

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting of December 12, 2017 Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting December 19, 2017

- DATE: November 27, 2017
- TO: Margie C. Rose, City Manager
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Removing a Portion of the One-Way Designation Along Lawrence Street (Between Shoreline Boulevard and Water Street)

CAPTION:

Ordinance amending Section 53-250(a) of the Code of Ordinances that in accordance with Section 53-104 and when properly signposted, traffic shall move only in one direction upon designated sections of Lawrence Street and both directions in undesignated section; providing for severance; and providing for publication.

PURPOSE:

This ordinance removes the one-way traffic designation for the two blocks of Lawrence Street between Shoreline Boulevard and Water Street.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Uptown and Downtown areas are connected by two one-way streets. Lawrence Street provides eastbound traffic flow from Leopard Street at "the bluff" to Shoreline Boulevard; Schatzel Street provides westbound traffic flow from Shoreline Boulevard to Leopard Street. This item proposes to change the 2 blocks of Lawrence Street between Shoreline Boulevard and Water Street from one-way to two-way traffic to better serve traffic patterns associated with the Shoreline Boulevard realignment.

The Shoreline Boulevard Realignment Project was implemented under the Bond 2008 *Bayfront Development Plan Phase 3* project. The realignment took place between Buford Street and Lawrence Street and eliminated the connection between northbound Shoreline Boulevard and William Street. Previously the Shoreline/William intersection allowed north bound Shoreline traffic to turn left onto William (a one-way headed west street). Removing the intersection created confusion for drivers navigating through the area and into Downtown.

Staff tasked the engineering firm conducting Planning and Traffic Studies for the downtown area to evaluate the feasibility of converting Lawrence Street between Shoreline Boulevard and Water Street from one-way to two-way traffic. The engineering team found the conversion to be feasible provided the appropriate two-way signage, pavement markings, and traffic signal upgrades were incorporated.

One-way traffic flow is designated by ordinance and requires a revision to the City's Code of Ordinances to remove the one-way traffic flow designation. The change would become effective when signs indicating the east one-way designation of traffic on Lawrence Street are removed per City Ordinance Section 53-104.

The City's Transportation Advisory Commission recommended approval of the proposed ordinance amendment during its monthly meeting held on September 25, 2017.

ALTERNATIVES:

Not applicable

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Not applicable

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

This item conforms to the City Charter requirements to amend the Code of Ordinances.

EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:

Non-emergency

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

Engineering Services, Development Services

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Operating
Revenue
Capital
X Not applicable

Fiscal Year 2017-2018	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget				
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This item				
BALANCE				

COMMENTS: None

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance amendment.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance Location Map Site Plan Presentation