



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** March 26, 2018

SUBJECT: Consider Ordinance No. 3511, creating a 45 mph temporary construction speed zone along Davis Boulevard from 750' South of Mid-Cities Boulevard to 750' North of Mid-Cities Boulevard.

PRESENTER: Mike Curtis, Managing Director

SUMMARY:

The City Council is being asked to approve an ordinance creating a 45 mph temporary construction speed zone along Davis Boulevard to accommodate the roadway construction at the Mid-Cities Boulevard intersection.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Construction began on this major capital project in December 2017, and is anticipated to last until December 2018. During this time, this section of roadway is entirely within a construction zone, with detours, various lane closures, and active work taking place in close proximity to the travel lanes. This roadway normally has a speed limit of 50 mph. The traffic control plan for the corridor during construction recommends that this speed be lowered to 45 mph. Even though the difference between the normal and construction speeds is only 5 mph, it is a critical increment because the traffic control devices, including the safety barriers, are rated to provide protection up to 45 mph only. An ordinance authorizing reduction of the speed limit is necessary in order to enforce a 45 mph speed limit.

State law authorizes the City Council to alter speed limits for public streets and highways within its boundaries to create reasonable and safe driving conditions. The city's engineer has cited two main reasons for justifying the reduction of the speed limit and creation of a temporary construction zone for this area: (1) the traffic control plan for construction is designed to accommodate a 45 mph maximum speed; and (2) work crews are present in the immediate proximity to the roadway construction and enforcing the 45 mph speed zone will greatly reduce the possibility of injury to a worker.

The speed limit will return to 50 mph upon completion of construction.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Ordinance No. 3511