

# CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

TO:	Honorable City Council	Item No.
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**FROM:** City Administrator

**SUBJECT:** Status Update for the Bandini Elementary School

Traffic Control Implementation Plan

MEETING DATE: September 4, 2018

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive and file this status update regarding the Bandini Elementary School Traffic Control Implementation Plan and asking the City Council for direction.

## **BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:**

Staff intends to meet with residents and school officials on Tuesday, September 4 and will have more information at the City Council meeting. This report is intended to serve as an overview of staff's efforts to date to address operational and congestion issues at Bandini Elementary School.

Recently staff worked with Nationwide Environmental Services to adjust the street sweeper hours from 8:00 am to 9:30 am. The adjustment of the street sweeper hours is expected to immediately relieve some of the concerns.

From late 2016 to 2018, Public Works and Development Services Department staff has received communication from residents, school officials, elected officials, Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies, as well as Community Services Public Safety staff, regarding operational and congestion issues at Bandini Elementary School, located at 2318 Couts Avenue in the City of Commerce. Issues include concerns regarding traffic and pedestrian congestion along Leonis Street between Couts Avenue & Cowlin Avenue, and also along Couts Avenue between Leonis Street & Kinsie Street for morning student drop-offs between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:30 A.M. and between 1:30 P.M. and 3:00 P.M. for afternoon student pick-ups.

Public Works staff, in conjunction with the nearby residents, school officials, Sheriff's deputies, and Public Safety staff, worked in unison for nearly a year-and-a-half to develop a comprehensive traffic control implementation plan that allows for bus loading and unloading along Couts Avenue, passenger pick-ups and drop-offs along just 120-feet of Leonis Street, and just 40-feet of material loading and unloading along Kinsie Street. This

traffic control implementation plan also allowed for increasing or "freeing-up" approximately eighteen (18) more parking spaces along Couts Avenue and Kinsie Street.

The complete details of this Bandini Elementary School Traffic Control Implementation Plan were presented to the City Council during its regularly scheduled meeting on August 6, 2018. During that meeting, Staff presented the details and the merits of the traffic control implementation plan to the City Council. In addition, community members from the public voiced their opinions during public comment to the City Council as well. Many of the community's residents expressed concerns about increased traffic and reduced parking as a result of this plan.

After listening to both Staff's presentation and the opinions from the community, the City Council elected *not* to approve the Bandini Elementary School Traffic Control Implementation Plan. The City Council gave instruction for Staff to re-assess the traffic control implementation plan.

Staff hereby requests that the City Council provide direction regarding further action with respect to the Bandini Elementary School Traffic Control Implementation Plan:

- A) Direct Staff to continue to meet with the major stakeholders: community residents, school staff, law enforcement officials, etc. to arrive at a satisfactory solution.
- B) Modify the plan to allow for only morning pick-ups & drop-offs along Leonis Street and not for afternoon pick-ups & drop-offs, which was a major source of contention among the community residents.
- C) Implement the plan "as-is" with no further changes.
- D) Reject the plan with no further action.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

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

# **FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact if the City Council elects to have staff meet with the major stakeholders in arriving at a satisfactory solution, or if the City Council chooses to reject the plan with no further action.

If the City Council elects to implement the plan "as-is" or implement the same plan but make the slight modifications along Leonis Street (i.e., allow for only morning pick-ups and drop-offs), then the total amount for implementation is estimated to be \$17,250, as explained in detail in the Fiscal Impact section of the August 6, 2018 City Council staff agenda report.

## **RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:**

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

# Community Quality of Life

Per 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

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