



TO: Mayor Thomas Ross
Members of the City Council

FROM: Stephen Joersz, PE, PTOE, Traffic Engineer

DATE: May 6, 2024

SUBJECT: STREET AND ALLEY SPEED LIMIT ORDINANCE

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve the attached ordinance on first reading clarifying the 25 miles-per-hour speed on all streets and avenues in the City unless otherwise posted, and establishing a 15 miles-per-hour speed limit in alleys.

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS

Lance Meyer, City Engineer	857-4100
Stefanie Stalheim, City Attorney	857-4755
Stephen Joersz, Traffic Engineer	857-4100

III. DESCRIPTION

A. Background

Aside from special speed limits that are established by City Council under Section 20-2(a)(1), the City of Minot follows the speed limitations set by North Dakota Century Code § 39-09-02.

North Dakota Century Code 39-09-02 states that the speed limit for any highway in a business district or in a residence district or in a public park is 25 miles-per-hour, unless a different speed is designated and posted by local authorities.

B. Proposed Project

The intent behind this ordinance is to establish a statutory speed limit of 15 miles-per-hour for all alleys within the City of Minot, and to clarify that the speed limit on all streets and avenues in the City is 25 miles-per-hour unless there is signage clearly establishing otherwise.

The City of Minot has several alleys that are posted for 15 miles-per-hour - but not every alley has this posting. The intent behind this ordinance is to create a statutory speed limit of 15 miles-per-hour for all alleys within the City of Minot, and to clarify that the speed limit on all streets and avenues in the City is 25 miles-per-hour unless there is signage clearly establishing otherwise. The proposed ordinance also allows the engineering department to post 15 miles-per-hour speed limit signs without the need for individual council approval for each specific alley.

C. Consultant Selection

N/a

IV. IMPACT:

- A. Strategic Impact:
A safer and more uniform traffic speed control throughout the City of Minot.
- B. Service/Delivery Impact:
N/A
- C. Fiscal Impact:
N/A

V. CITY COUNCIL ASPIRATIONS

Safe and Welcoming

VI. ALTERNATIVES

1. City Council could choose not to pass the ordinance. This would require staff to approach council with individual ordinances when 15 miles-per-hour speed limits for alleys are requested.
2. City Council could choose to modify the proposed ordinance. Coordinantion with the City Attorney is recommended to ensure that compliance with the City of Minot Code of Ordinances is followed.

V. TIME CONSTRAINTS

N/A

VI. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- A. Proposed Ordinance