



## CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** The Office of the City Manager   **DATE:** February 13, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Consider Ordinance No. 3438, creating a 30mph temporary construction speed zone along Rufe Snow Drive between Mid-Cities Boulevard and Ridgetop Road.

**PRESENTER:** Caroline Waggoner, City Engineer

### **SUMMARY:**

The City Council is being asked to approve an ordinance creating a 30mph temporary construction speed zone along Rufe Snow Drive to accommodate the roadway construction from Mid-Cities Boulevard to Ridgetop Road.

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

Construction began on this major CIP project in May 2016, and is anticipated to last until January 2018. During this time the 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 40mph. The traffic control plan for the corridor during construction recommends that this speed be lowered to 30mph. An ordinance authorizing reduction of the speed limit is necessary in order to enforce a 30mph 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 three 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 30mph maximum speed; (2) access points for the 31 driveway connections in the construction zone are comprised of a temporary surface requiring vehicles exiting the roadway to slow down dramatically to safely navigate turns, intersections and driveway connections; and (3) work crews are present in the immediate proximity to the roadway construction and enforcing the 30mph speed zone will greatly reduce the possibility of injury to a worker.

The speed limit will return to 40mph upon completion of construction.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve Ordinance No. 3438.