



CITY OF
CORPUS CHRISTI

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of November 18, 2025

DATE: November 18, 2025

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

FROM: Ernesto De La Garza, Interim ACM, Director of Public Works
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Ordinance amending Corpus Christi Code to amend state speed limits along Staples Street and Whitecap Boulevard

CAPTION:

Ordinance amending the Corpus Christi Code to reduce the speed limit on Staples Street between Saratoga Boulevard and 250 feet north of King Trail and reduce the speed limit on Whitecap Boulevard between Park Road 22 and Windward Drive; providing for penalty and publication.

SUMMARY:

This is an ordinance amending the Corpus Christi Code to reduce the speed limit on Staples Street between Saratoga Boulevard and 250 feet north of King Trail and reduce the speed limit on Whitecap Boulevard between Park Road 22 and Windward Drive.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Texas Transportation Code 545.352. Prima Facie Speed Limits establishes 30 mph as the reasonable speed limit for urban districts. Speeds above or below must be passed in an ordinance. Speed limits can be altered based on an engineering or traffic study. This authority is given in Transportation Code to the Texas Transportation Commission on State roads (Section 545.353) and Municipalities (Section 545.356).

The Public Works Department seeks to update City ordinance [Sec. 53-254. - Schedule V, increase of state speed limit in certain zones](#) and [Sec. 53-255. - Schedule VI, Decrease of state law maximum speed](#). Updates are required for the following:

1. Staples Street (FM2444) – Saratoga Boulevard to 250' North of King Trail Drive
2. Whitecap Boulevard – Park Road 22 (South Padre Island Drive) to Windward Drive

Staples Street (FM2444)

Staples Street (FM2444) from Saratoga Boulevard to the south City limits is a State-maintained roadway. The current ordinance designates Staples Street (FM2444) from 0.383 miles south of the Saratoga Boulevard south right-of-way line to a point approximately 250 feet north of King Trail Drive as 50 mph. The speed zone from 250 feet north of King Trail Drive to the south city limit (previously Gilead Road) is 55 mph. TxDOT performed a study and recommended speeds be reduced to 45mph from 0.383 miles south of the Saratoga Boulevard south right-of-way line to a point approximately 250 feet north of King Trail Drive. The speed from approximately 250 feet north of King Trail to Gilead Road will remain as 55mph. The ordinance (Section 53-254) will also be updated to reflect a speed limit of 65mph from Gilead Road to the updated south City limits at County Road 47. Studies performed evaluated various factors including existing speeds, crashes, roadway alignment, driveways, pedestrians, and bus stops. These studies were reviewed by TxDOT's Traffic Division and received approval from their Transportation Commission. Cities are then requested to pass ordinances for enforcement. TxDOT will install signs upon passage of the ordinance.

Whitecap Boulevard

The current ordinance designates the speed zone on Whitecap Boulevard, from Park Road 22 to Windward Drive, as 40mph. Public Works received a request to evaluate speeds along this segment. City staff performed an engineering study and recommends the speeds be reduced to 35mph. Various factors including existing speeds, crashes, roadway alignment, driveways, use of golf carts were evaluated. City ordinance update is required to amend the speed which will improve the safety of motorists, including golf carts operators, along the segment. Golf carts are prohibited on roads in excess of 35mph per City ordinance Section 53-109. Updates are needed for enforcement.

After the Council approves the ordinance amending the Corpus Christi code, the estimated installation is within a month of City Council approval of the changes. Citizens will be informed and educated via various media and/or message boards along each corridor. Once the new signs are installed and communicated to the public, there will be a grace period of two weeks by CCPD before actual citations are issued to non-compliant drivers.

PROCUREMENT DETAIL:

None.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is to not approve the ordinance as proposed. This would create enforcement and traffic safety issues with a lack of an adopted City ordinance.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

FUNDING DETAIL:

Fund: N/A

Organization/Activity: N/A

Mission Element: N/A

Project # (CIP Only): N/A

Account: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance

Presentation