



## MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Public Safety

From: Rick Brown, Director of Public Works / City Engineer

Date: July 6, 2022

Re: Speeding Traffic Concerns on Taylor Road

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Recently, the Department of Public Works was notified that the resident at 2322 Taylor Road has concerns with traffic speeds on Taylor Road. The resident lives adjacent to Sandalwood Creek Drive. The location of Taylor Road and the residence is shown below (please see **Exhibit A**).

Taylor Road serves as a collector road, with a primary purpose to provide access to Route 100 and Manchester Road on the south and to Route 109 on the north. The posted speed limit for Taylor Road is 25 mph. Near the resident's home, Taylor Road is narrow in width (about 18') and unimproved; however, a sidewalk is located along east side of the road. The section of Taylor Road to the south was improved and extended to Route 100 with the more recent construction of the Villages at Bright Leaf subdivision. There is a sidewalk along the east/north side of the road, as well as lighting and curb and gutter. The Wildwood Greenway path runs adjacent to the road to the south. It should be noted that the resident in question is the only resident with direct frontage onto Taylor Road.

### **Speed Limit**

As mentioned, the posted speed limit for this section of Taylor Road is 25 mph. When Taylor Road to the south/east of Sandalwood Creek Drive was improved and extended with the construction of the Villages at Bright Leaf subdivision, 25 mph speed limit signs were installed to match signs that were previously in place. A formal speed limit study has never been completed to evaluate and recommend a speed limit using traffic engineering methodologies. Given Taylor Road's primary use as a collector road, the Department believes a 30-mph speed limit could be justified for the recently improved section through the Villages at Bright Leaf.

### **Traffic Volume**

The average weekday traffic on Taylor Road is about 1,070 vehicles per day, which is a light traffic volume for a collector road. A weekday traffic volume of 1,000 vehicles per day could be considered a maximum desirable traffic volume for a residential street. We have many residential streets with average weekday traffic exceeding 1,070 vehicles per day.

### **Traffic Enforcement**

The Wildwood Precinct is aware of the resident's concerns regarding traffic speeds in the vicinity of his home. As a result, the Wildwood Precinct traffic officers have completed enforcement activities and speed surveys on Taylor Road. The table below summarizes two recent speed surveys of existing traffic on Taylor Road. The Wildwood Precinct obtain traffic speeds using a portable radar unit, which is typically pole mounted, and records for a period of seven (7) days.

Location	Date	Date	50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed	85 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed
			(mph)	(mph)
Taylor at 2322 Taylor Road	8/25/2021	9/1/2021	29	33
Taylor at Rising Sun Road	10/7/2020	10/14/2020	29	34

**85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed**

As has been discussed previously at Board meetings, the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is the speed at which 85% of traffic is traveling at or slower. Traffic engineers typically use the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed as a key measure to establish speed limits. They would typically set an appropriate speed limit at just below the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed, absent an adverse crash record. In the City of Wildwood, on collector streets, the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is typically in the range of 30-40 mph.

**Recommendation**

In addition to continued enforcement of traffic speeds by the Wildwood Precinct, to help provide greater conspicuity to the existing speed limit, the following is recommended for implementation by the Department:

Keep Kids Alive – Drive 25 Speed Zone (KKAD25) Special Enforcement Areas – Implementation of these special enforcement areas is established by city code and allows a unique speed limit sign to be installed (see below). KKAD25 enforcement areas allow that upon a conviction or a plea of guilty to a moving violation, the violator shall be a fined at least double. The city’s policy has been to require that KKAD25 enforcement areas be located adjacent to public parks or schools, where children may be present. In reviewing this concern, enactment of the KKAD25 enforcement area would seem appropriate due to the proximity of the Wildwood Greenway shared use path, which runs to the south between Route 100 and Taylor Road. We have three connections to the path from the Villages at Bright Leaf subdivision with crosswalks over Taylor Road. While no schools are present, we do have the Wildwood Greenway path in close proximity, and thus, the Department is recommending the implementation of a KKAD25 enforcement area on Taylor Road between Route 109 and Route 100.



If the Board passes a motion in support of this recommendation, the Department will develop the necessary legislation for implementation of the KKAD25 enforcement area, which will be submitted to the City Council for approval.

Captain Mundel and I will be available for questions or comments on this matter at the July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Board of Public Safety meeting.

RCB



# WILDWOOD

## Exhibit A – Taylor Road

