



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: November 19, 2013

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Introduction Of Ordinance To Establish Brinkerhoff Avenue As A One-Way Street

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Chapter 10.60 of the Municipal Code by Revising Section 10.60.030, Establishing Brinkerhoff Avenue as a One-Way Street.

DISCUSSION:

In 2010, Brinkerhoff Avenue was temporarily reconfigured for one-way traffic and angled parking to mitigate parking loss and cut-through traffic during the construction of the Haley/De La Vina Street Bridge. The reconfiguration increased the net parking to 41 spaces from the existing 35 spaces. In addition, it allowed for the closure of Haley Street at Chapala Street, as required for the bridge project, moving all westbound traffic to Cota Street. After a year and a half in this configuration, the majority of the Brinkerhoff Avenue residents presented a signed petition to the Public Works Department, requesting that the temporary one-way traffic direction and parking configurations be made permanent.

On May 3, 2011, City Council approved the request of Brinkerhoff Avenue residents to maintain the one-way street with angled parking. Council could not approve the permanent configuration until a final project scope and environmental review were complete.

Making the street one-way required temporary striping to delineate the angled parking stalls on the east side of the street, and to place removable planters at either end of the street. Angled parking works on the east side of Brinkerhoff Avenue because there are no driveways and the street has low traffic volume, which allows for angled parking without causing traffic congestion.

Brinkerhoff Avenue is part of the Brinkerhoff Avenue Landmark District. A Historic Structures Report was required to be prepared for the environmental review. The report evaluated the historical importance of the project area as an element of the Brinkerhoff

Avenue Landmark District, identified the district's significant historical characteristics, and offered an analysis of potential impacts to the district if the proposed temporary diagonal parking arrangement were retained instead of returning the street to two-way traffic with parallel parking.

Applied Earthworks prepared the Historic Structures Report and the report was conditionally accepted on September 11, 2013 by the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC), and recently approved by HLC staff, once the minor report modifications were completed. The report concluded the following:

“Providing that the street will not be widened, the setbacks will not be changed, and character defining features will not be eliminated (such as the 60-foot street width and the remaining sandstone curbs and hitching posts), the proposed changes to the Brinkerhoff Avenue Landmark District will not further impact the integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and association of the district beyond the affects that have already resulted from urbanization.

The proposed project will impact the integrity of setting and feeling for the Brinkerhoff Avenue Landmark District but as the proposed project changes are removable and readily reversible and per the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, the project does not negatively impact the resource.

Project impacts are considered Class II, potentially significant unless mitigated. No further action is required unless the project plans change.”

Since the report's acceptance and the conclusion with no changes to the plans, the Project can now proceed to Council to update the schedule of one-way streets listed in Section 10.60.030 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code.

When the ordinance becomes effective, the Public Works Department will install permanent striping and one-way street signs on Brinkerhoff Avenue.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The permanent signs and striping on Brinkerhoff Avenue will be installed by Streets Maintenance Crews, at no cost.

PREPARED BY: Pat Kelly, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer/DB/kts

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office