

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting January 26, 2021 Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting February 9, 2021

DATE: January 26, 2021

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

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CAPTION:

Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 53: One Way Streets and Alleys that will change 10th Street, between Ayers Street and Staples Street, from a two-way traffic flow to a one-way traffic flow.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance amends the section in the Code of Ordinances for One Way Streets and Alleys which changes a portion of 10th Street, between Ayers Street and Staples Street, from a two-way traffic flow to a one-way traffic flow. The City Transportation Advisory Commission's recommendation to convert 10th Street traffic to one-way traffic flow (Southbound direction) is proposed to enhance safety and increase parking in the area and this change is designed for construction in the City's Six Points Intersection Improvement project.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Six Points intersection is a historic intersection area established in the early 1900's and a key hub for growth in the Central area of the City. The intersection joins three major streets: Ayers, Staples, and Alameda. As a part of the Six-Points Intersection Improvement Project, the design consultant Freese and Nichols, Inc., evaluated safety enhancements to improve traffic operations and mobility for all modes of transportation (cars, buses, pedestrians, cyclists) within the project limits. Part of the evaluation included performing community outreach to the area's private entities (key stakeholders, property owners, local businesses) and public entities (City, Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization, Regional Transportation Authority) to gather input on safety concerns. One of the recommendations from the City's outreach efforts included converting 10th Street, between Ayers Street and Staples Street, from a two-way traffic flow to a one-way traffic flow.

The section of 10th Street, between Ayers Street and Staples Street, is approximately 300 ft. in

length and abuts four businesses. Only one of the businesses, Office Depot, has sufficient onsite parking capacity. The other businesses in the area rely on on-street, parallel parking and advocated for the conversion of the street to one-way traffic flow.

Converting the direction of flow along 10th Street to one-way allows for the creation of head-in angled parking which accommodates increased parking spaces for the businesses. This conversion was also recommended by the design consultant, Freese and Nichols, as it will enhance safety along Staples Street. Staples Street, at the intersection of 10th Street, is reduced from a five-lane roadway with a center turn-lane, to a four-lane roadway with no mitigation for protection of left-turn movements. The proposed direction of one-way traffic flow, from Ayers Street to Staples Street (Southbound direction), will prevent unprotected left-turns from Staples Street. The City's Transportation Advisory Commission evaluated the findings and approved this recommendation at their meeting held on February 24, 2020.

ALTERNATIVES:

Converting 10th Street current traffic configuration to one-way allows the City to provide for additional parking in the Six Points intersection area and improve safety at the 10th Street-Ayers Street and 10th Street-Staples Street intersections. The City could alternatively decide to only reconstruct 10th Street while maintaining the existing two-way traffic configuration, which would trigger a change order to the construction contract for the Six Points Intersection Improvement project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact for amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 53, Section 53-250: Schedule I – One Way Streets and Alleys.

RECOMMENDATION:

City Staff recommends City Council approve the ordinance amendment which is part of the recommended improvements for the Six-Points Intersection Improvement Project.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance Maps Presentation