



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: DECEMBER 7, 2021**
FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **WARD: 6**
SUBJECT: CHALLEN AVENUE AT ORLANDO DRIVE AND FOOTHILL AVENUE –
TEMPORARY NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CIRCLE PILOT PROJECT

ISSUE:

Consideration of a temporary Neighborhood Traffic Circle improvement 6-month pilot project at the intersection of Challen Avenue and Orlando Drive / Foothill Avenue.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council approve a 6-month temporary Neighborhood Traffic Circle improvement pilot project at the intersection of Challen Avenue and Orlando Drive / Foothill Avenue.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

On September 1, 2021, the Transportation Board reviewed this matter with seven of ten members present. Following discussion, the Board voted unanimously to recommend that the City Council approve the establishment of a 6-month temporary Neighborhood Traffic Circle improvement pilot project at the intersection of Challen Avenue and Orlando Drive / Foothill Avenue.

DISCUSSION:

The Public Works Department received a petition from 86% of residents nearest the intersection of Challen Avenue at Orlando Drive / Foothill Avenue requesting that the City consider a 6-month pilot project to install temporary Neighborhood Traffic Circle improvements at the intersection. The intersection is currently equipped with multi-way stops. 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. Challen Avenue is a 66-foot collector street with one lane in each direction (two lanes total) and Orlando Drive-Foothill Avenue is a 66-foot local street with one lane in each direction (two lanes total).

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, the Public Works Department supports a 6-month pilot project to install temporary improvements using provisional materials. The Public Works Department would seek to use temporary materials that are reusable for future pilot implementation projects. The 6-month pilot project would enable Public Works 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 will formulate final recommendations regarding potential permanent improvements and will subsequently return to the Transportation Board to review all findings and recommendations.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This effort is aligned with Strategic Plan Goal 2.4, to “Support programs and innovations that enhance community safety, encourage neighborhood engagement, and build public trust.”

Furthermore, this project aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads:

1. Community Trust – The project is directly responsive to the resident requests to construct a neighborhood traffic circle at the subject intersection. Staff will continue to engage with the community both during and after the completion of the pilot program and utilize feedback formulate final recommendations regarding potential permanent improvements
2. Equity – Public Works strives to improve the City’s roadway network to provide safe and reliable transportation in all areas of the City. The proposed project is a traffic calming measure intended to improved safety for all modes of travel.
3. Fiscal Responsibility – A pilot project is a cost-effective measure that will allow for evaluation of the proposed improvements to ensure the cost of permanent infrastructure is justified.
4. Innovation – This project would use temporary materials to test new traffic control measures in the community, which enables the City to respond to the needs of the community in a timely manner.
5. Sustainability & Resiliency – The construction materials specified for the proposed projects meet or exceed industry standards, many of which can be reused for future pilot projects.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact of this action is estimated to be \$10,000. This includes the cost of materials and installation of the proposed temporary Neighborhood Traffic Circle. Funding is available in the existing General Fund, Public Works-Streets Maintenance Division, Signing Supplies account number 4110100-424143, to cover this cost.

Prepared by: Gilbert Hernandez, Interim Public Works Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
Approved by: Kris Martinez, Interim Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Site Map
2. Aerial Map