Public Works / Engineering



TO: Maleshia McGinnis, City Attorney
FROM: Caroline Waggoner, P.E., City Engineer
SUBJECT: Walker Creek Elementary / Birdville High School Combined School Zone

DATE: December 30, 2019

A school zone was established on Hawk, Bridge, and Parker for Walker Creek Elementary in 2005. The Birdville High School campus is located less than 200 feet from the Walker Creek campus on Hawk Drive, and also has a school zone on Hawk Avenue which was established in 1999. Since the zones were established, the formerly undeveloped area in the vicinity of the schools has been largely built out, to include hundreds of single-family lots, several multi-family complexes, and the City's public library and recreation center. The background traffic on Hawk has increased dramatically as a result of these developments.

Although the Walker Creek and Birdville campuses operate on different timelines, their proximity to each other effectively creates the perception that the effective school zones overlap. However, there is a roughly 400-foot gap between the two zones on Hawk Drive, leading to driver confusion and potential safety concerns, particularly for pedestrians in the Hawk corridor. Hawk Drive is considered a minor collector roadway, with a 30mph speed limit.

I am proposing that the school zone on Hawk Avenue be continuous from south of Walker Creek Elementary up to Mid-Cities Boulevard. In addition, a school zone shall be added to Ice House Drive from west of Bridge Street to the intersection with Hawk Avenue. The limits are as follows:

- 6000 6200 Hawk Avenue
- 8800 8900 Ice House Drive

The proposed time for the existing school zones on Parker and Bridge, and for the new / expanded zones on Ice House and Hawk will be 7:00am–8:30am and 2:15pm–4:00pm. The existing 25mph school zone on Mid-Cities Boulevard for the high school will be left unchanged at 7:00am-8:00am and 2:15pm-3:15pm.