



**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS
TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING
ZOOM
550 LANDA STREET**



THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 at 6:00 PM

To participate via zoom use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144216798> or

call (833) 926-2300 Webinar ID# 861 4421 6798

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 ABOVE 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 February 11, 2021 [21-232](#)
Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board meeting.

4. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS

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 [21-208](#)
to install an all-way stop at the intersection of Klein
Meadows and Bentwood Way.
Carly Farmer, Graduate Engineer
- B) Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council [21-211](#)
to install speed humps on River Acres Drive between
1255 River Acres Drive and Fair Lane.
Carly Farmer, Graduate Engineer
- C) Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council [21-212](#)
to reduce the speed limit on River Acres Drive.
Carly Farmer, Graduate Engineer

6. ADJOURNMENT

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

3/11/2021

Agenda Item No. A)

TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC ADVISORY BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes

Held via ZOOM

February 11, 2021

Members Present:

Arthur Brinkkoeter
Gary Kirkham
Ron Munyan
Cutter Gonzalez

Daniel Santoni
Michael Yoder
Mike Dietert

Staff Present:

Mary Hamann
Jessica Perry

Carly Farmer

Others Present:

None

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – called to order at 6:00pm
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 speed humps on Kowald Lane between Post Road and IH-35.
Jessica Perry, Graduate Engineer

Ms. Perry went over this item and explained the pros and cons on the speed hump recommendation. She also explained that the traffic study showed 85 percentile speed of 28 mph which does not meet the speed criteria in the speed hump policy. Mr. Santoni made motion to go with staff recommendation to not recommend speed humps on Kowald Lane. Mr. Yoder seconded the motion. Six voted yes and one no (Art). Motion passed.

- B) 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.
Mary Hamann, Engineer

Ms. Hamann explained this item and why recommendation to approve amending Parking by Permit Area G to include east side of Guada Coma Drive between Comal Ave and Lindheimer Street. Mr. Yoder made motion to go with staff recommendation. Mr. Munyan seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

- C) 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.

Carly Farmer, Graduate Engineer

After Ms. Farmer went over this subject, Mr. Brinkkoeter made a motion to go with staff recommendation for 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. Mr. Gonzalez seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

- D) 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 Ave.

Carly Farmer, Graduate Engineer

Ms. Farmer explained this item and the reason for the recommendation. After clarification on the item, Mr. Munyan made a motion to go with staff recommendation for a no parking zone on E. San Antonio Street at N. Gilbert Ave. Mr. Yoder seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Yoder made motion to adjourn. Mr. Kirkham seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm. Next meeting will be held on March 11, 2021

3/11/2021

Agenda Item No. A)

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

Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council to install an all-way stop at the intersection of Klein Meadows and Bentwood Way.

BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:**Council District: 2**

The Engineering Division received a request for an all-way stop at the intersection of Klein Meadows and Bentwood Way. The intersection has four approaches and is currently controlled by stops on Bentwood Way. Both Klein Meadows and Bentwood Way have a speed limit of 30 mph and are residential streets.

An engineering review with traffic counts was conducted in accordance with the Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD). Additionally, the intersection crash history was reviewed.

Based on the result of these investigations, an all-way stop is not warranted at this intersection at this time.

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:

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

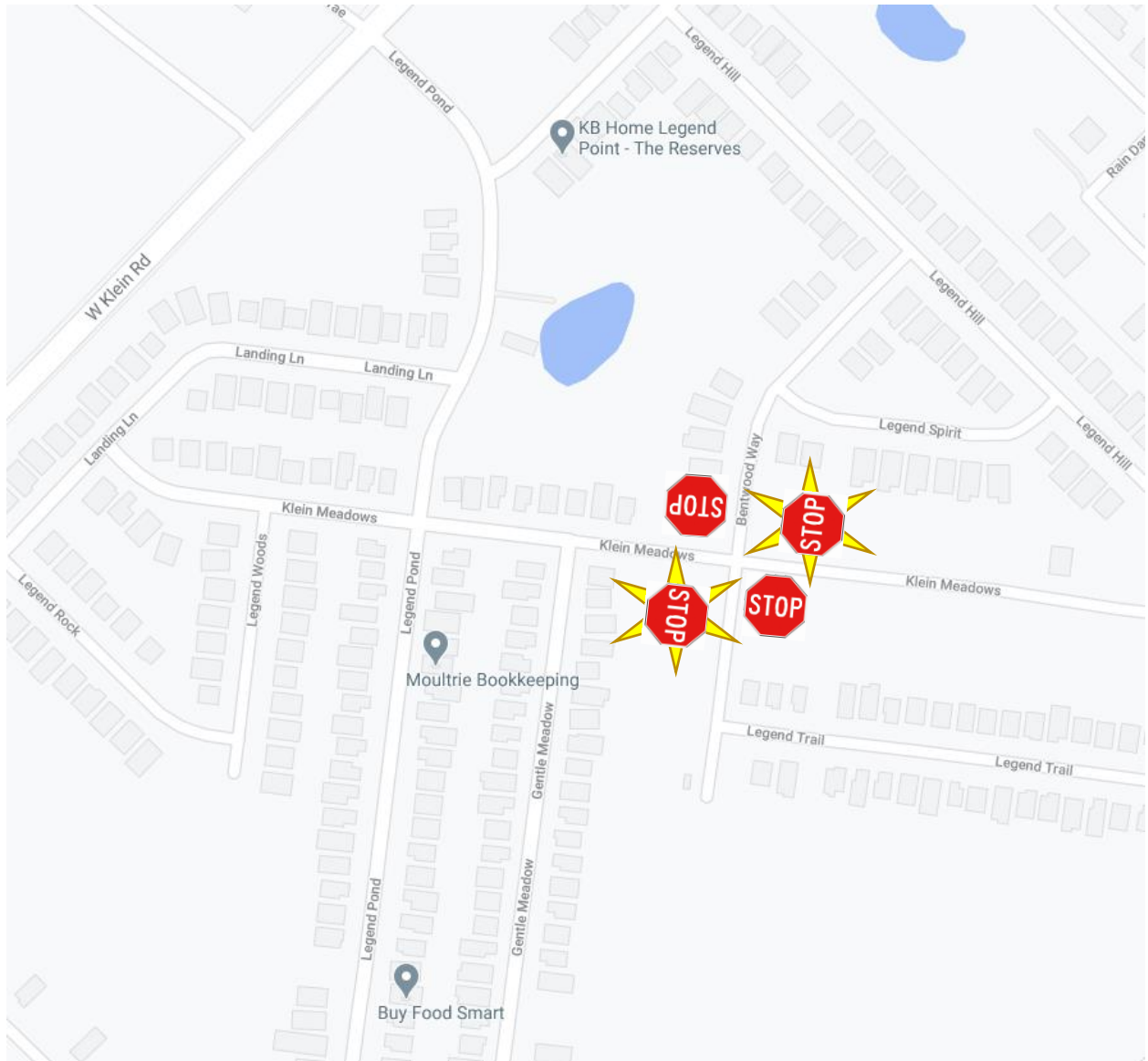
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff does not recommend installation of an all-way stop at the intersection of Klein Meadows and Bentwood Way at this time.

Street Area Layout



Multi-way Stop Application Evaluation

Klein Meadows at Bentwood Way – February 2021

Section 2B.07 of the Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD) provides support and guidance for the application of multi-way (all-way) stop applications. Table 1 provides the guidance criteria and current traffic data and Table 2 provides other criteria that may be considered in the engineering study.

Table 1. Multi-way Stop Guidance Criteria (TMUTCD Section 2B.07)

Criteria	Minimum Values	Current Values	Criteria Met?
A. Traffic signal <ul style="list-style-type: none">Interim measure for the installation of a traffic signal.	-	-	No
B. Crashes <ul style="list-style-type: none">Right- and left-turn and right-angle collisions12-month period	5	0	No
C.1. Major street volume <ul style="list-style-type: none">Total of both approachesAverage of any 8 hours of an average day; and	300	50	No
C.2. Minor street volume <ul style="list-style-type: none">Total of both approachesAverage of same 8 hours of major street with an average delay of at least 30 seconds per vehicle during the highest hour; but	200	26	
C.3. High-speed criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none">85th-percentile approach speed of the major-street traffic exceeds 40 mph.	Major street 85 th -percentile approach speed = 25 mph		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">70 percent of major street volume	210	50	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none">70 percent of minor street volume	140	26	
D. Combination crash/volume criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none">Where no single criterion is satisfied	Criteria B, C.1 and C.2 Met? No		
80 percent of crashes	4	0	No
80 percent of major street volume	240	50	No
80 percent of minor street volume	160	26	

Table 2. Multi-way Stop Other Criteria (TMUTCD Section 2B.07)

Criteria	Criteria Met?
A. The need to control left-turn conflicts;	No
B. The need to control vehicle/pedestrian conflicts near locations that generate high pedestrian volumes;	No
C. Locations where a road user, after stopping, cannot see conflicting traffic and is not able to negotiate the intersection unless conflicting cross traffic is also required to stop; and	No
D. An intersection of two residential neighborhood collector (through) streets of similar design and operating characteristics where multi-way stop control would improve traffic operational characteristics of the intersection.	No

3/11/2021

Agenda Item No. B)

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

Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council to install speed humps on River Acres Drive between 1255 River Acres Drive and Fair Lane.

BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:**Council District: 4**

Residents submitted a request for the installation of speed humps on River Acres Drive between 1255 River Acres Drive and Fair Lane. River Acres Drive is a residential street with a posted speed limit of 30 mph. The request was evaluated based on petition, operational and geometric requirements established in the City of New Braunfels Speed Hump Policy approved in 1999.

Twelve signatures were required to meet the two-thirds requirement, and twelve signatures were received. An operational requirement in the policy is that the 85th 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 Wednesday, February 10, 2021 showed the 85th percentile speed of 33 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 347 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.

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:

The City has specific funding for the installation of traffic calming. This is the second speed hump request submitted for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Speed hump installation cost including speed cushions, signing and pavement markings at two locations cost approximately \$14,000 to \$18,000, depending on location.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff does not recommend approval of speed humps on River Acres Drive between 1255 River Acres Drive and Fair Lane 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 th percentile speed on the street must be at least 35 mph or 5 mph over the regulatory speed limit.	No: 33 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.	Yes
7. The street must be approved by the emergency services departments.	Yes ^a
8. The street must have a 24-hour traffic volume of at least 800 vehicles.	No: 347 vpd average

^a 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 (2/10)	129	129	68	14	7

Project Prioritization Criteria

Criteria		Points Assigned
1. Crash	0 reported crashes over a period of 3 consecutive years	0
2. Speed	3 mph difference between 85 th percentile speed and regulatory speed limit	0
3. Traffic Volume	Two-way peak hour volume of 40 vph	0
4. Type of Neighborhood	1. Schools within a ½ mile radius of the project street 2. Absence of sidewalks on the project street	0 1
Total:		1



3/11/2021

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 reduce the speed limit on River Acres Drive.

BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:**Council District: 4**

Engineering staff has received a request to lower the speed limit on River Acres Drive from the existing posted 30 mph due to concerns with speeding and safety pertaining to children playing outside. River Acres Drive is located between SL 337 at Fair Lane, northeast of downtown New Braunfels.

Speed limits on Texas roads, including city streets, are set by statute in Section 545.352 of the Texas Transportation Code. The current speed limit on most city residential streets is 30 mph. The statute includes the following prima facie speed limits:

- Street in Urban District - 30 mph
- Alley in Urban District - 15 mph

Speed limits are set to inform motorists of appropriate driving speeds under favorable conditions. Regardless of the posted speed limit some drivers will operate at speeds where they feel comfortable, given the design of the road and development/activity along the roadside. The overall goal of setting the speed limit is almost always to increase safety within the context of retaining reasonable mobility for motorists.

Traffic data collection and a review of crash history were conducted on River Acres Drive on Wednesday, February 10, 2021. The results of the traffic data collection are shown in the attached traffic study summary. There were no reported crashes on River Acres Drive for 2018 through February 2021.

The roadside environment includes single-family residences with on-street parking available and commercial development near the intersection with Loop 337. There are existing rumble strips and no sidewalks along River Acres Drive. The pedestrian activity on River Acres Drive is typical of a residential street.

Based on the site investigation and collected speed data, it is recommended that the regulatory speed limit on River Acres Drive be maintained at 30 mph at this time. It is important to note that national and local research and data have shown that reducing the posted speed limit has little to no effect in reducing operating speeds.

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

Envision New Braunfels Strategy 7: Connect All: Action 7.22: Adopt a Complete Streets policy to ensure ease of access for all people and all transportation modes.

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 maintaining the existing 30 mph speed limit on River Acres Drive at this time.

Traffic Study Summary

Date:	March 11, 2021
Prepared By:	Carly Farmer, E.I.T., Engineer
Request:	Lower existing 30 mph speed limit on River Acres Drive
Recommendation:	Retain existing 30 mph speed limit on River Acres Drive

Background

The statutory maximum speed limit in the City of New Braunfels is 30 miles per hour (mph) except where otherwise established by ordinance and posted by official traffic signs. River Acres Drive is a residential street located between SL 337 and Fair Lane. It is two-way stop controlled at each end and has a posted speed limit of 30 mph. The portion of River Acres Drive from 1255 River Acres Drive to Fair Lane is a residential area with homes fronting both sides. There are existing sections of rumble strips in the residential area. The remainder of River Acres Drive up to SL 337 is a commercial area. The only existing sidewalk is in the commercial area at 1268 River Acres Drive.

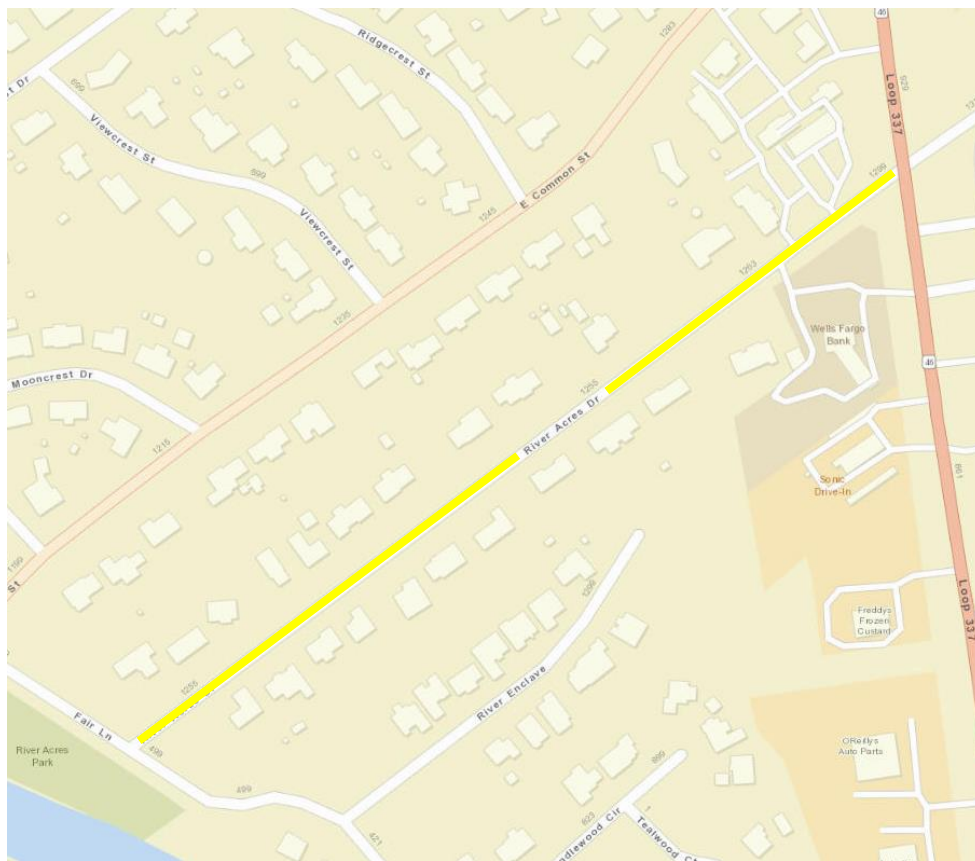


Figure 1. River Acres Drive South of SL 337

An engineering study was completed to evaluate lowering the existing 30 mph to 25 mph on River Acres Drive. The study was completed at the request of residents due to speeding and safety concerns pertaining to children playing outside.

Guidance

Speed limits applicable to public streets are established:

- Statutorily- a maximum speed limit applicable to a particular class of road that is established by State law; or
- As altered speed zones - based on engineering studies.

The maximum speed limits posted should be based primarily on the 85th percentile speed - the speed at or below which 85 percent of vehicles travel. Other factors that may be considered when establishing or reevaluating speed limits include the following:

- Road characteristics
- Roadside development and environment
- Parking practices and pedestrian activity
- Reported crash experience

A city may declare a lower speed limit of not less than 25 miles per hour if the governing body determines that the prima facie speed limit on the streets is unreasonable or unsafe. By State Law, a traffic engineering study is required in order for a city to lower a speed limit below 25 mph.

Site Investigation

A traffic study was completed for River Acres Drive in February 2021 due to concerns with safety and speeding.

Crash History

Traffic crash data for 2018 through February 2021 was found through TxDOT's Crash Records Information System. There were no reported crashes on River Acres Drive during this time.

Data Collection

Traffic speed and volume data were collected on February 10, 2021 for River Acres Drive. The average daily traffic (ADT) on River Acres Drive is 347 vehicles per day (vpd) and the 85th percentile speed is 33 mph.

Recommendation

Based on the site investigation and collected speed data, it is recommended that the regulatory speed on River Acres Drive be maintained at 30 mph at this time. Posting signs with a lower speed limit would likely not affect driver behavior.