



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Ken Griffin, P.E., Director of Public Works

Date: February 27, 2018

Reference: Speed Limit for Freeport Parkway during Construction – Airline to Fritz

2030: Sustainable City Government, Goal 3
Excellent and Well-maintained City Infrastructure and Facilities

Introduction:

This agenda item is being presented for approval of a speed limit ordinance to reduce the regulatory speed limit during construction in the curved section of Freeport Parkway between Airline Drive and Fritz Drive.

Analysis:

Freeport Parkway reconstruction will commence soon. During the first stages of construction, all traffic will be shifted to the current southbound lanes. The design of the project provides wider-than-typical lanes through the curve section between Airline and Fritz, but an analysis of large truck turning paths indicates that a speed of no more than 20 mph is required to navigate the curve within the lane limits (see attached analysis). As such, an ordinance was prepared to set the prima facie speed limit during construction to 20 mph between Airline Drive and Fritz Drive. Typically, a speed study would be conducted to determine the prima facie speed, however, in this case the geometry of the roadway and travel lanes dictates the need to reduce the speed limit for safety reasons. As written in the ordinance, the speed limit will revert to 40 mph when construction is complete.

Legal Review:

The ordinance was prepared by the City Attorney's office.

Fiscal Impact:

The cost of the signs is included in the Freeport Parkway Reconstruction project.

Recommendation:

The Engineering Department recommends the approval of setting the speed limit for Freeport Parkway between Airline Drive and Fritz Drive to 20 mph during construction.