



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

District Impacted

- ☐ 1 = Wolosin
- ☐ 2 = Woolard
- ☐ 3 = Vacant
- ☒ 4 = Cisneros
- ☒ 5 = Handren
- ☐ All

AGENDA DATE	<i>March 12, 2019</i>
DESCRIPTION	CONSIDER ON SECOND READING ORDINANCE NO. 2019-06; AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A 35 MILE PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT ON HERFF ROAD BETWEEN RIVER ROAD (SH-46) TO MAIN STREET (US-87); AND PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$200 FOR EACH VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.
STAFF'S RECOMMENDED ACTION (be specific)	Approve on second reading Ordinance 2019-06; Establishing a speed limit of 35 MPH on Herff Road between River Road and Main Street; and providing for a penalty not to exceed \$200 for each violation of this Ordinance.
CONTACT PERSON	Michael Mann – Utilities Director & Jeff Thompson Deputy CM
SUMMARY	<p>At its last meeting, Council passed the first reading of the proposed ordinance to set the speed limit on Herff Road between River Road and Main Street at 35 MPH, as it is currently signed. However, there was some discussion regarding the 85th percentile speed along that stretch of road as the basis for considering a different speed limit.</p> <p>As discussed, the standard that TxDOT uses to set speed limits is the 85th percentile measurement, or the speed at or below which 85 percent of the vehicles are traveling. It is supposed to be a measurement of how safe drivers feel in a stretch of roadway. TxDOT will typically conduct these types of studies periodically and change posted speeds if the measurements warrant.</p> <p>As requested, the Street Department did a speed study on Herff Road by placing counters at four locations in the subject area. The results of that study are attached. In a nutshell, the 85th percentile speeds at the four locations were between 39.9 and 43.5 MPH. The mean (average) speeds were between 35.6 and 38.2 MPH.</p> <p>The above data suggests that drivers generally feel comfortable driving at speeds above the posted limit of 35 MPH. This is likely due to the currently “oversized” 4-lane roadway which is operating well under its capacity. Once congestion increases, traffic speeds would likely decrease.</p> <p>The Council could choose to set the speed limit on the subject roadway at 40 MPH using the criteria that TxDOT uses. However, based on the geometry of the roadway as designed/constructed, it</p>

	remains the recommendation of Staff that the speed limit be set to 35 in the interest of long-term safety. This speed limit would be consistent with other City streets and other similarly constructed TxDOT highways within the City Limits (the exception being Main Street north and south of downtown).
COST	N/A
SOURCE OF FUNDS	N/A
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	Map

This summary is not meant to be all inclusive. Supporting documentation is attached.