



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** December 11, 2023

SUBJECT: Consider Ordinance No. 3832 revising the speed limit along the Loop 820 South Frontage Road from Rufe Snow Drive to Holiday Lane.

PRESENTER: Caroline Waggoner, Assistant City Manager

SUMMARY:

The City Council is being asked to approve an ordinance increasing the posted speed limit from 35 mph to 45 mph on the Loop 820 Frontage Road South for 0.65 miles from Rufe Snow Drive to Holiday Lane.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Interstate Loop 820 is part of TxDOT's jurisdictional roadway network, crossing east-west across the lower part of the City of North Richland Hills from Big Fossil Creek in the west to the SH 121 interchange in the east. The existing roadway within North Richland Hills is a multi-lane freeway with frontage roads along the majority of the alignment on both the north and south sides of the roadway. The frontage roads are approved by TxDOT for a posted speed of 45 mph based on a speed study.

The speed limit on all Loop 820 frontage roads was 35 mph until the city approved Ordinance 3411 in May of 2016. With that ordinance, the speed limits on all frontage roads on the north and south sides of Loop 820 were raised to 45 mph with the exception of the eastbound frontage road between Rufe Snow Drive and Holiday Lane. This 0.65-mile segment of frontage road remained 35 mph due to concerns for adjacent commercial construction activity.

Now that the adjacent commercial construction activity is complete, the lower speed limit is no longer needed, and causes confusion for drivers. For this reason, after an investigation, and with TxDOT's existing approval of the higher speed, the City Engineer recommends that this portion of frontage road be posted at 45 mph.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Ordinance No. 3832.