



City of Arts & Innovation

Transportation Board

TO: TRANSPORTATION BOARD **DATE: JUNE 5, 2024**

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **WARD: 6**

SUBJECT: CHALLEN AVENUE AT ORLANDO DRIVE & FOOTHILL AVENUE - PROPOSED REMOVAL OF TEMPORARY NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CIRCLE PILOT PROJECT MATERIALS AND INSTALL PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS

ISSUE:

Consideration of removal of the existing pilot project temporary materials for the Neighborhood Traffic Circle improvement and install permanent improvements of a traffic circle at the intersection of Challen Avenue and Orlando Drive / Foothill Avenue.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Transportation Board recommend that the City Council approve the removal of the existing pilot project temporary materials for the Neighborhood Traffic Circle improvement and install of permanent improvements of a traffic circle at the intersection of Challen Avenue and Orlando Drive / Foothill Avenue.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP), the Public Works Department may utilize Neighborhood Traffic Circles as traffic calming measures. Pilot projects using temporary materials and signage offer the ability to assess the impacts and effectiveness of the Neighborhood Traffic Circle improvement prior to the consideration of installation of more costly and permanent improvements.

The Public Works Department received a petition from eighty-six percent (86%) of residents nearest the intersection of Challen Avenue at Orlando Drive / Foothill Avenue requesting that the City consider a pilot project to install a temporary Neighborhood Traffic Circle improvements at the intersection. The intersection is currently equipped with multi-way stops; however, residents indicate that due to stop violations and speeding experienced at the intersection additional traffic calming is needed to deter violations and elevated travel speeds within their neighborhood.

On September 1, 2021, the Transportation Board supported the proposed pilot project to allow

for evaluation of the impacts and effectiveness of a Neighborhood Traffic Circle at the intersection of Challen Avenue and Orlando Drive / Foothill Avenue, installing temporary improvements using provisional materials, and on December 7, 2021, the City Council subsequently approved the proposed pilot project. The temporary pilot project was installed on January 27, 2023 and was evaluated during the trial period. Figure 1 below demonstrates the existing temporary rubber curb Neighborhood Traffic Circle that is proposed to be removed and replaced with a permanent concrete traffic circle.



Figure 1: Existing temporary Neighborhood Traffic Circle pilot project with rubber curb

The pilot project served to enable Public Works Department staff to review and assess the efficacy of a Neighborhood Traffic Circle at the intersection while also allowing residents to observe and provide input regarding Neighborhood Traffic Circle operations and resulting impacts to traffic traveling through their neighborhood. Based upon pilot project findings and resident feedback, the Public Works Department formulated the final recommendations for permanent improvements.

An example of an existing permanent neighborhood traffic circles with multi-way stop control is located at the intersection of Franklin and 7th Street and shown on Figure 2.



Figure 2: Existing permanent Neighborhood Traffic Circle on Franklin Ave & 7th St.

DISCUSSION:

Following the conclusion of all pilot projects assessment and the support of the community, the Public Works Department recommends removal of the temporary pilot project improvements and supports the construction of the permanent improvements to install a neighborhood traffic circle at the intersection of Challen Avenue and Orlando Drive / Foothill Avenue. The Traffic Engineering Division is working to prepare the street improvement plans and will plan to include the permanent improvements as part of the upcoming Capital Improvement Project (CIP) for 2024-25 paving projects.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This proposal is in alignment with Strategic Plan Goal 2.4, to “Support programs and innovations that enhance community safety, encourage neighborhood engagement, and build public trust.” Additionally, the proposal relates to the cross-cutting threads as demonstrated below:

1. **Community Trust:** This project continues to support community involvement in seeking resolutions to ongoing neighborhood traffic issues and improving safety and quality of life within the neighborhood.
2. **Equity:** The proposed permanent improvements will help reduce resident concerns of stop violations and speeding experienced at the intersection by providing a permanent traffic calming measure intended to improve safety for all modes of travel.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility:** Temporary materials were utilized for the initial pilot project to minimize costs and allow for assessment prior to considering potential permanent improvements. The current project would install permanent improvements and would be constructed as part of the Traffic Improvements for the 2024-2025 Paving Projects - Capital Improvement Project (CIP) to benefit from potential cost advantages often realized through larger CIP projects.
4. **Innovation:** This project is the result of the culmination of the prior innovative pilot and

permanent projects which were utilized to assess the impacts of the traffic circulation modifications to the intersection prior to making a recommendation for removal of temporary improvements and installation of permanent improvements.

5. **Sustainability & Resiliency**: This project will remove the temporary rubber curb installed as part of the prior pilot project which can be reused at another location and install permanent improvements.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of materials for and installation of the proposed permanent Neighborhood Traffic Circle is estimated to be just under \$35,000.00. Funding is available to cover the cost as a component of the funds allocated for Traffic Improvements for the upcoming 2024-2025 Paving Projects Capital Improvement Project (CIP) (SB1 Funds).

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Attachments:

1. Site Map
2. Aerial Map
3. Presentation