



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Traffic Study Files  
**From:** City of Austin Transportation and Public Works Department  
**Date:** June 5, 2025  
**Subject:** Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation  
**Location:** Farmhaven Road



**Date(s) of Previous Investigations:** November 21, 2002, April 24, 2003

A traffic engineering investigation has been conducted to determine modifying the length of the existing reduced speed school zone is appropriate on Farmhaven Road for Bluebonnet Trail Elementary School and its students. Bluebonnet Trail Elementary School was built in 1994 and a reduced speed school zone was approved on Farmhaven Road on November 21, 2002.

The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

### Proximity of New Crossings to the School

A reduced speed school zone currently exists on Farmhaven Road, however pedestrian crossing islands were recently constructed as part of a Safe Routes to School project. The pedestrian crossing islands were constructed to provide pedestrian crossings across Farmhaven Road at the intersection of Farmhaven Road and Kirkwynd Drive, at the intersection of the south driveway of Bluebonnet Trail Elementary School with Farmhaven Road, and at the intersection of the north driveway of Bluebonnet Trail Elementary School with Farmhaven Road. The current school zone includes the pedestrian crossing at the north school driveway, but terminates north of the south school driveway and does not include the crossing at Farmhaven Road and Kirkwynd Drive. The pedestrian crossing islands provide improved crossings along Farmhaven Road and will be used by students living in the residential areas east and south of Farmhaven Road as well as students being dropped off and picked up by parents parking along the east curb of Farmhaven Road.

### **Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol**

The City of Austin’s Safe Routes to School Program has an adult crossing guard stationed at the crossing at Farmhaven Road and Kirkwynd Drive to assist students with crossing Farmhaven Road and plans to evaluate the crossing at the north driveway of Bluebonnet Elementary School for a potential adult crossing guard when the school is in session.

### **Sight Distance**

There are no sight distance problems within the limits of the proposed school zone on Farmhaven Road.

### **Sidewalks and Ramps**

Marked pedestrian crosswalks are being installed as part of the construction of the pedestrian crossing islands along Farmhaven Road and new sidewalk is being installed on the east side of Farmhaven Road to fill in a sidewalk gap between Kirkwynd Drive and the south driveway of Bluebonnet Elementary School.

### **Recommendation**

Since the installation of a reduced speed school zone of 20 mph on Farmhaven Road from 70 feet east of Winterborne Court to 894 feet west of Harris Branch Parkway, pedestrian crossing islands were recently constructed across Farmhaven Road at the intersection of Farmhaven Road and Kirkwynd Drive, at the intersection of the south driveway of Bluebonnet Elementary School and Farmhaven Road, and at the intersection of the north driveway of Bluebonnet Trail Elementary School and Farmhaven Road. The crossing at Kirkwynd Drive and Farmhaven Road and the crossing at the south driveway of the school are currently outside of the south limits of the existing reduced speed school zone.

Based on the analysis of the information provided in the above sections, it is recommended that the limits of the existing reduced speed school zone be revised to a length that includes the new pedestrian crossing islands. As a result, a reduced speed school zone of 20 miles per hour (mph) should be installed on Farmhaven Road from Kirkwynd Drive to 70 feet east of Winterbourne Court (see Figure 1).

**Figure 1: Map of Proposed Reduced Speed School Zone**

