



**CITY OF TYLER
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

Agenda Number: O-4

Date: July 11, 2007

Subject: Request that the City Council consider adopting an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 17, "Traffic", Article III., "Speed Regulations", by decreasing the speed limit from 55 m.p.h. to 50 m.p.h. on a portion of F.M. 2964 (Rhones Quarter Road) from Shiloh Road south to the City limit.

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Item Reference: Texas Transportation Code Section 545.356; Tyler City Code Chapters 12 and 17

REVIEW OF SPEED LIMIT ON RHONES QUARTER ROAD

Texas Transportation Code Section 545.356 and City Code Section 17-61 authorize the City Council to establish speed limits, on the basis of engineering and traffic studies; and Tyler City Code Section 17-61.a. provides that the Traffic Engineer shall determine on the basis of engineering and traffic surveys, the reasonable and safe maximum speed limits for each City street and submit recommendations based on such investigation to the City Council.

Tyler City Code Section 17-65 states that the maximum speed limit on all roads shall be thirty (30) miles per hour, unless otherwise stated in City Code Section 17-65. At the request of Councilman Nathaniel Moran, Staff performed a speed study on F.M. 2964 (Rhones Quarter Road). Based on the combination of traffic accident data and distances between driveways along F.M. 2964 (Rhones Quarter Road), City Staff recommends decreasing the speed limit from 55 m.p.h. to 50 m.p.h.

REVIEW BY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD


City Code Section 17-30.c. states that the Traffic Safety Board shall make recommendations through the Traffic Engineer regarding safety as it deems necessary. On June 21, 2007, the Traffic Safety Board had discussions regarding the proposed 50 m.p.h. speed limit on a portion of Rhones Quarter Road. The Traffic Safety Board voted to recommend approval of this ordinance to the City Council with three votes in favor, one vote against, and one abstention. As part of the motion, the Traffic Safety Board voted to recommend that a sign warning of the decrease in speed should be placed along F.M. 2964 (Rhones Quarter Road).

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RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 17, "Traffic", Article III., "Speed Regulations", decreasing the speed limit from 55 m.p.h. to 50 m.p.h. on a portion of F.M. 2964 (Rhones Quarter Road) from Shiloh Road south to the City limit.

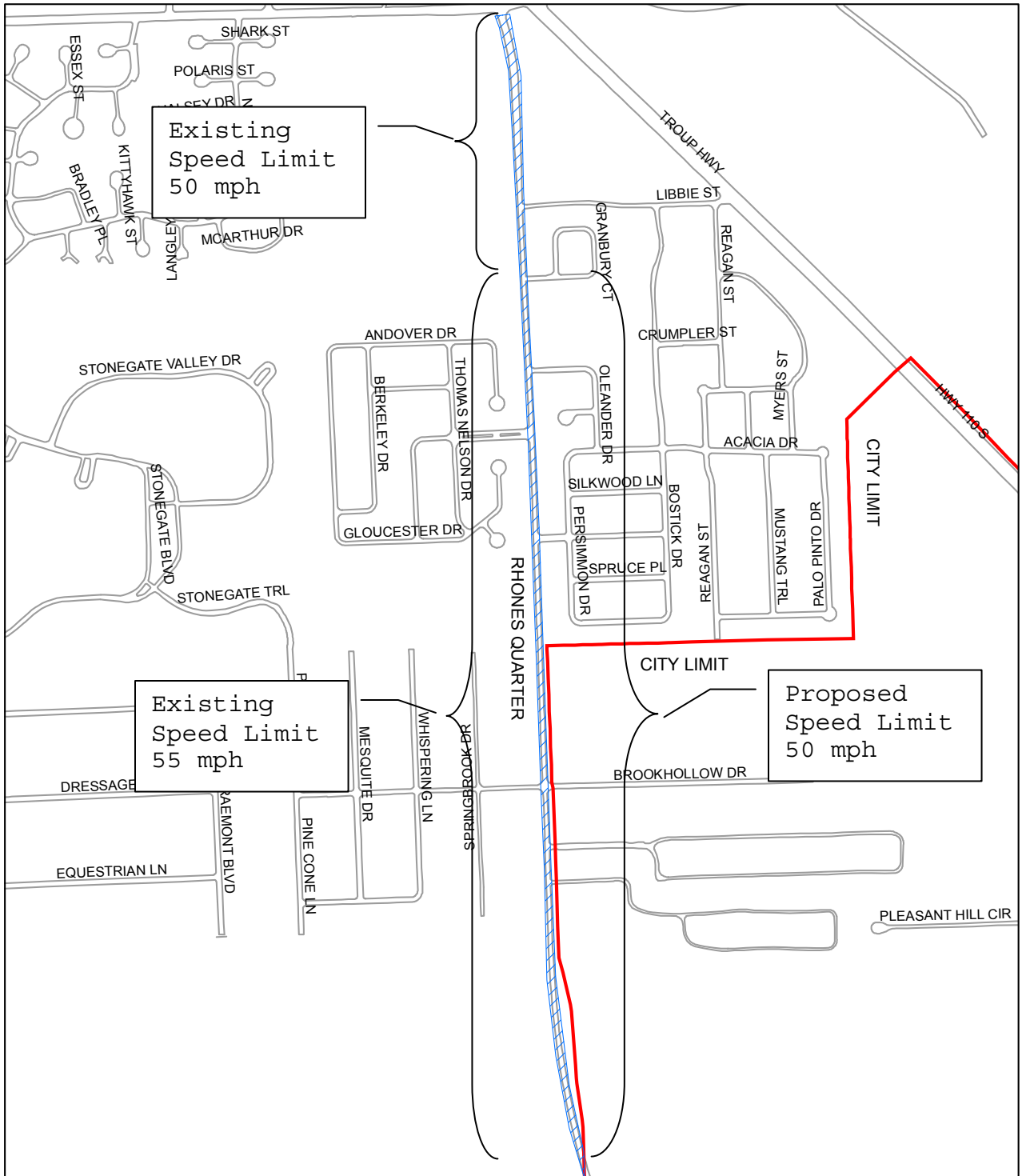
Drafted/Recommended By:
Department Leader


Kirk Houser, P.E., Traffic Engineer

Edited/Submitted By:
City Manager



RHONES QUARTER ROAD



ORDINANCE NO. 0-2007-77

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 17, "TRAFFIC", ARTICLE III., "SPEED REGULATIONS", OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS, BY DECREASING THE SPEED LIMIT FROM 55 MPH TO 50 MPH ON A PORTION OF F.M. 2964 (RHONES QUARTER ROAD) FROM SHILOH ROAD SOUTH TO THE CITY LIMIT; ESTABLISHING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; DECLARING A PENALTY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City Council to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, Texas Transportation Code Section 545.356 provides that the governing body of a municipality, for a highway or part of a highway of a municipality, has the authority to alter by ordinance prima facie speed limits from the results of an engineering and traffic investigation; and

WHEREAS, Texas Transportation Code Section 545.356 states that a prima facie speed limit that is altered by the governing body of a municipality is effective when the governing body erects signs giving notice of the new limit and at all times or at other times as determined; and

WHEREAS, Tyler City Code Section 17-61.a. provides that the Traffic Engineer shall determine on the basis of engineering and traffic surveys, the reasonable and safe maximum speed limits for each City street and submit recommendations based on such investigation to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Tyler City Code Section 17-61.b. provides that on the basis of recommendations of the Traffic Engineer, the City Council may alter speed limits deemed necessary; and

WHEREAS, Tyler City Code Section 17-62 provides that the Traffic Engineer shall post the maximum and minimum speeds, if any, by appropriate signs in conspicuous places so that every motorist may be aware of the speed limits; and

WHEREAS, Tyler City Code Section 17-30.c. states that the Traffic Safety Board shall make recommendations through the Traffic Engineer regarding traffic safety as it deems necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Traffic Safety Board discussed the need for an ordinance amending the speed limits on F.M. 2964 (Rhones Quarter Road) on 6/7/07 and the Board voted to recommend adoption of this ordinance; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS:

PART 1: That City Code Chapter 17, "Traffic", Article III., "Speed Regulations", is hereby amended by amending Section 17-63 to read as follows:

Sec. 17-63. Designated speed limits on specific streets.

In accordance with the terms of this Chapter and when signs are erected giving notice thereof, the prima facie speed limit shall be as set forth in this schedule upon those streets or portions of streets named herein and at all times unless otherwise specifically provided:

<u>Street</u>	<u>Speed (miles per hour)</u>	<u>Extent</u>
FM 2964 (Rhones Quarter Road)	50	From the south curb line of Shiloh Road the South City limit (Ord. 0-2007-77, 7/11/07)

PART 2: That if any provision or any section of this ordinance shall be held to be void or unconstitutional, such holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining provisions or sections of this ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect.

PART 3. That any person, firm, or corporation violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine as provided in Section 1-4 of the Tyler Code. Each day such violation shall continue, or be permitted to continue, shall be deemed a separate offense. Since this ordinance has a penalty for violation, it shall become effective upon its publication in the newspaper as provided by Section 85 of the Charter of the City of Tyler, Texas, which date is expected to be July 13, 2007.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 11th day of July, A. D., 2007.

JOSEPH O. SEEBER, MAYOR OF
THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

CASSANDRA BRAGER, CITY CLERK

CITY ATTORNEY