



CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

TO: Honorable City Council **Item No.** _____

FROM: City Administrator

SUBJECT: Traffic Commission Report - Sight Distance Improvement at the Intersection of Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street

MEETING DATE: January 16, 2018

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file this staff report that was presented and approved by the Traffic Commission during its regularly scheduled meeting on January 10, 2018.

BACKGROUND:

During mid-to-late 2017, Councilmember Leonard Mendoza and then Mayor Ivan Altamirano contacted the Public Works & Development Services Department through the City Administrator's office to share concerns of limited sight distance at the intersection of Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street.

Specifically, drivers exiting Lovett Street are stating that vehicles travelling southbound on Eastern Ave. towards Lovett Street are difficult to see. This perceived line-of-sight impairment is affecting drivers exiting Lovett Street onto Eastern Avenue because these on-coming vehicles are difficult to see, thereby inhibiting the ability to make a safe left or right turn onto Eastern Avenue from Lovett Street.

Public Works staff investigated the situation on December 2017 and made the following analysis and recommendations, as explained in the subsequent section.

ANALYSIS:

Sight Distance

Please see *Attachment 2* for an aerial view of the intersection of Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street.

On-site investigation has shown that at the intersection of Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street, sight distance is partially compromised by the parking of vehicles near the curb returns. Please see *Attachment 3*.

The parking of these vehicles inhibits the “sight triangle” whereby exiting vehicles on Lovett Street have perceived difficulty in making turns onto Eastern Avenue. In addition, the STOP bar marking at the end of Lovett Street is “tucked” back, making the sight triangle elongated and thereby partially exacerbating the sight distance.

In order to remedy the situation, Public Works staff has determined that red curbs of varying lengths be placed near the curb returns around the vicinity of this intersection. The placement of these red curbs will prevent vehicles from parking in these areas. The respective locations and dimensions of these proposed red curbs are illustrated in *Attachments 4, 5, 6, and 7*.

The STOP bar marking on Lovett Street is currently situated several feet back from the existing cross-gutter. A relocation of this STOP bar will enhance visibility as vehicles will now be able to have a clearer view of on-coming traffic, especially the southbound traffic along Eastern Avenue. *Please see Attachment 8*.

The remedies described above, all working in conjunction, will enhance sight visibility at the intersection of Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street, as well as increase overall traffic and pedestrian safety.

The decrease in supply of available parking spaces in the area due to the addition of more red curbs are not expected to highly impact parking availability since ample parking spaces are available along both Eastern Avenue and Lovett Street. Furthermore, most residents have two car garages with driveways to accommodate their parking needs.

Parking regulations and curb markings are guided by the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), the California Vehicle Code (CVC), and the City of Commerce Municipal Code (CMC).

Specifically, per CMC §10.48.020, the City Administrator is authorized to place red curb markings when deemed necessary.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve staff recommendation
2. Reject staff recommendation
3. Provide staff with further direction

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of the installation of the red curbs and the relocation of the STOP bar marking is estimated to be approximately \$5,000 and will be funded through the City’s street and traffic sign fund. A County of Los Angeles Public Works request will be initiated to complete said work.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:

This item relates to Council's 2016 Strategic Action Plan's:

Community Quality of Life

- Guiding Principle 4 to “support and evaluate community services, programs and events that promote healthy and quality lifestyles for our residents. Enhance public safety and social services through innovative programs that meet the needs of the residential and business communities.”

Approved by: Maryam Babaki, P.E., Public Works & Development Services Director

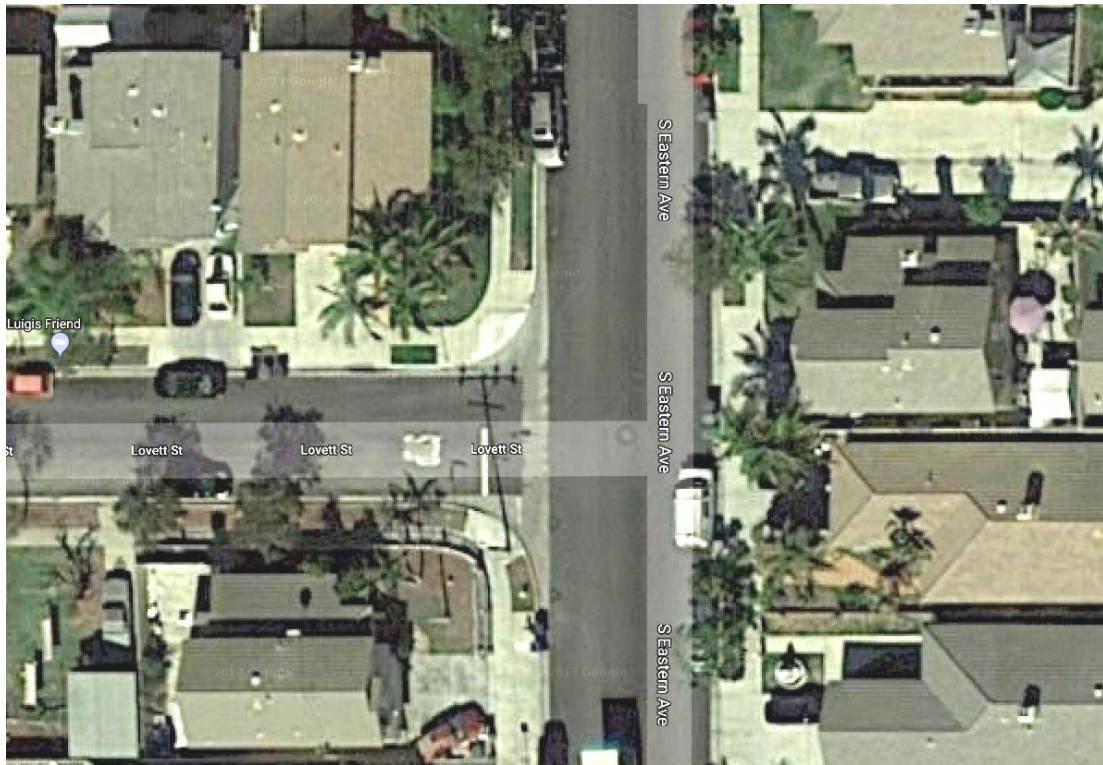
Prepared by: Seung Yang, Deputy Director of Engineering Services

Fiscal Impact reviewed by: Vilko Domic, Director of Finance

Approved as to form by: Noel Tapia, City Attorney

Respectfully submitted: Edgar P. Cisneros, City Administrator

ATTACHMENT 1: Aerial View



*Aerial View of Intersection:
Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street*

ATTACHMENT 2: Photograph



*Sight Distance Partially Compromised due to Parked Vehicles near Curb Returns:
Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street (eastbound Lovett Street)*

ATTACHMENT 3: Aerial View



*Location for Proposed Red Curbs:
Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street*

ATTACHMENT 4: Photograph



*Proposed Red Curb along Eastern Avenue (westerly curb):
Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street*

ATTACHMENT 5: Photograph



*Proposed Red Curb along Lovett Street (southerly curb):
Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street*

ATTACHMENT 6: Photograph



*Proposed Red Curb along Lovett Street (northerly curb):
Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street*

ATTACHMENT 7: Aerial View



*Relocation of STOP Bar at the End of Lovett Street (4-foot Offset):
Eastern Avenue & Lovett Street*