
DEPARTMENT MEMO

DEPARTMENT: Public Works Department

FROM: Eric Oscarson

MEETING: April 18, 2022

SUBJECT:

Consider approval of an ordinance changing the designation of McNairn Road between SW Sunnybrook Drive to Willow Circle N from an alley to a public street and setting the speed limit of the public street at 30 miles per hour. (First and Final Reading) (Staff Presenter: Eric Oscarson, Director of Public Works)

SUMMARY:

On June 7, 2021, staff brought forward consideration to designate McNairn Road as an alley, reducing the speed limit and adding signs restricting thru vehicular traffic. Staff received several concerns from residents regarding excessive speeds along with requests to evaluate options to reduce the speeds through the area. Staff noted a speed study performed in March 2020 indicated the maximum speed was greater than 60 mph, and 85 percent of the vehicles were traveling at 38 mph. Given these conditions and the availability of alternate routes, staff recommended designating McNairn as an alley, adding signs to restrict thru traffic, and posting a speed limit of 15 mph for alleys. The City Council approved the designation on June 7, 2020.

After the designation was changed and signs installed, staff received complaints from travelers regarding the inability to use McNairn alley to travel north to Hillside Drive. Complaints also were received because the Burleson Police Department began issuing tickets to drivers who were speeding and using the alley as thru traffic. Staff was directed to evaluate options for the alley.

Staff performed a speed study in February of 2022. The results of the speed study were similar to the March 2020 study. A total of 910 vehicles traveled McNairn alley within a 48 hour period. Speeds above 60 mph were recorded, and 98 percent of the vehicles exceeded the 15 mph posted speed limit, with 85 percent recorded at 38 mph. The speed study also indicated only 10 percent of vehicles continue north of Hillside within the alley. This would indicate the alley is used as a direct connection to Hillside Drive.

On March 21, 2022, staff presented options for City Council to consider to help mitigate the concerns. After much deliberation, council directed staff to repeal the

ordinance designating McNairn an alley, and to make McNairn a local road once again. City Council also directed staff to install sidewalks along the adjacent roadways of Wintercrest Rd and Jayellen Ave. The anticipated design of the sidewalk will take 3-4 months. The sidewalk construction contract will come as an action item at a future council meeting.

OPTIONS:

1. Approve an ordinance changing the designation of McNairn Road between SW Sunnybrook Drive to Willow Circle N from an alley to a public street and setting the speed limit of the public street at 30 miles per hour.
2. Deny an ordinance changing the designation of McNairn Road between SW Sunnybrook Drive to Willow Circle N from an alley to a public street and setting the speed limit of the public street at 30 miles per hour.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of an ordinance changing the designation of McNairn Road between SW Sunnybrook Drive to Willow Circle N from an alley to a public street and setting the speed limit of the public street at 30 miles per hour.

STAFF CONTACT:

Name: Eric Oscarson
Department: Public Works
Email: eoscarson@burleosntx.com
Phone: 817-426-9837