



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

---

MEETING DATE: JUNE 5, 2007

ITEM NUMBER:

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CALMING PROGRAM**

**DATE: MAY 8, 2007**

**FROM: CITY MANAGER'S DEPARTMENT**

**PRESENTATION ALLAN L. ROEDER, CITY MANAGER**

**BY: PETER NAGHAVI, TRANSPORTATION SERVICES MANAGER**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Allan L. Roeder, City Manager at (714) 754-5328**

---

This item was continued from the May 15, 2007 City Council meeting. Staff Report and attachments remain unchanged.

## **BACKGROUND:**

At the November 21, 2006 regular City Council meeting, a presentation was made by the Transportation Services Division regarding the results of traffic data collection from Eastside Costa Mesa. The report was the outgrowth of direction from the City Council in June 2006 for an update to the 1997 Eastside Residential Traffic Management Study and construction of sidewalks on Broadway from Irvine Avenue to Raymond Avenue. Both the study and the sidewalk construction were directed in response to concerns raised by residents on Broadway regarding traffic speeds, traffic volume and pedestrian safety. A copy of the staff report from the November 21, 2006 regular meeting is attached as Exhibit A.

Also at the meeting of November 21, 2006, the City Council unanimously approved a motion to continue the item to a Town Hall meeting with detailed notices to be sent to those surrounding the affected intersections. At the January 9, 2007 regular City Council Study Session, the Transportation Services Division gave a power point presentation (see Exhibit B) that discussed elements for presentation at the proposed Town Hall meeting. The presentation focused on the development of proposed guidelines for considering traffic calming tools. During the discussion with City Council, a great deal of interest was expressed in broadening resident participation in the development of the traffic calming guidelines. Subsequently, the town-hall meeting was conducted on April 5, 2007. A summary of that meeting is attached as Exhibit C.

## **ANALYSIS:**

In late April 2007, Mayor Mansoor inquired of staff as to the basis for the expanded Town Hall meeting including residents from throughout the City as opposed to only Eastside residents and more specifically, residents on Broadway. The Mayor also inquired about the commitment of staff time to this effort and the prospective cost

implications of constructing traffic calming projects City-wide. In researching the Mayor's questions, staff verified that the City Council's motion in November 2006 was specific to the Eastside although not specific to Broadway. Staff also noted the discussion at the January Study Session which the Mayor was unable to attend. While comments from City Council members at the Study Session indicated a desire to expand public participation in development of the program, the City Council took no official action providing such direction to staff. As members of the City Council are aware, Study Sessions are for informational purposes only and the City Council can take no action. Consequently, the Mayor has asked that the full City Council take up the matter and provide formal direction to staff.

To date, staff has expended time for preparation of the materials for the Town Hall meeting which was previously acted on by the City Council. The materials prepared for that meeting were also used by staff in a presentation at the annual meeting of the Mesa del Mar Homeowners Association. Since that meeting, and subsequent to the Mayor's request that this matter be brought before the City Council for formal consideration, no further presentations have been scheduled.

In terms of future costs for traffic calming measures, staff will have available at your May 15, 2007 meeting some generalized cost estimates for various traffic calming improvements. It is important to keep in mind that most physical improvement projects (e.g. those improvements beyond stripping and signage) will have to be designed to fit each location. There is no standard "one size fits all" design that can be summarily bid for construction. As such, staff can only provide generalized cost estimates although we believe this will be generally accurate for most locations.

#### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

As this is a requested review of staff direction from Mayor Mansoor, no alternatives were considered.

#### **FISCAL REVIEW:**

At present, there is no fiscal impact connected with this review. The materials prepared for the original Town Hall meeting would simply be reused for future meetings with members of the community as directed by the City Council. Management staff would be responsible for attending meetings to present the prepared material so no overtime costs would be incurred. Additional costs not yet identified would be incurred in conducting a second Town Hall meeting in the Fall 2007 timeframe to present the results of the public input and the proposed traffic calming guidelines. These costs are likely to be consistent with the cost of the initial Town Hall meeting at approximately \$6,000.

Assuming that a set of traffic calming guidelines are ultimately adopted by the City Council and assuming that some neighborhoods will request implementation of qualifying traffic calming improvements, future capital improvement costs will be incurred by the City. Because it is impossible today to know what traffic calming measures and what guidelines will ultimately be approved by the City Council, staff cannot provide estimates of future costs. It is safe to say that if the City undertakes multiple traffic calming capital improvements, the costs will be consistent with other improvements within the traveled way.

**CONCLUSION:**

Mayor Mansoor has requested that the subject of the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program come before City Council for formal direction. The City Council's original action in November 2006 was specific to a Town Hall meeting limited to the Eastside. Subsequent advisement from the January 2007 City Council Study Session – though not official action which is precluded at Study Sessions – indicated a desire to include Citywide participation. While not unusual for the City Council to suggest in a Study Session environment the desired level of public participation for a given issue (e.g. such as seeking review of reports or ordinances from homeowners groups, Chamber of Commerce, etc.), all members of the City Council have the right to request such matters be determined at a regular meeting of the City Council.

---

ALLAN L. ROEDER  
City Manager

EXHIBITS:           A    [City Council Staff Report – November 21, 2006](#)  
                          B    [City Council Study Session Power Point – January 9, 2007](#)  
                          C    [Town Hall Meeting Summary – April 5, 2007](#)

DISTRIBUTION:    City Clerk  
                          City Attorney  
                          Public Services Director  
                          Transportation Services Manager