinance amending Section 12.09.003, "Speed Limits on Specific Streets," of Chapter 12 "Traffic and Vehicles," of the Town's Code of Ordinances by modifying the prima facie speed limit on FM 1461 (Frontier Parkway).

Proposed Motion:

I move to adopt an ordinance amending Section 12.09.003, "Speed Limits on Specific Streets," of Chapter 12 "Traffic and Vehicles," of the Town's Code of Ordinances by modifying the prima facie speed limit on FM 1461 (Frontier Parkway).