

ITEM # 6
DATE: 05-28-13

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: SPEED LIMIT ON STATE AVENUE

BACKGROUND:

The recently designed 2012/13 Arterial Street Pavement Improvements is part of the annual program in the Capital Improvements Plan is for reconstruction or rehabilitation of arterial streets. Locations are chosen in accordance with the most current street condition inventory. The 2012/13 program location is State Avenue (Oakwood Road – just north of US Highway 30 Overpass). The City has secured engineering design services from WHKS & Co., a local civil engineering firm to design this project.

The speed limit along State Avenue is currently posted as a mix of both 45 mph and 35 mph. During the design of State Avenue, it was determined that the section from approximately 250 feet south of Oakwood Road to 250 feet north of Meadow Glen Road would need to be posted at 35 mph in order to meet current design standards based on the existing roadway geometry. The design also determined that lowering the speed limit was critical for safety in providing the appropriate sight distances along State Avenue. During the public meeting for the project, local residents expressed support in lowering the 45 mph zone to 35 mph. (See Attachment 1)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Direct the City Attorney to develop an ordinance to establish a speed limit of 35 MPH along State Avenue from a point 250 feet north Meadow Glen Road to a point 250 feet south of Oakwood Road.
2. Reject the project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

By lowering the speed limit along State Avenue to 35 MPH, it will not only bring speeds down to a safe and appropriate range for the roadway as required by the design, but is also consistent with the desired speed of local residents affected by this project.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby directing the City Attorney to develop an ordinance to establish a speed limit of 35 MPH along State Avenue from a point 250 feet north Meadow Glen Road to a point 250 feet south of Oakwood Road.

Attachments (1)

US HW 30



1 inch = 500 feet

Legend

■ ■ ■ | Proposed
35 MPH
Speed Limit

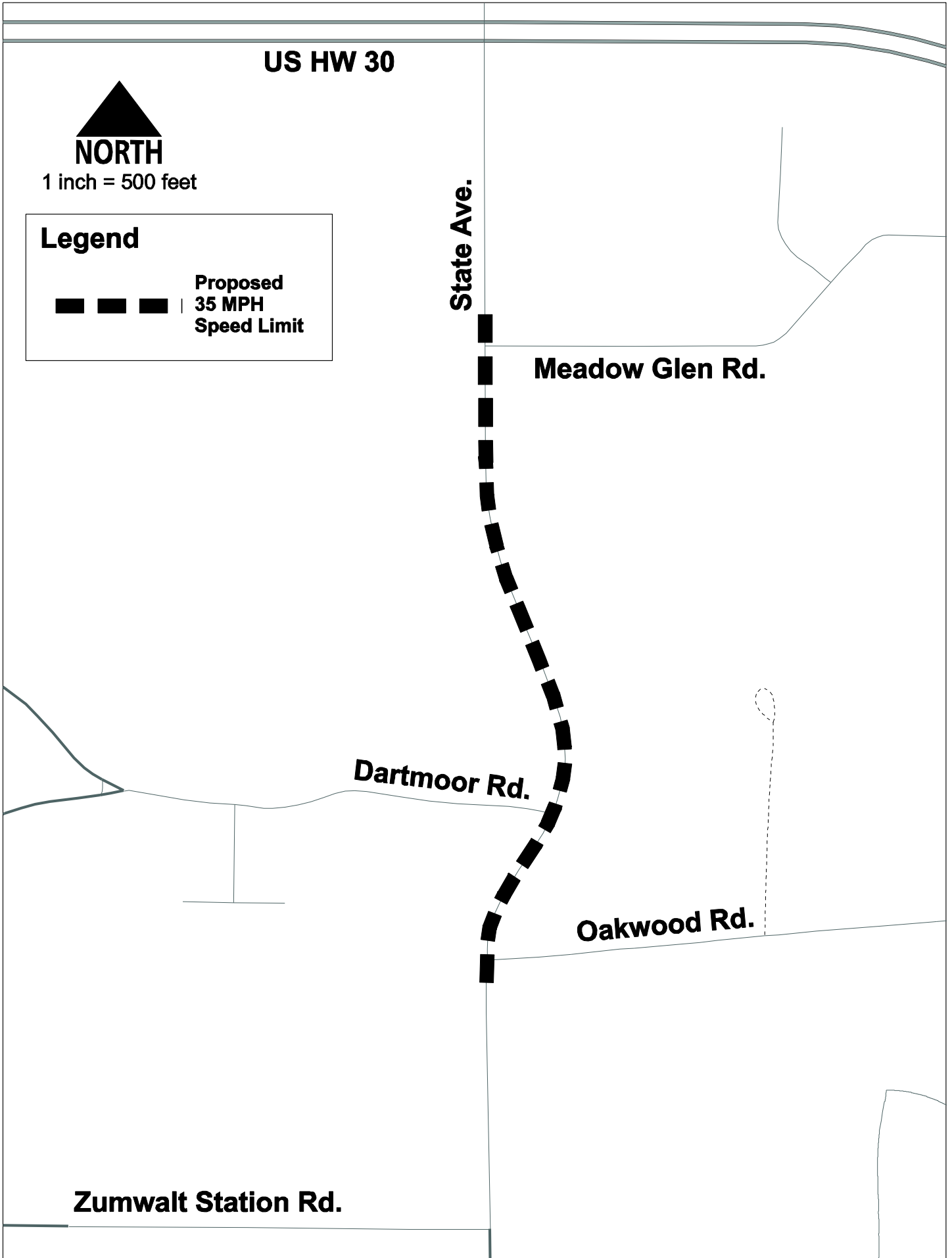
State Ave.

Meadow Glen Rd.

Dartmoor Rd.

Oakwood Rd.

Zumwalt Station Rd.



ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF AMES, IOWA, BY ENACTING A NEW SECTION 26.39 (gg) THEREOF, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A SPEED LIMIT ON STATE AVENUE; REPEALING ANY AND ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH CONFLICT; PROVIDING A PENALTY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED, by the City Council for the City of Ames, Iowa, that:

Section One. The Municipal Code of the City of Ames, Iowa shall be and the same is hereby amended by enacting a new Section 26.39(gg) as follows:

Sec. 26.39. SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED SPEED LIMITS ON CERTAIN STREETS.

“(gg) **State Avenue:** Thirty-five (35) miles per hour along State Avenue from a point 250 feet north Meadow Glen Road to a point 250 feet south of Oakwood Road.”

Section Two. Violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall constitute a municipal infraction punishable as set out by law.

Section Three. All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, if any.

Section Four. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law.

Passed this _____ day of _____, _____.

Diane R. Voss, City Clerk

Ann H. Campbell, Mayor