



City of Arts & Innovation

Transportation Board

TO: TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DATE: MAY 1, 2024

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

WARD: 1

SUBJECT: ALAMO STREET AT RIVERA STREET / APPLE GROVE – TEMPORARY CUL-DE-SAC PILOT PROJECT

ISSUE:

Consideration of implementation of a temporary cul-de-sac twelve-month pilot project at the west leg Alamo Street at its intersection with Rivera Street / Apple Grove.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Transportation Board recommend that the City Council approve the proposed pilot project to temporary close the west leg of Alamo Street at its intersection with Rivera Street / Apple Grove.

BACKGROUND:

The Riviera Communities Homeowner's Association (HOA) and residents have been communicating with the City's Public Works Department regarding ongoing concerns with illegal dumping, trash and debris, graffiti, loitering, and illegal parking within the cul-de-sac area on Alamo Street west of Rivera Street / Apple Grove which abuts the northwest side of their community. The HOA and community residents previously worked with the Public Works Department to implement No Dumping signs within the cul-de-sac area; however, reports of illegal dumping continue. Additionally, reports of illegal parking within the cul-de-sac in violation of the posted with "No Stopping Entire Block" signs continue to be received.

DISCUSSION:

In response to ongoing HOA and area resident concerns and to mitigate illegal dumping, graffiti, loitering, and illegal parking activity within the westerly cul-de-sac terminus of Alamo Street and negative impacts to the community, the Public Works Department assessed options to deter these activities. Based on staff review of the location, the cul-de-sac provides no access to the Riviera Communities housing tract or to the commercial businesses located at the northwest corner of Alamo Street and Rivera Street, currently serves no purpose for the adjacent community and businesses. Additionally, there is an existing catch basin at the end

of the cul-de-sac and no utilities run along this portion of the roadway.

As a result of ongoing concerns and the lack of existing beneficial use for the cul-de-sac, the Public Works Department is proposing a temporary cul-de-sac closure as a twelve-month pilot project on the west leg of Alamo Street at its intersection with Rivera Street / Apple Grove to restrict vehicular access. The proposed twelve-month pilot project would utilize water filled barricades until a swing gate with locking mechanism on the underside of the gate arm to prevent vehicular access into the cul-de-sac could be installed as part of planned paving work. The proposed gate type would allow for emergency and/or service vehicle access to the cul-de-sac without removal of any posts/bollards while also limiting the potential for vandalism of the gate. The cul-de-sac closure 12-month pilot project would likely reduce or eliminate illegal dumping activity within the cul-de-sac, thereby reducing staff time and resources devoted to clean-up of illegally dumped items, however, the closure may also require hand cleaning of the area should accumulation of trash, debris, weeds, etc. occur.

It is anticipated that costs associated with the performance of any hand sweeping services required would be minimal and likely offset by the reductions in costs related to illegal dumping pick-ups within the cul-de-sac. The pilot project would also eliminate parking violations within the cul-de-sac and Parking Services and Police Department personnel staff time in patrolling and enforcing violations. The project is further anticipated to aid in deterring graffiti, loitering activity, and trash and debris accumulations within the cul-de-sac.

The proposed cul-de-sac closure 12-month pilot project would allow for assessment of the effectiveness, impacts, review of any public comments received, and input from emergency and service providers related to the project prior to considering a potential extension of the pilot project or any permanent improvements.

Prior to the permanent gate installation, the Public Works staff plans to install water filled barricades on an interim basis to restrict vehicular access to the west leg of the intersection. This temporary action is at the discretion of the City Traffic Engineer and Public Works Director, and may occur prior to approval of the full 12 month pilot.

A new stop sign, stop bar, stop legend, stop ahead signage and associated striping will be constructed for the east leg (westbound approach) which will convert the intersection into a multi-way stop controlled intersection as part of the improvement project.

The Northside Specific Plan includes Alamo Street as a primary connector for the Santa Ana River Trail and the envisioned regional park. Thus, ultimate plans for use of the cul-de-sac may change at the time when these aspects of the Northside Specific Plan move forward.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This proposal follows Strategic Plan Goal 2.4, to “Support programs and innovations that enhance community safety, encourage neighborhood engagement, and build public trust” as demonstrated below:

1. Community Trust: The temporary pilot project supports community involvement in seeking alternative potential solutions to ongoing neighborhood concerns related to illegal trash dumping activities and negative quality of life impacts facilitated by vehicular

access within the Alamo Street cul-de-sac which currently serves no purpose and provides no access to the adjacent community and businesses.

2. Equity: The proposed temporary pilot project improvements are anticipated to reduce or eliminate illegal dumping and illegal parking activity within the cul-de-sac as well as deter graffiti, loitering activity, and trash and debris accumulation within the cul-de-sac to reduce negative impacts for area residents and businesses.
3. Fiscal Responsibility: The pilot project improvements are fiscally responsible as they enable further assessment of effectiveness and overall impacts.
4. Innovation: This project supports innovative methods to mitigate the negative impacts currently experienced as the result of vehicular access to the cul-de-sac including illegal dumping and parking and will help to discourage graffiti and loitering activity and improve aesthetics and quality of life in this community. The temporary pilot project allows staff to assess project impacts and consider public and emergency and service provider input related to the pilot project prior to considering extension of the pilot project duration or any permanent improvements.
5. Sustainability & Resiliency: The proposed pilot project improvements can be installed and maintained by City of Riverside Streets Division crews throughout the 12-month duration of the pilot project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Swing gate materials acquisition and costs associated with installation are estimated to be \$4,565. The cost of sign fabrication and installation is estimated to be \$1,100. Funding is available in the existing Public Works, General Fund, Streets Maintenance Division, Signing Supplies account number 4110100-424143, to cover this cost, and the project may be integrated into planned paving work at the location. Costs related to any required hand cleaning of the cul-de-sac are anticipated to be minimal due to the short term 12-month duration of the pilot project and are expected to be offset by cost savings realized by reduced or eliminated clean-ups of illegally dumped items and materials within the cul-de-sac.

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Attachments:

1. Site Map
2. Aerial Map
3. Pilot Project Exhibit
4. Presentation