



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** October 26, 2020
SUBJECT: Consider Ordinance No. 3670, revising the permanent speed limit along Davis Boulevard (FM 1938) from Smithfield Road to 900 feet north of Odell Street.
PRESENTER: Caroline Waggoner, Director of Public Works

SUMMARY:

The City Council is being asked to approve an ordinance reducing the posted speed limit from 50mph to 45mph along Davis Boulevard for 1.32 miles from Smithfield Road to a point 900 feet north of Odell Street.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

City staff initiated a speed study on Davis Boulevard last year in response to motorist safety concerns along the corridor. Data collection began in 2019, with final speed data collected in January 2020 prior to any traffic impacts created by the Covid-19 pandemic. The study recommendation to reduce a portion of the current 50mph zone has been reviewed by leadership in the Police Department and they concur with the findings. The study was finalized in June of 2020 and submitted to TxDOT for review and approval.

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 study cites two main reasons for justifying the reduction of the speed limit: (1) higher access connection density between Smithfield Road and Odell Street resulting in more traffic friction and higher risk of conflict caused by vehicles entering/exiting the roadway; and (2) crash frequency is higher than the statewide crash average for similar roadways.

Davis Boulevard south of Smithfield Road will continue at 40mph, and at 50mph from the northern limit of the proposed new 45mph speed zone.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Ordinance No. 3670.