



**CITY OF SALINAS  
COUNCIL STAFF REPORT**

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**DATE: FEBRUARY 20, 2018**

**DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, TRANSPORTATION DIVISION**

**FROM: VICTOR GUTIERREZ, ASSISTANT ENGINEER  
GIOVANNI NAPOLES, ENGINEERING AIDE**

**TITLE: NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN  
RIKER STREET NEIGHBORHOOD**

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

A motion approving a Resolution to approve the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan for Riker Street and directing staff to pursue implementation.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Residents of Riker Street and Capistrano Drive spent time with staff developing their neighborhood's traffic calming plan. In accordance with the City Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP), the neighborhood voted on the approval of the plan and met the necessary support requirements. Staff therefore recommends Council approval of and implementation of the neighborhood traffic calming plan.

**BACKGROUND:**

In October 2009, the City Council adopted the NTMP, in order to address neighborhood traffic concerns. The policy contained a toolbox of traffic calming measures that would be used to address neighborhood problems associated with speeds and vehicle volume on residential streets. The policy also provides a process for consideration of projects under the Traffic Calming Program that includes a process for securing support from residents of the neighborhood who are ultimately affected by traffic calming implementation.

**DISCUSSION:**

Residents of Riker Street and Capistrano Drive neighborhood submitted a petition requesting the City to investigate speeding issues on Riker Street neighborhood. A traffic study was conducted to collect speed and volume data at various locations along these neighborhood streets. The results confirmed high speeds on Riker Street, but not on Capistrano Drive.

The Traffic and Transportation Division held two community meetings with residents of Riker Street and Capistrano Drive neighborhood to develop a traffic calming plan to address the traffic

issues in the neighborhood. With residents' input received at these meetings, the traffic calming plan was developed, refined and finalized.

Per the NTMP guidelines, the traffic calming plan was taken to a vote for approval based on support from residents. In November 2017, the neighborhood met the support vote requirement as prescribed by the City's policy. The City received ballots from 69% of all applicable households, with 79% of the returned ballots in favor of the proposed plan. Staff is therefore recommending implementation of the Riker Street neighborhood traffic calming plan.

The proposed Riker Street neighborhood traffic calming plan includes the installation of striping (lane markings) on Riker Street, to narrow the travel lanes for vehicles, thereby inducing drivers to lower their speeds. Additionally, the plan includes the installation of traffic circles along Riker Street. Traffic circles are speed-reducing tools placed at intersections to slow vehicle speeds as well as provide an overall traffic calming effect along the entire corridor. The Traffic Calming Plan (Attachment 2) shows the approximate location of the traffic circles and striping limits.

Traffic and Transportation Commission

The neighborhood traffic calming plan was presented to the Traffic and Transportation Commission at its December 2017 meeting and the Commission unanimously recommended approval and implementation of the neighborhood traffic calming plan for Riker Street.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Staff has determined that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Section 15301, Class 1). The project consists of the operation, repair, or minor alteration of public streets involving no expansion of use. There would be no significant effect on the environment.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

The Riker Traffic Calming Project supports the City Council's goals of a safe, livable community.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The current budget for the City's Traffic Calming Program (9163) is as follows:

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Appropriations</b>	<b>Expenditures as of 1/25/18</b>	<b>Encumbrances as of 1/25/18</b>	<b>Available Budget</b>
Measure X	581,330.00	69,777.00	15,204.00	496,349.00
	<b>581,330.00</b>	<b>69,777.00</b>	<b>15,204.00</b>	<b>496,349.00</b>

The estimated cost of these improvements is \$190,000. There are sufficient funds available in the City's Traffic Calming Program (CIP 9163) to complete this work.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution

Attachment 2: Riker Street Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan