



# MEMORANDUM

June 28, 2012

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Eric S. Stuckey, City Administrator  
David Parker, P.E., CIP Executive/City Engineer  
Paul Holzen, P.E., Director of Engineering  
Carl Baughman, P. E., Traffic/Transportation Engineer

SUBJECT: Consideration of Ordinance 2012-43 An Ordinance to Reduce the Speed Limit On Westhaven Boulevard And Townsend Boulevard To Be Twenty-Five (25 MPH) Miles Per Hour In Both Directions.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) with information to consider an Ordinance that would revise the speed limit postings in Westhaven.

### **Background**

The street network in Westhaven has been planned as a hierarchy of various classes, functions and geometric standards. The City's 2009 update of the Major Thoroughfare Plan recognizes this hierarchy in designating certain streets as Minor Collector streets. Among these are the streets of Addison Avenue, Championship Boulevard, Jewell Avenue/Front Street, Stonewater Boulevard, State Street, Townsend Boulevard and Westhaven Boulevard. These streets tend to serve as feeder routes to the nearby Highway 96 arterial street and therefore provide continuity of travel in the development. While the adjoining land uses are mostly residential, the class of these streets due to their function is Minor Collector and not local. Therefore the posted speed limits on some of these streets have been up to 30 mph, in particular Westhaven Boulevard and Townsend Boulevard.

In the ten years that Westhaven has been in development, street connections and driving patterns have been in a variable state as the project has proceeded. City street standards and speed limit ordinances have also been updated during this time, recognizing the unique qualities of Traditional Neighborhood Developments. Now that Westhaven is entering its second decade, its transportation characteristics have become substantially established such that a comprehensive review of driving speed patterns can be accomplished.

The Westhaven Homeowners Association at its March 7, 2012 meeting voted unanimously to request a uniform maximum neighborhood speed limit of 25 miles per hour. Location currently posted at 20 MPH would remain 20 MPH due to their horizontal and/or vertical physical constraints requiring lower speed limits. This Ordinance would change the speed limit on Westhaven Boulevard and Townsend Boulevard (currently posted at 30 miles per hour). Both of these streets are considered to be Collectors and our street specifications recommend them to be posted at 30MPH.

### **Financial Impact**

None. Signing upgrades will be performed by the Westhaven Homeowners Association.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval of Ordinance Number 2012-43 to revise speed limits in Westhaven.

**ORDINANCE 2012-43**

**TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON WESTHAVEN BOULEVARD AND TOWNSEND BOULEVARD TO BE TWENTY-FIVE (25 MPH) MILES PER HOUR IN BOTH DIRECTIONS".**

**WHEREAS**, the Westhaven Homeowners Association has requested by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors on March 7, 2012, a uniform speed limit of 25 miles per hour, while keeping the speed limit at 20 miles per hour on streets that need to be posted as such, and

**WHEREAS**, due to recommendations from the City of Franklin Street Department and Engineering Evaluations by the City of Franklin Engineering Department in order to provide a safer atmosphere for the citizens of Franklin Tennessee;

**NOW THEREFORE:**

**SECTION I: BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Franklin, Tennessee, that the speed limit on Westhaven Boulevard and on Townsend Boulevard be reduced from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour, and

**SECTION II: BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Franklin, Tennessee, that the speed limit on the remaining streets in Westhaven be established at 25 miles per hour except that some streets be established at 20 miles per hour as follows:

1. Streets already posted at 20 miles per hour from their initial installation, and.
2. Streets requiring posting at 20 miles per hour in accordance with horizontal and/or vertical geometric constraints.

**SECTION III: BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Franklin, Tennessee, that the Westhaven Homeowners Association is authorized to obtain and install all necessary signs to carry out the intention of this Ordinance.

**SECTION IV: BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Franklin, Tennessee, that the penalty for failure to obey the provisions of this Ordinance shall be as indicated in the Franklin Municipal Code and/or the Tennessee Code Annotated.

**SECTION V: BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED** by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Franklin, Tennessee, that this Ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage on second and final reading, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Franklin requiring it.

**ATTEST:**

**CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE**

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ERIC S. STUCKEY  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DR. KEN MOORE  
MAYOR**

**PASSED FIRST READING  
PASSED SECOND READING**

\_\_\_\_\_  
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# WESTHAVEN

March 21, 2012

Mr. Carl Baughman, P.E.  
City of Franklin Traffic Engineer  
109 Third Avenue South  
Franklin, TN 37064

RE: Speed Limits in Westhaven

Mr. Baughman,

The Homeowner's Association Board would like to request that a uniform speed limit of 25 mph be adopted for the entire Westhaven community per the city ordinance for residential communities. The intent is not to restrict 20 mph postings but rather not have any road posted greater than 25 mph within the community. In addition to the general consensus that lower speeds create a safer and more walkable community, there are several reasons for this request:

Since Westhaven has developed over a considerable amount of time there are instances in where the same street has segments signed at both 20 mph and 25 mph making enforcement more difficult.

All streets in Westhaven (with the exception of Front Street) have homes fronting directly on the street and most have on street parking on both sides of the road. With the conflicts with parallel parking and potential for pedestrians to emerge from between parked cars, it is felt that any street posted greater than 25 mph would be less safe than those posted at 25 mph.

Alerting motorists turning from a street posted at 30 mph onto a street posted at 25 mph and vice versa creates the need for a tremendous amount of signs that create both confusion and clutter.

Although Westhaven is a large development and designed with a hierarchy of streets, the development backs up to large hills so there are no true "cut through" roads that would need a higher speed limit for pass through traffic.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Cliff Smith,

Westhaven HOA President

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
WESTHAVEN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT ASSOCIATION, INC.**

The Board of Directors of the Westhaven Residential District Association, Inc. (the "Association") met at Westhaven in Franklin, Tennessee at 9:00 a.m., on March 7, 2012. Cliff Smith, as president of the board of Directors of the Association, served as Chair of the meeting.

1. Cliff Smith called the roll of the Board. Cliff Smith, Ken Howell, Jim Walter, and Shari Lacey were present, and a quorum was established.
2. January WRDA financials were presented. Cliff Smith presented the Westhaven Residential District financials through January of 2012 to the Board noting a savings from converting phone lines to Comcast and a large expenditure due to fresh water leak at the pool.
3. The Board reviewed the 2012 projected capital expenditures. Ken Howell asked to see the leasing option for security camera line item as well as cost for security guard 2-3 hours every other night.
4. Cliff Smith presented a recap of his meeting with the City of Franklin police department, streets department and City Engineer requesting a community wide 25 mph speed limit and conversion the current one way streets of Majestic & Glass Springs to two-way streets per the original city approved plan. The board voted unanimously to proceed on both issues.
5. There was discussion on town-home irrigation systems. The HOA will not provide effluent water for any new townhomes buildings. The irrigation will be run off the fresh water and the builder will supply the yolk for a separate irrigation meter and backflow device.
6. The Winter Development Update was well received by the community.
7. There being no further business to come before the meeting, and upon motion and unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED:**

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Jim Walter, Secretary

