



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2017**  
**FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT      WARD: 5**  
**SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF 5-TON WEIGHT LIMIT RESTRICTION ON FIRETHORN AVENUE – ORDINANCE**

## **ISSUE:**

Establish a 5-ton weight limit restriction on Firethorn Avenue from the City limits to Irving Street.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council introduce and adopt an ordinance establishing a 5-ton weight limit restriction on Firethorn Avenue from the City limits to Irving Street.

## **BOARD RECOMMENDATION:**

On December 7, 2016, the Transportation Board (Board) reviewed this matter; seven of seven members were present. The Board unanimously recommended establishment of a 5-ton weight limit restriction on Firethorn Avenue.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Public Works Department may establish weight limit or axle restrictions to prohibit use of select streets by larger commercial vehicles. These types of restrictions reduce commercial truck traffic on certain local, residential, and/or collector roadways by directing truck traffic onto arterial roadways. Weight limit restrictions assist in preserving the pavement and promoting safe use of streets which may have distinctive roadway conditions, are residential in nature, or experience cut-through truck traffic. Such restrictions do not prevent use for the purpose of delivering or picking up of materials/merchandise or the performance of services in connection with a property within the specific block.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The Public Works Department is proposing establishment of a 5-ton weight limit restriction on Firethorn Avenue from the City limits to Irving Street due to the narrow, winding roadway

configuration which makes it difficult for large trucks to traverse the street and sharp curve. The southerly portion of Firethorn Avenue including its intersection with Van Buren Boulevard is located within the County of Riverside. The City previously collaborated with the County of Riverside to install advance warning signs on Van Buren Boulevard approaching Firethorn Avenue cautioning larger trucks that use of Firethorn Avenue was not advised. Despite these warning signs, trucks continue to use Firethorn Avenue and larger trucks experience difficulty navigating the street.

As a result, the Public Works Department consulted the County of Riverside regarding the matter and the County supports the proposed 5-ton weight limit restriction and has agreed to remove the existing advisory signs on Van Buren Boulevard and replace them with signs providing advance notice of the Firethorn Avenue 5-ton weight limit should the proposal be approved.

Implementation of the proposed 5-ton weight limit restriction would promote safer operations on Firethorn Avenue by limiting use of this narrow, winding roadway by larger trucks and keeping truck traffic on arterial roadways that are more appropriate for truck use including the connecting Van Buren Boulevard corridor.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost of sign installation is estimated to be \$213. Funding is available in the existing Public Works Department budget, Signing Supplies account number 4110100-424143, to cover this cost.

Prepared by:	Kris Martinez, Public Works Director
Certified as to	
availability of funds:	Scott G. Miller, PhD, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

### **Attachments:**

1. Ordinance
2. Site Map
3. Transportation Board Meeting Minutes – December 7, 2016