



CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

Item No. _____

TO: Honorable City Council

FROM: City Administrator

SUBJECT: Proposed STOP Sign Installations along Triggs Street at the Intersection of Triggs Street and Duncan Avenue

MEETING DATE: September 18, 2018

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the proposed STOP sign installations and STOP bar markings along Triggs Street at the intersection of Triggs Street and Duncan Avenue, converting it to an all-way or four-way STOP-controlled intersection, as recommended by the Traffic Commission.

BACKGROUND:

A request was made of Staff from Mayor Pro-Tem John Soria to assess the installation of STOP signs along Triggs Street at Duncan Avenue. Perceived speeding and traffic incidents along Triggs Street have prompted an assessment for the need of a multi-way or four-way STOP controlled intersection at Triggs Street and Duncan Avenue.

A similar request was made to Staff in July 2016 from Councilmember Oralia Rebollo. In response, Staff conducted a STOP warrant analysis at Triggs Street and Duncan Avenue. A traffic and engineering study was commissioned and presented to Councilmember Rebollo on August 2016. The results and conclusions of that study are attached as *Appendix "A."*

Mayor Pro-Tem Soria requested that Staff revisit the STOP sign warrant issue and re-assess the viability of installing STOP signs along Triggs Street at Duncan Avenue, thereby converting it to an all-way or four-way STOP-controlled intersection.

Subsequently, Staff re-assessed and re-evaluated the STOP warrant analysis at the intersection of Triggs Street and Duncan Avenue.

ANALYSIS:

The justification of installing a STOP sign or signs at an intersection is detailed and defined in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices ("CA MUTCD"), 2014 Edition. The CA MUTCD is a joint publication between the Federal Highway Administration and the

California Department of Transportation (“Caltrans”). The CA MUTCD details engineering measures for the installation of regulatory signs, street markings, speed surveys, construction traffic control, etc. The CA MUTCD references the California Vehicle Code (“CVC”) and is considered as a publication of statutory authority, since it is codified in CVC Section 21400 to be adopted as the uniform standard and specification for all official traffic control devices in the state of California.

Within the CA MUTCD, the warrants for STOP sign installation are detailed and explained in Section 2B.06 – STOP Sign Applications (for two-way STOP controlled intersections) and in Section 2B.07 – Multi-Way STOP Applications (typically, for four-way STOP controlled intersections) [see *Attachment 2*].

As referenced above, Staff initiated and completed a traffic and engineering study in August 2016 to determine whether or not a four-way STOP control was warranted at the intersection of Duncan Avenue and Triggs Street (see *Appendix “A”*). Based on *preliminary guidance*, the study showed that a four-way STOP control at the intersection was unwarranted.

However, a further assessment and the application of additional criteria resulted in a different conclusion. Section 2B.07 of the CA MUTCD includes other criteria that can be considered to “augment” the traffic and engineering study (see *Attachment 2*). Such factors include: (1) The need to control left-turn conflicts; (2) the need to control vehicle/pedestrian conflicts; (3) locations where a road user cannot see conflicting traffic; and (4) an intersection of two residential neighborhood through streets of similar design where multi-stop control would improve traffic operational characteristics of the intersection. During Staff’s reassessment, Staff considered the criteria included in section 2B.07 of the CA MUTCD. Staff determined that all four of these criteria are applicable at the intersection of Duncan Avenue and Triggs Street and support the justification for the installation of a four-way STOP control at this intersection.

During its regularly scheduled meeting on August 8, 2018, the Traffic Commission met to consider the request to consider erecting STOP signs and STOP bar markings along Triggs Street at Duncan Avenue. Staff presented the updated traffic and engineering study and its findings to the Traffic Commission for its consideration. The Traffic Commission recommended that STOP signs and STOP bar markings be installed along Triggs Street at Duncan Avenue. The decision is based on public policy considerations that comport with engineering judgment in controlling vehicular traffic movements along Triggs Street.

It is important to note that the CA MUTCD serves as engineering guidelines to provide consistency and safety to the motoring public and to pedestrians during the course of travel throughout the state’s streets and highways. The STOP warrants outlined in the CA MUTCD are not law, and policymakers have the discretion and option to reconsider the outcome based on engineering judgment considerations, as dictated in the Introduction of the CA MUTCD (see *Attachment 5*).

Traffic control devices, including STOP sign installations are guided by the CA MUTCD, the CVC, and the Commerce Municipal Code (“CMC”).

Per CVC sections 21351 and 21355, local authorities in their respective jurisdictions shall place and maintain or cause to be placed and maintained such traffic signs, signals, and other traffic control devices, including STOP signs, upon streets and highways as required.

Per CMC section 10.20.010, the City Administrator is authorized to place and maintain official traffic control devices within the City.

Per CMC section 10.32.010, through the authority of the City Administrator, the City Council by way of ordinance or resolution may install or erect STOP signs.

Staff determined that all four of these criteria are applicable at the intersection of Duncan Avenue and Triggs Street, and support the justification for the installation of a four-way STOP control at this intersection.

ALTERNATIVES:

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

FISCAL IMPACT:

The costs of installation will include material and labor for the fabrication of STOP signs, pole installations, and STOP bar street markings. The total lump sum amount will be approximately \$2,000 in funding from the existing Public Works Operations budget.

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."

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Stop Sign Traffic Study for Duncan Avenue & Triggs Street
 1. Exhibits for Triggs Street & Duncan Avenue Intersection
 2. CA MUTCD Excerpts – STOP Sign Warrants
 3. CHP SWITRS Collision Data
 4. Traffic Data Volume along Triggs Street
 5. CA MUTCD Excerpt – Introduction

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