



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 2013

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: STREET AND HIGHWAY DEDICATION AT 2803 ROYAL PALM DRIVE – ADAMS AVENUE

DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2013

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT/ENGINEERING DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: ERNESTO MUNOZ, PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: FARIBA FAZELI, CITY ENGINEER AT 714-754-5335

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution dedicating a portion of City property at 2803 Royal Palm Drive, next to Fire Station No. 1, for street and highway purposes (Attachment 1).

BACKGROUND:

Southern California Edison (SCE) is proposing to install an underground vault on Adams Avenue at 2803 Royal Palm Drive, next to Fire Station No. 1. In addition, the City will be constructing a bus turnout at this location as grant funding becomes available in the future. The proposed SCE vault construction is an extensive and costly capital improvement project. In order to avoid future relocation of the vault, staff is recommending the dedication of additional right-of-way to accommodate the future bus turnout at this time. This will allow SCE to move forward with the construction of the vault at the most appropriate and final location. Once grant funding becomes available, the City will construct the bus turnout. Attachment 2 depicts the alignment of the future bus turnout.

ANALYSIS:

SCE has indicated that the only viable location for the proposed underground vault is at the corner of Adams Avenue and Royal Palm Drive. The existing right-of-way at this location will only allow SCE to construct the vault in the existing parkway area on the north side of Adams Avenue just west of Royal Palm Drive. Within the existing right-of-way configuration, staff estimates the westbound bike lane as well as the curb-side lane would have to be closed to traffic for six to eight weeks.

Due to the proximity of the existing bus stop on Adams Avenue to the intersection of Royal Palm Drive, motorists experience heavy traffic congestion during peak hours when the bus stops for loading/unloading of passengers. The City is planning to secure grant funding to construct a bus turnout at this location to relieve traffic.

The proposed dedication of right-of-way by the City will accommodate a future bus turnout on westbound Adams Avenue and will allow for the minimum allowable width of public sidewalk along Adams Avenue pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In addition, it would provide SCE with the required space for the underground vault installation outside of traffic lanes and in its ultimate location.

In order to provide the street dedication to accommodate the future bus turnout and the SCE underground vault, a resolution must be approved and adopted by City Council.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

The alternative to this Council action would be to reject the street and highway dedication. If this alternative is selected, the proposed bus turnout could not be constructed in the future and the existing bus stop will continue to impact Adams Avenue traffic. SCE would be required to install the vault within Adams Avenue's current right-of-way. This option would require a lengthy lane closure on Adams Avenue.

FISCAL REVIEW:

The subject dedication for street and highway purposes would be granted to the City of Costa Mesa at no cost. Therefore, there is no fiscal impact associated with the dedication of this easement.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney's office has approved the attached resolution as to form.

CONCLUSION:

In light of traffic congestion at the intersection of Adams Avenue and Royal Palm Drive associated with the bus stop, and the proposed installation of a large underground electrical vault by SCE at this location, staff recommends that the City Council approve and adopt the attached Resolution to dedicate property for public right-of-way to accommodate the SCE vault and the future installation of a bus turnout.

FARIBA FAZELI
City Engineer

ERNESTO MUNOZ
Public Services Director

ATTACHMENTS: 1. [Resolution to dedicate easement](#)
 2. [Future bus turnout alignment](#)

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