



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: DECEMBER 14, 2021**
FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **WARD: 7**
SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF 5-TON WEIGHT LIMIT RESTRICTIONS – FAIRHAVEN DRIVE AND MERIDIAN WAY – ORDINANCE

ISSUES:

Establishment of 5-ton weight limit restrictions on Fairhaven Drive from Arlington Avenue to Ainsley Avenue and on Meridian Way from Fairhaven Drive to Cadbury Drive.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council introduce and adopt an ordinance to:

1. Establish a 5-ton weight limit restriction on Fairhaven Drive from Arlington Avenue to Ainsley Avenue; and
2. Establish a 5-ton weight limit restriction on Meridian Way from Fairhaven Drive to Cadbury Drive.

TRANSPORTATION BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

On October 6, 2021, the Transportation Board reviewed this matter; five of eight members were present. The Board voted unanimously to recommend the proposed establishment of 5-ton weight limit restrictions on Fairhaven Drive from Arlington Avenue to Ainsley Avenue and on Meridian Way from Fairhaven Drive to Cadbury Drive.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Works Department may establish weight limit or axle restrictions to prohibit use of select streets by larger commercial vehicles. These types of restrictions reduce commercial truck traffic on certain local, residential, and/or collector roadways by directing truck traffic onto arterial roadways. Weight limit restrictions assist in preserving the pavement and promoting safe use of streets which may have distinctive roadway conditions, are residential in nature, or experience cut-through truck traffic. Such restrictions do not prevent use for the purpose of delivering or picking up of materials/merchandise or the performance of services in connection with a property within the specific block.

DISCUSSION:

The Public Works Department is proposing establishment of 5-ton weight limit restrictions on Fairhaven Drive from Arlington Avenue to Ainsley Avenue and on Meridian Way from Fairhaven Drive to Cadbury Drive to prohibit commercial truck traffic on these residential streets. Residents have reported a recent increase in commercial truck activity through their neighborhood believed to be associated with drivers mistaking Meridian Way for Meridian Parkway which is a private multi-lane roadway owned and maintained by March Joint Powers Authority (JPA) located off Van Buren Boulevard east of the City limits. As the March JPA's industrial warehouse facility located at the intersection of Van Buren Boulevard and Coyote Bush Road generates commercial truck traffic in this vicinity, March JPA has recently established Meridian Parkway as a truck route to and from their facility. As a result, drivers may be utilizing navigation tools which when searching for Meridian Parkway direct them to Meridian Way in error.

The proposed weight limit restrictions would prohibit commercial truck use of the residential street segments on Fairhaven Drive and Meridian Way and promote the use of nearby collector and arterial roadways better suited for commercial truck traffic, improving safety, and preserving the residential environment as well as the condition of the asphalt. It is also anticipated that communications between truck drivers will prompt drivers to reassess their routes and take the appropriate paths of travel to reach their destination should the intent be to utilize Meridian Parkway.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This item supports **Strategic Priority 2 – Community Well-Being** and specifically, **Goal 2.4**, to “Support programs and innovations that enhance community safety, encourage neighborhood engagement, and build public trust.”

Additionally, proposed signage aligns with EACH of the Cross-Cutting threads as demonstrated below:

1. **Community Trust:** This project is directly responsive to resident requests for relief of truck traffic within their neighborhood. The Traffic Engineering team moved quickly to expedite action and this report to meet neighborhood needs.
2. **Equity:** The Traffic Engineering division does not anticipate that this restriction will generate truck demand on any nearby neighborhood roadways but will continue to work with residents should any concerns arise.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility:** Weight restrictions are a cost-effective means to control heavy vehicle traffic on neighborhood roadways.
4. **Innovation:** This project is neutral towards this cross-cutting thread
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency:** The reduction of heavy vehicle traffic within neighborhoods will preserve local roadway infrastructure and address additional impacts experienced by residents.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of sign fabrication and installation is estimated to be \$300. Funding is available in the General Fund Public Works Department budget, Signing Supplies account number 4110100-424143, to cover this cost.

Prepared by:	Gilbert Hernandez, Interim Public Works Director
Certified as to availability of funds:	Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
Approved by:	Kris Martinez, Interim Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Site Map – Fairhaven Drive and Meridian Way
2. Site Map – Meridian Parkway
3. Transportation Board Meeting Minutes – October 6, 2021