

## **CITY OF JOPLIN COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

### **ITEM**

Council Bill 2019-109 – approving of an Ordinance to change the existing speed limit on Fourth Street from Pennsylvania Avenue to Murphy Boulevard from 35 to 25 mph.

### **MEETING DATE**

February 4, 2019

### **ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT**

Public Works

### **REVIEWED BY**

Director of Public Works David Hertzberg; Director of Finance Leslie Haase; City Attorney Peter C. Edwards; City Manager Samuel L. Anselm

### **SUMMARY**

This Council Bill approves an Ordinance to change the existing speed limit on Fourth Street from Pennsylvania Avenue to Murphy Boulevard from 35 to 25 mph.

### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Joplin negotiated an agreement with Kansas City Southern to improve the crossing at 4<sup>th</sup> & Murphy Avenue. The cost was minimized by using concrete panels salvaged from the old 20<sup>th</sup> Street crossing removed with the overpass project. The cost share agreement was approved by Council on January 30, 2017 with the City responsible for half of the actual cost performed by the railroad. This work was estimated at \$150,000 with City share being \$75,000. Actual costs for work was \$68,000 with the City share being \$34,000. The City was responsible for the entire cost of work on the roadway adjacent to the tracks, which was performed by City and contractor totaled \$25,000. Total cost for the City was estimated at \$104,000 with actual cost of \$59,000.

It was determined an additional goal of the project was to improve the longevity and sustainability of the new infrastructure. A solution identified by Engineering staff, working with the Railroad recommended reducing the impact on the rails and crossing. This impact force will be greatly reduced by reducing the speed limit to 25 mph. The road is heavily used by trucks coming down a hill with a slope of -6% bottoming out at the tracks. There is currently a 25 mph advisory speed plaque posted and this ordinance change codifies that as the permanent speed limit. The Traffic Commission on January 10, 2019 approved a recommendation of the Traffic Engineering staff and Joplin Police Department to the Joplin City Council for the reduced speed zone.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Traffic Commission approved a motion to forward the reduced speed limit recommendation to City Council for an Ordinance to change the existing speed limit on Fourth Street from Pennsylvania Avenue to Murphy Boulevard from 35 to 25 mph. Approval of ordinance is requested on an emergency basis within the meaning of Section 2.12(1) in that said ordinance is providing for public safety as provided by the Home Rule Charter for the City of Joplin.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

CB2019-109 Ordinance; Current Sections of Code being amended; Location Map

## *Current Speed Limits*

Sec. 114-822. – Specific speed limits.

Street	Extent	Speed
Fourth Street	Pennsylvania to Range Line	35
	Schifferdecker to Gray	35

Code 1977, § 39-472; Ord. No. [96-027](#), § 1, 2-5-96; [Ord. No. 2002-086, § 1, 4-10-02](#); [Ord. No. 2006-229, § 1, 12-18-06](#); [Ord. No. 2013-186, § 1, 8-19-13](#); [Ord. No. 2016-085](#), § 1, 6-6-16; [Ord. No. 2016-086](#), § 1, 6-6-16; [Ord. No. 2016-113](#), § 1, 8-1-2016)

## *Proposed Speed Limits*

Sec. 114-822. – Specific speed limits.

Street	Extent	Speed
Fourth Street	Murphy Boulevard to Range Line	35
	Schifferdecker to Gray	35

Code 1977, § 39-472; Ord. No. [96-027](#), § 1, 2-5-96; [Ord. No. 2002-086, § 1, 4-10-02](#); [Ord. No. 2006-229, § 1, 12-18-06](#); [Ord. No. 2013-186, § 1, 8-19-13](#); [Ord. No. 2016-085](#), § 1, 6-6-16; [Ord. No. 2016-086](#), § 1, 6-6-16; [Ord. No. 2016-113](#), § 1, 8-1-2016)