



Date: June 14, 2021

To:

Public Safety Committee

From: Greg Minikel, P.E., Engineering Division Manager

Re:

Request for Speed Limit and Children At Play Signs in the Alley between N. 6<sup>th</sup> St. and

Lincoln Blvd. (Item #21-0550)

As stated in Mr. Nixon's letter, there are no existing speed limits signs in this alley. Many alleys do have the speed limit signs. All Alleys have a 15 MPH speed limit per Wisconsin State Statutes Section 346.57(4)(d). Just like residential streets that have a 25 mph speed limit by Statutes as well, some streets have sufficient signage and some do not. The alleys are no different. Many of our alleys do have a 15 mph speed limit sign posted, however, not all of them are signed.

In this alley, we could install 15 mph speed limit signs onto existing MPU wood poles on the south leg of the alley, however, there are no utility poles to install signs on the north leg. We could install separate sign posts with the 15 mph speed limit sign, but these signs would be infringing on the abutting property owners.

If the Committee would like to see some 15 mph speed limit signs installed in this alley, they just need to approve it and we will install the signs. No ordinance changes are required, since this is already a State Statute.

In regards to the request for Children At Play signs, some property owners in this alley have already installed some temporary signs. See photos.

I do not recommend that the City install any permanent Children at Play Signs. This may set a precedent and then all alleys should have these signs and I am not convinced that these signs have any impact on safety. In addition, I think that these signs give the children and/or parents a false security. Anyone could be playing in these alleys. I saw basketball hoops. So, in addition to children playing I am sure that teenagers, parents and adults alike will use these alleys for play areas.