



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:20-2235

Agenda Item Number: 11.

Agenda Date: 3/11/2020

In Control: Planning Commission

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

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COUNCIL DISTRICT IMPACTED: 2

SUBJECT:

Street Closure: Closure to vehicular travel an improved portion of Aransas Avenue Public Right-of-Way

SUMMARY:

A Resolution recommending the reconfiguration of the Aransas Avenue Public Right-of-Way which will close to vehicular travel an improved portion of Aransas Avenue Public Right-of-Way and repurpose the area to include pedestrian facilities, a median and green space in Council District 2, a 2017-2022 General Obligation Bond Pedestrian Mobility and Street Project, as requested by the City of San Antonio Public Works Department.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City of San Antonio (Petitioner) is requesting to close to vehicular travel an improved portion of Aransas Avenue Public Right-of-Way located within New City Blocks 1598 and 1607 in Council District 2. The portion requested for closure to vehicular travel will be repurposed to include pedestrian facilities, a median and green space as part of the 2017-2022 General Obligation Bond Pedestrian Mobility and Street Project.

The reconfiguration will redirect westbound vehicular traffic on Aransas Avenue to Porter Street. This will eliminate the 5 way intersection currently in place and allow for the creation of a 4 way intersection at Porter Street and Pine Street. These changes will increase public safety for both vehicles and pedestrians in the neighborhood.

On February 5, 2020, a community meeting was held to present the proposed design and closure of Aransas Avenue. Citizens' concerns and suggestions were heard and will be considered in the final design of the reconfiguration of the intersection. The community voiced support for traffic lights to be installed at the intersections. It was relayed to the community that the reconfiguration of the street must occur prior to installing traffic lights in the future if warranted. Additional safety measures will be included in the

reconfiguration of the intersection.

ISSUE:

This Resolution recommends the reconfiguration of the Aransas Avenue Public Right-of-Way which will close to vehicular travel an improved portion of Aransas Avenue Public Right-of-Way and repurpose the area to include pedestrian facilities, a median and green space in Council District 2, a 2017-2022 General Obligation Bond Pedestrian Mobility and Street Project, as requested by the City of San Antonio Public Works Department.

The proposed reconfiguration will repurpose underutilized and underdeveloped existing right-of-way by adding sidewalks, where there are currently none, which will allow for a safer path of travel for pedestrians. Presently, confusion over the current 5 way intersection configuration creates a hazard for vehicles and pedestrians as vehicles use the area for unsanctioned purposes such as a parking area or a place to make U-turns.

This action is consistent with City Code and Ordinances, which requires City Council approval for street closures that affect public travel.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Planning Commission could choose not to recommend this request; however, the City of San Antonio would be unable to move forward with the proposed project as part of the 2017-2022 General Obligation Bond Pedestrian Mobility and Street Project in Council District 2.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this request to close to vehicular travel an improved portion of Aransas Avenue Public Right-of-Way located in Council District 2 so the area may be repurposed to include pedestrian facilities, a median and green space, a 2017-2022 General Obligation Bond Pedestrian Mobility and Street Project.