

## Traffic Study Summary

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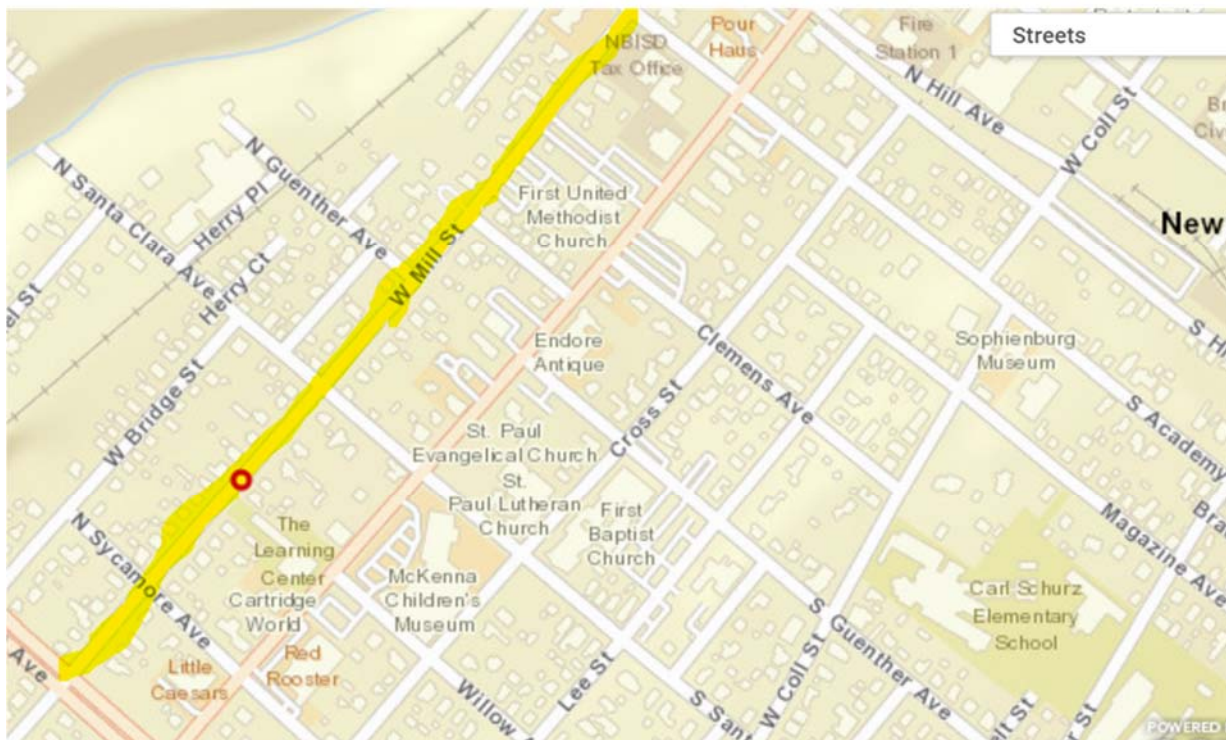
Request: Install “No Thru Trucks” signs on Mill Street between Walnut Avenue and Academy Avenue

Recommendation: “No Thru Trucks” signs not recommended

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### Background

Mill Street is currently controlled by a two-way stop at Walnut Avenue and an all-way stops at Santa Clara Avenue and Academy Avenue. The posted speed limit on Mill Street is 30 miles per hour (mph).



**Figure 1. Mill Street between Walnut Avenue and Academy Avenue**

An engineering study was completed in February 2020 and September 2020 to evaluate the installation of “No Thru Trucks” signs on Mill Street between Walnut Avenue and Academy Avenue. The study was completed due to a complaint associated with through trucks.

## Guidance

Sections 2B.39 and 5B.04 of the Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD) provide support and guidance for the application of “No Trucks” (R5-2) signs. “No Trucks” signs are used to give notice to road users that State or local statutes or ordinances exclude designated types of traffic from using particular roadways or facilities. There is no specific guidance for when this sign should be installed. Therefore, engineering judgment should be used.

Section 126-1 of the City of New Braunfels Code of Ordinances provides a definition for “trucks”:

*Truck means any motor vehicle designed, used or maintained primarily for the transport of property. For purposes of this section, the following are not included within the definition of a truck: (1) Light trucks, including any truck with a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity not to exceed 2,000 pounds and including those trucks commonly known as pickup trucks, panel delivery trucks, vans and carryall trucks. (2) Recreational vehicles and passenger buses.*

## Site Investigation

Multiple site investigations were conducted along Mill Street at multiple times throughout the day – during AM, midday and PM peak times – over the course of the week of February 24-28, 2020, and the week of September 21-25, 2020. The investigation included a review of the road characteristics and pedestrian activity.

This street is located within a residential area, parallel to and in between San Antonio Street and Bridge Street. There are generally lots of small construction projects (i.e. driveways) in and around this area. There is some pedestrian, cyclist, and golf cart activity throughout the day.

## Crash History

Traffic crash data for 2017 through 2020 was found through TxDOT’s Crash Records Information System. There were two reported crashes near the intersection of Mill Street and Sycamore Avenue, and one reported crash near Mill Street and Guenther Avenue during this time. One crash was due to drunk and distracted driving, two crashes were due to distracted driving.

## Data Collection

Traffic and pedestrian activity were observed during the week of February 24-28, 2020, and the week of September 21-25, 2020 along Mill Street between Walnut Avenue and Academy Avenue. The September data collection occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic, but otherwise represents typical traffic conditions.

The results of this study show that a “No Trucks” or “No Thru Trucks” sign is not warranted. In February, some trucks and a backhoe were seen on Mill Street due to the San Antonio Street construction and some NBU utility work on Academy, but that construction is now over. In September, zero trucks were seen on Mill Street.

## Recommendation

A thru truck restriction on Mill Street is not recommended by staff at this time.