

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 10/27/20

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 20-0791

LOG NAME: 20HEMPHILL STREET SPEED LIMIT CHANGE

SUBJECT

(CD 9) Adopt an Ordinance Amending Chapter 22 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article III Operation of Vehicles, Section 22-86 Speeding, Subsection (i) of the Code of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (2015), as Amended, to Add the Speed Limits of Certain Speed Zones, Specifically a New Speed Limit of 35 Miles per Hour Along Hemphill Street from West Vickery Boulevard to West Felix Street

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance amending Chapter 22 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article III Operation of Vehicles, Section 22-86 Speeding, Subsection (i) of the Code of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (2015), as amended, to add the speed limits of certain speed zones, specifically a new speed limit of 35 miles per hour along Hemphill Street from West Vickery Boulevard to West Felix Street.

DISCUSSION:

In collaboration with the Hemphill Corridor Task Force and Near Southside Inc., the City is working to balance multimodal transportation safety, better respond to the community needs to calm traffic along Hemphill and make the street more pedestrian and bicycle friendly.

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to amend the City Code of Ordinances to reflect a 35 miles per hour (mph) posted speed along Hemphill Street from West Vickery Boulevard to West Felix Street. The current posted speed limit is 40 mph. This change is needed to align the City Ordinance with the 35 mph design speed of the recently implemented Hemphill Complete Streets project. School Zone speed limits found in Chapter 22 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article III Operation of Vehicles, Section 22-86 Speeding, Subsection (h) of the Code of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (2015), as amended, shall not be affected.

The complete streets project transformed Hemphill from a five-lane roadway to one through lane in each direction with a center left-turn lane, on-street parking, and bike lanes in both directions. The Transportation and Public Works Department commenced striping on Hemphill May 2020 and the project was completed July 2020.

On November 13, 2018, an Informal Report was presented to City Council to inform them of the proposed lane configuration change.

This change to the ordinance serves COUNCIL DISTRICT 9.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that approval of this recommendation will have no material effect on City funds.

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