



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WARD: 2

SUBJECT: MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR MEDIAN LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION
ON MARTIN LUTHER KING BOULEVARD BETWEEN CHICAGO AVENUE AND
CANYON CREST DRIVE WITH THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA

ISSUE:

Approve the agreement transferring the maintenance responsibilities to the City of Riverside for the existing medians on Martin Luther King Boulevard between Chicago Avenue and Canyon Crest Drive.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the Agreement for Maintenance of Median Landscaping and Irrigation on Martin Luther King Boulevard Between Central Avenue and Canyon Crest Boulevard with the Regents of the University of California; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the Agreement for Maintenance of Median Landscaping and Irrigation on Martin Luther King Boulevard Between Chicago Avenue and Canyon Crest Drive, including making minor and non-substantive changes.

BACKGROUND:

On July 6, 1993, the City Council approved a maintenance agreement with the University of California Riverside (UCR) where UCR agreed to maintain the median landscaping on Martin Luther King Boulevard, formerly known as Pennsylvania Avenue, between Chicago Avenue and Canyon Crest Drive (Attachment 1). The City widened Pennsylvania Avenue to a 4-lane arterial street with 14-foot wide medians containing irrigated trees.

Portions of the UCR campus were located on both sides of Pennsylvania Avenue and served as a major campus entrance. UCR requested the landscaped medians to provide a more attractive entrance into the campus. The City agreed to install the improvements subject to UCR accepting the responsibility to maintain the landscaping and irrigation facilities including all water service costs.

DISCUSSION:

Due to the vast increase in traffic circulation on Martin Luther King Boulevard since 1993, UCR is no longer equipped to safely manage the medians. The City evaluated the existing facilities and the City concurs that UCR successfully fulfilled its responsibilities under the terms of the agreement over the useful life of the medians.

The City agrees to maintain the existing medians as is. In the future, when funding is available, the City will enhance the medians as needed.

Under the terms of the new Maintenance Agreement (Attachment 2), the City will assume responsibility for the existing landscaping, irrigation, and water service costs subject to UCR replacing or repairing all existing damaged irrigation facilities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The anticipated cost to maintain the existing medians is \$19,200 annually. Sufficient funds are available in Account Number 4210110-421000 to maintain the existing medians.

Prepared by: Kris Martinez, Public Works Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Location Map
2. Maintenance Agreement