

# **CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS** v Braunfels Transportation and Traffic advisory **BOARD MEETING** ZOOM **550 LANDA STREET**



### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021 at 6:00 PM

To participate via zoom use the following link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87977908911 or call (833) 926-2300 Webinar ID# 879 7790 8911

TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF THE PUBLIC AND LIMIT THE POTENTIAL SPREAD OF COVID-19. NO IN-PERSON PUBLIC ACCESS TO THIS MEETING IS AVAILABLE. READ BELOW FOR WAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING.

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. **ROLL CALL**
- 3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** 
  - A) Approval of the minutes of the January 14, 2021 21-146 Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board meeting.

#### **CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS** 4.

This time is for citizens to address the Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board on issues and items of concerns not on this agenda. There will be no Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board action at this time.

#### 5. **INDIVIDUAL ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- A) Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council 21-147 to install speed humps on Kowald Lane between Post Road and IH-35.
- B) Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council 21-109 regarding an ordinance amending Section 126-354 of the
  - City of New Braunfels Code of Ordinances to revise Parking by Permit Area G.
  - Mary Hamann, Engineer

Jessica Perry, Graduate Engineer

C) Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council 21-139 to amend Section 126-186 to restrict through truck traffic on Lake Front Avenue between the IH 35 Frontage Road

and Freiheit Road and Freiheit Road between Lake Front Avenue and SH 46.

Carly Farmer, Graduate Engineer

D) Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council <u>21-141</u> to amend Section 126-346 to establish a no parking zone on E San Antonio Street at N Gilbert Avenue.

Carly Farmer, Graduate Engineer

### 6. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify the above Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the New Braunfels City Hall.

Board Liaison

NOTE: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, or large print, are requested to contact the City Secretary's Office at 221-4010 at least two (2) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.



# Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street New Braunfels, TX

2/11/2021

Agenda Item No. A)



#### TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC ADVISORY BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes Held via ZOOM January 14, 2021

**Members Present:** 

Arthur Brinkkoeter Daniel Santoni
Gary Kirkham Michael Yoder
Ron Munyan Mike Dietert

**Staff Present:** 

Cutter Gonzalez

Garry Ford Carly Farmer

Mary Hamann

#### **Others Present:**

Joshua Diaz

- 1. CALL TO ORDER called to order at 6:03pm
- 2. ROLL CALL (all present)

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 19, 2020 Regular Meeting – via Zoom
 Mr. Santoni made motion to approve. Mr. Munyan seconded the motion. All in favor.

#### 4. CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

None

#### 5. INDIVIDUAL ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council to install an all-way stop at the intersection of Stone Gate Drive and Stone Branch.

Carly L. Farmer, EIT, Graduate Engineer

Ms. Farmer presented this item. She said staff does not recommend the requested all-way stop. Joshua Diaz is president of the HOA of this subdivision and explained that residents seem to speed down Stone Gate and now with a new subdivision being built behind them will bring more traffic. He feels that this is going to have more speeding problems and make the street dangerous. Mr. Kirkham asked that maybe installing speed humps would help slow down the speeders. Mr. Ford said he would have to request speed humps with the city instead of this item. Mr. Munyan asked if maybe flashing lights speed limit signage would be helpful. Mr. Gonzalez asked staff if maybe we could see about request the planning of new subdivisions to control the street width of the streets so they would not be so wide and would help slow down the speed. Mr. Kirkham made motion to table this request so that a request speed humps could be submitted to staff. Mr. Munyan seconded the motion. All in favor.

B. Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council to install an all-way stop at the intersection of W County Line Road and Chartwell Entry.

Carly L. Farmer, EIT. Graduate Engineer

Ms. Farmer went over this request to install an all way stop at intersection of W. County Line Rd and Chartwell Entry. Staff said that future plans of traffic light to be installed at Dove Crossing and also McQueeney Road will possibly change this area and make traffic problems lighten up. Mr. Munyan made motion to go with staff recommendation. Mr. Yoder seconded the motion. All in favor.

#### 6. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Santoni made motion to adjourn. Mr. Yoder seconded the motion. All in favor. Adjourned at 6:30pm.



# Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street New Braunfels, TX

#### 2/11/2021

Agenda Item No. A)

# Presenter/Contact Jessica Perry, Graduate Engineer (830) 221-4020 - jperry@nbtexas.org

#### SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council to install speed humps on Kowald Lane between Post Road and IH-35.

# **BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:**

**Council District:** 5

Citizens submitted a request for the installation of speed humps on Kowald Lane between Post Road and IH-35. Kowald Lane is a residential street with a speed limit of 30 mph. Speed limit signs were not posted on Kowald Lane at the time of this request but are scheduled to be installed in the next month. The request was evaluated based on petition, operational and geometric requirements established in the City of New Braunfels Speed Hump Policy approved in 1999.

Nine signatures were required to meet the two-thirds requirement, and nine signatures were received. An operational requirement in the policy is that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed must be at least 5 miles per hour over the regulatory speed limit of 30 mph. Traffic data collected over 24 hours on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, showed the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of 28 miles per hour which does not meet the speed criteria in the Speed Hump Policy. Additionally, the volume requirement in the approved speed hump policy is a daily traffic volume of at least 800 vehicles per day. The traffic data collected measured only 452 vehicles per day. These requirements are listed in the attachment to this report.

The Speed Hump Policy also requires proposed speed humps on a street to be approved by the emergency services departments. The New Braunfels Fire Department and the New Braunfels Police Department approve of the installation of speed humps on the requested street.

If the request is approved, the street will be placed on the list of streets eligible for speed hump installation for up to three years. Speed hump projects will be prioritized according to the criteria established in the Speed Hump Policy.

This portion of Kowald Lane does not have curbs, so curb extensions will need to be installed with the speed humps to ensure that drivers do not circumvent the speed humps.

The Speed Hump Policy also states that the alteration or removal of speed humps requires the same petition process as the installation request, with at least two-thirds of all adjacent households and businesses in favor of speed hump removal. The city will not provide any funding for the removal of speed humps if it is requested.

# ADDRESSES A NEED/ISSUE IN A CITY PLAN OR COUNCIL PRIORITY:

Envision New Braunfels Strategy 7: Connect All: Action 7.16: Develop a program and process for consideration of citizen requests for neighborhood traffic calming.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Speed hump installation cost including speed cushions, signing and pavement markings for two sets of speed humps costs approximately \$14,000 to \$18,000 depending on location. The cost of the required curb extensions is estimated to be approximately \$1,200 for each set of speed humps. Funding for speed humps are included in the FY 20-21 streets division operating budget and sufficient funds are currently available.

# **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff does not recommend approval of speed humps on Kowald Lane between Post Road and IH-35 as it does not meet the speed or volume criteria established in the Speed Hump Policy.

# **Petition**

Requirement		Satisfied?
1.	A petition from the residents and business owners documenting that at least two-thirds support the installation of speed humps.	Yes
2.	Verification statement from contact person confirming signatures are valid and represent at least two-thirds support.	Yes
3.	A statement from the neighborhood association endorsing speed hump installation.	N/A

# **Operational and Geometric Characteristics of the Street**

Requirement		Satisfied?
1.	The street shall provide access to abutting residential and/or commercial properties.	Yes
2.	The street shall not have more than one lane of traffic in each direction.	Yes
3.	The street shall have a regulatory speed limit of 30 mph or less as determined in accordance with State Law.	Yes: 30 mph
4.	The 85 <sup>th</sup> percentile speed on the street must be at least 35 mph or 5 mph over the regulatory speed limit.	No: 28 mph
5.	The speed humps should not be located on a horizontal curve, on vertical curves where visibility of the hump is restricted, or on approaches to these curves.	Yes
6.	The street should have curb and gutter. Considerations may be given to street without curb and gutter to accommodate drainage and prevent vehicle run-arounds.	No
7.	The street must be approved by the emergency services departments.	Yesa
8.	The street must have a 24-hour traffic volume of at least 800 vehicles.	No: 452 vpd average

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Parking may be restricted at speed hump locations to maintain emergency response.

# **Speed and Volume Data**

	≤25 mph	26-30 mph	31-35 mph	36-40 mph	41+ mph
Average vpd (11/19)	256	163	28	4	1

**Project Prioritization Criteria** 

Criteria			Points Assigned
1.	Crash	<b>0</b> reported crashes over a period of 3 consecutive years	0
2.	Speed	<b>-2</b> mph difference between 85 <sup>th</sup> percentile speed and regulatory speed limit	0
3.	Traffic Volume	Two-way peak hour volume of 37 vph	0
4.	Type of Neighborhood	<ol> <li>Schools within a ½ mile radius of the project street</li> <li>Special pedestrian generators within a 1,000</li> </ol>	0
		foot radius of the project street	0
		Absence of sidewalks on the project street	1
		Total:	1





# Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street New Braunfels, TX

#### 2/11/2021

Agenda Item No. B)

# <u>Presenter/Contact</u> *Mary Hamann, Engineer* (830) 221-4020 - mhamann@nbtexas.org

#### SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council regarding an ordinance amending Section 126-354 of the City of New Braunfels Code of Ordinances to revise Parking by Permit Area G.

# **BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:**

**Council District:** 5

Staff has received a request from a property owner along Guada Coma Drive to be included in the existing Parking by Permit Area G. The requested area consists of one single-family home.

A signed petition has been received from the property owner requesting addition into Parking by Permit Area G on the east side of Guada Coma Drive between Comal Avenue and Lindheimer Street. This request is for daily between 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., from May 1 to September 30, which is consistent with the existing Parking by Permit Area G ordinance.

The proposed designated parking by permit area is a contiguous residential area and matches the schedule of existing parking by permit areas. Over two thirds of the affected residents have submitted a signed statement of the following for the initial requested area:

We the undersigned are residents and/or property owners of the proposed designated permit area described in this application. We understand that: (i) if this area is designated, certain restrictions will be placed upon on-street parking within the area; (ii) residents and/or residential property owners of the area will be entitled to obtain a limited number of parking permits exempting their vehicles from such parking restrictions, but if a resident and/or property owner owns a vehicle without having a permit displayed, that vehicle will be subject to the parking restrictions; (iii) parking permits will be issued for a term of one year and require replacement each year; (iv) the cost of issuing the annual parking permits will be paid by the residents and/or property owners.

The public hearing will be at a future City Council meeting and notices will be sent in advance of the meeting. The permit area meets the petition requirements in the City of New Braunfels Code of Ordinances.

#### ADDRESSES A NEED/ISSUE IN A CITY PLAN OR COUNCIL PRIORITY:

Envision New Braunfels Strategy 1: Support Vibrant Centers: Action 1.2: Create plans for neighborhoods and transitional areas to maintain quality of life.

# **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Traffic control signs cost approximately \$150 each. Sufficient funding is available in the FY20-21 approved streets and drainage budget.

# **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

# **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of amending Parking by Permit Area G to include the east side of Guada Coma Drive between Comal Avenue and Lindheimer Street.



DISCLAIMER: This map and information contained in it were developed exclusively for use by the City of New Braunfels. Any use or reliance on this map by anyone else is at that party's risk and without liability to the City of New Braunfels, its officials or employees for any discrepancies, errors, or variances which may exist.



# Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street New Braunfels, TX

#### 2/11/2021

Agenda Item No. C)

# Presenter/Contact Carly Farmer, Graduate Engineer (830) 221-4020 - cfarmer@nbtexas.org

#### SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council to amend Section 126-186 to restrict through truck traffic on Lake Front Avenue between the IH 35 Frontage Road and Freiheit Road and Freiheit Road between Lake Front Avenue and SH 46.

#### **BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:**

Council District: 5

City staff received a request to restrict through truck traffic on Lake Front Avenue between the IH 35 Frontage Road and Freiheit Road and Freiheit Road between Lake Front Avenue and SH 46. City staff completed a traffic study which included a site investigation, multiple observation periods of data collecting, and a review of the crash history in the study area. Using the results of the traffic study and taking into consideration the future striping plans for Lake Front Avenue and Freiheit Road, staff formed a recommendation to establish through truck traffic restrictions.

# ADDRESSES A NEED/ISSUE IN A CITY PLAN OR COUNCIL PRIORITY:

N/A

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

Traffic control signs cost approximately \$150 each. Sufficient funding is available in the FY20-21 approved street and drainage budget.

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends through truck traffic restrictions on Lake Front Avenue between the IH 35 Frontage Road and Freiheit Road and Freiheit Road between Lake Front Avenue and SH 46.

# **Traffic Study Summary**

Date: February 11, 2021

Prepared By: Carly Farmer, E.I.T., Engineer

Request: Install "No Thru Trucks" signs on Lake Front Avenue between the IH 35

Frontage Road and Freiheit Road and Freiheit Road from Lake Front Avenue to

SH 46.

Recommendation: "No Thru Trucks" signs are recommended

# **Background**

Lake Front Avenue is controlled by a two-way stop at the IH 35 Frontage Road and an all-way stop at Freiheit Road. The posted speed limit on Lake Front Avenue is 30 miles per hour (mph). Freiheit Road is controlled by an all-way stop at Lake Front Avenue and a traffic signal at SH 46. The posted speed limit on Freiheit Road is 30 mph.



Figure 1. Traffic Study Area on Lake Front Avenue and Freiheit Road

There are plans to restripe both Lake Front Avenue and Freiheit Road in the study area in the future. The proposed striping plan is attached to this report.

An engineering study was completed in November 2020 and January 2021 to evaluate the installation of "No Thru Trucks" signs on Lake Front Avenue between the IH 35 Frontage Road and Freiheit Road and Freiheit Road between Lake Front Avenue and SH 46. The study was completed due to a complaint associated with through trucks. There is concern about large trucks turning onto Lake Front off the IH 35 Frontage Road and using Freiheit Road to avoid the intersection of IH 35 and SH 46.

#### 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**

Vehicle classification data was collected on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 for both eastbound and westbound Lake Front Avenue between the IH 35 Frontage Road and Freiheit Road.

Multiple site investigations were conducted along Lake Front Avenue and Freiheit Road at multiple times throughout the day – during AM, midday and PM peak times – over the course of January 22-January 26, 2021. The investigation included a review of the road characteristics and through truck activity.

The segment of Lake Front Avenue in the study area is located within a commercial area with several driveways to various businesses and a shopping center. The segment of Freiheit Road in the study area borders a commercial and residential area. No homes front this segment of Freiheit Road but there are driveways for accessing the loading area of a shopping center, a hotel, and a restaurant.

#### **Crash History**

Traffic crash data for 2018 through 2021 was found through TxDOT's Crash Records Information System. There were zero crashes reported for both Lake Front Avenue and Freiheit Road in the study area.

#### **Data Collection**

Traffic data was collected on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 for both eastbound and westbound Lake Front Avenue between the IH 35 Frontage Road and Freiheit Road. Vehicle classification was determined using the Federal Highway Administration vehicle classifications and the City of New Braunfels Code of Ordinances definition of a truck.

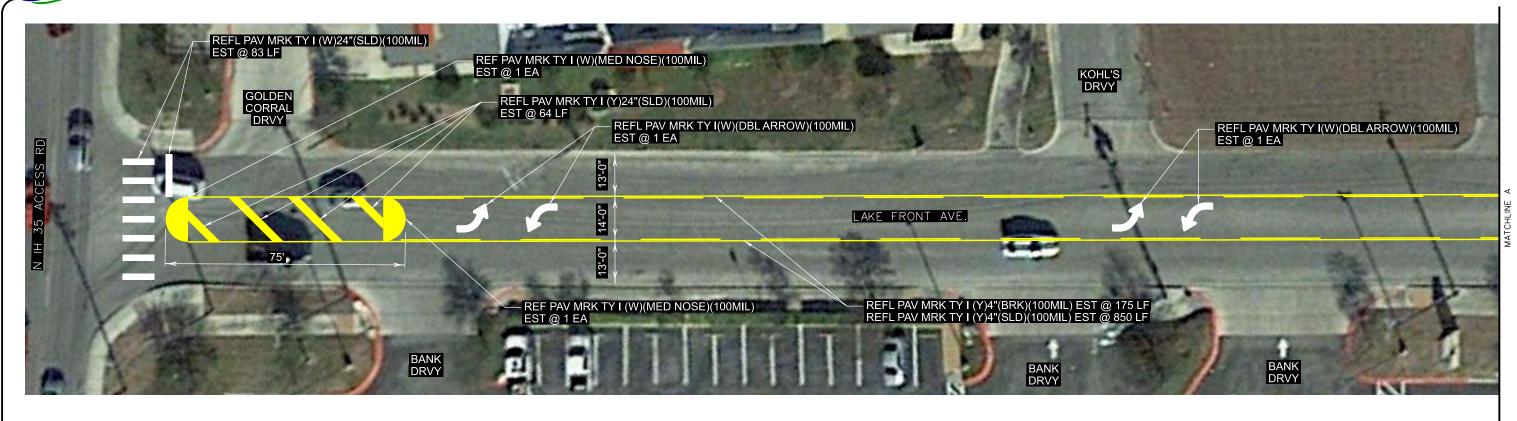
Through truck activity was observed during the timeframe of January 22-26, 2021 along Lake Front Avenue and Freiheit Road. Staff conducted observations for the morning peak (7:15-8:15 AM), the afternoon peak (12:00-1:00 PM), and the evening peak (4:30-5:30 PM). The data collection occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic, but otherwise represents typical traffic conditions.

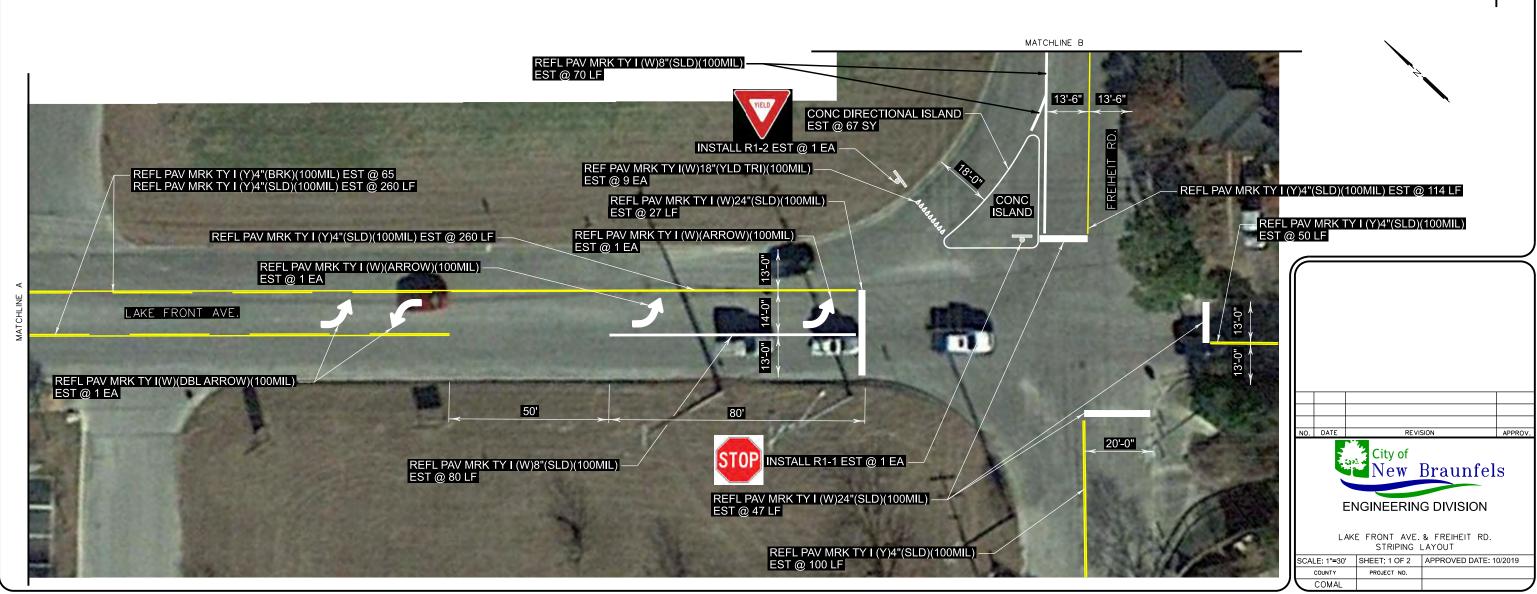
The average daily traffic (ADT) for Lake Front Avenue is 5855 vehicles per day, of which an average of 1% are trucks. Based on through truck observations, between 60%-100% of trucks on Lake Front Avenue during the three peak study periods are through trucks utilizing eastbound Lake Front Avenue and northbound Freiheit Road to bypass the intersection of IH 35 and SH 46.

The results of this study show that "No Trucks" or "No Thru Trucks" signs are warranted. The high ADT on Lake Front Avenue does not benefit from larger, slower trucks coming through the area, and the proposed striping plan on Lake Front Avenue and Freiheit Road will reduce the lane widths on Lake Front Avenue and reduce the size of the intersection of Lake Front Avenue and Freiheit Road. These improvements will not properly accommodate large through trucks.

#### Recommendation

A thru truck restriction on Lake Front Avenue and Freiheit Road is recommended by staff at this time.

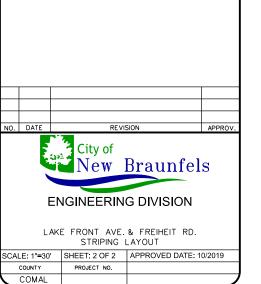








ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	EST	FINAL
CONC DIRECTIONAL ISLAND	SY	67	
REFL PAV MRK TY I(W)8"(SLD)(100MIL)	LF	167	
REFL PAV MRK TY I(W)24"(SLD)(100MIL)	LF	157	
REFL PAV MRK TY I(W)(ARROW)(100MIL)	EA	2	
REFL PAV MRK TY I(W)(DBL ARROW)(100MIL)	EA	3	
REF PAV MRK TY I(W)18"(YLD TRI)(100MIL)	EA	9	
REFL PAV MRK TY I(Y)4"(BRK)(100MIL)	LF	240	
REFL PAV MRK TY I(Y)4"(SLD)(100MIL)	LF	3350	
REFL PAV MRK TY I(Y)24"(SLD)(100MIL)	LF	64	
REFL PAV MRK TY I(Y)(MED NOSE)(100MIL)	EA	2	
INSTALL R1-1 (STOP SIGN)	EA	1	
INSTALL R1-2 (YIELD SIGN)	EA	1	
REMOVE SM RD SN SUP&AM (STOP SIGN)	EA	1	





# Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street New Braunfels, TX

#### 2/11/2021

Agenda Item No. D)

# Presenter/Contact Carly Farmer, Graduate Engineer (830) 221-4020 - cfarmer@nbtexas.org

#### SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council to amend Section 126-346 to establish a no parking zone on E San Antonio Street at N Gilbert Avenue.

# **BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:**

Council District: 5

With the completion of the San Antonio Street Bridge, E San Antonio Street was repaved and restriped, including the pavement markings of the downtown two-hour parking spaces. City staff recognized the need for wider clearance around the driveways of the ADM Milling Co. The mill has two driveways fronting E San Antonio Street: (1) just west of the San Antonio Street Bridge and (2) at N Gilbert Avenue. Due to the ingress and egress of large trucks at these two driveways, allowing parking poses a safety issue for both the parked vehicles and the trucks. With the recent restriping of downtown two-hour parking, staff excluded the area around the mill driveways for parking. Staff now recommends establishing this area as an official no parking zone in the Code of Ordinances and installing appropriate signage.

#### ADDRESSES A NEED/ISSUE IN A CITY PLAN OR COUNCIL PRIORITY:

N/A

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Traffic control signs cost approximately \$150 each. Sufficient funding is available in the FY20-21 approved streets and drainage budget.

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends revising the city ordinance to establish a no parking zone on E San Antonio Street at N Gilbert Avenue.



Proposed No Parking

Existing 2 HR Parking



Mill Access

Sec. 126-346. - Stopping, standing or parking prohibited in specified places.

- (f) No person shall park or leave standing any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, in the following locations:
  - (127) On the north side of East San Antonio Street from 260 feet east of the intersection with North Market Avenue easterly to the San Antonio Street Bridge. Such no parking zone shall be designated as a tow-away zone.