



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number: 16-3153

Agenda Item Number: 16.

Agenda Date: 5/25/2016

In Control: Planning Commission

DEPARTMENT: World Heritage Office

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Colleen Swain

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: District 3

SUBJECT:

City of San Antonio to Close a Portion of San Jose Drive and Transfer Ownership of the Closed Street to the National Park Service to enhance pedestrian safety and connectivity from the San Antonio Missions National Historic Park to the San Antonio River.

SUMMARY:

Consideration of a resolution authorizing the street closure of 1.12 acres (50,883 square feet), a portion of San Jose Drive located adjacent to NCB 7675 and NCB 7659-BLKs D, E, and F between Roosevelt Avenue and east Pyron Avenue, and transfer ownership of the closed street to the National Park Service.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2015 the National Park Service requested from the City of San Antonio to permanently close approximately 835 feet of San Jose Drive in Council District 3. San Jose Drive circles Mission San Jose beginning at the northwest intersection of Roosevelt Avenue and San Jose Drive and goes eastward intersecting east Pyron Avenue, ending at Napier Avenue.

The requested portion of the street closure begins at the east Right of Way of Roosevelt Avenue and ends 835.24 feet (center line length) east from the starting point. The length of the north and south lines from the proposed Right of Way are 871.51 feet and 811.78 feet, respectively. The total area of the proposed closure is 1.12 acres or 50,883 square feet.

According to the National Park Service's Long Range Plan, the street closure of approximately 835.24 feet will

enhance the visitor experience for all guests and San Antonio residents. The proposed street closure will help ensure pedestrian safety and connectivity for visitors who access the Mission-To-River Trail from Mission San Jose to the San Antonio River. Currently, visitors have to cross San Jose Drive with oncoming traffic in both directions.

Ultimately, this street closure will eliminate what could become an unsafe pedestrian crossing with the increase of visitors that have resulted from the 2015 World Heritage status designation from the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization.

ISSUE:

A resolution authorizing the street closure of a portion of San Jose Drive and transfer of ownership of the closed street portion to the National Park Service. The street closure represents 1.12 acres (50,883 square feet) of San Jose Drive beginning at the east Right of Way of Roosevelt Avenue and ending 835.24 feet (center line length) east from the starting point. The street closure aligns with the City's approved future land use of parks/open space as recorded in the South Central San Antonio Community Plan Update.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Planning Commission may elect not to support a resolution for this street closure and transfer of ownership. If there is no support for a resolution, the National Park Service cannot move forward with its Long Range Plan, which includes efforts to enhance pedestrian safety and connectivity for guests that visit Mission San Jose and access the Mission-To-River Trail to the San Antonio River. Additionally, not supporting a resolution would not be consistent with the future land use of the area as recorded and approved by City Council in the South Central San Antonio Community Plan Update.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends a resolution to support the street closure of a portion of San Jose Drive and transfer ownership of the closed street to the National Park Service for parks/open space as approved in the South Central San Antonio Community Plan Update and aligned with the National Park Service's Long Range Plan.