



**CITY OF SALINAS
COUNCIL STAFF REPORT**

DATE: MARCH 5, 2019
DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS
FROM: DAVID JACOBS, DIRECTOR
BY: ANDREW EASTERLING, TRAFFIC ENGINEER
TITLE: CHAPARRAL STREET/MARYAL DRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a resolution approving the Chaparral Street/Maryal Drive Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan and directing staff to implement said plan in accordance with the City's traffic calming policy.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the implementation of the Chaparral Street/Maryal Drive Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan.

BACKGROUND:

Residents of the Chaparral Street and Maryal Drive neighborhood submitted a petition requesting the City to investigate speeding issues along Chaparral Street and Maryal Drive. Traffic studies were conducted at various locations along the streets, and results confirmed that conditions along Chaparral Street and Maryal Drive qualify for Traffic Calming. On March 20, 2018, the City Council approved Resolution 21354 which prioritized the Chaparral Street and Maryal Drive neighborhood as the first priority for fiscal year 2018-2019.

The Traffic and Transportation Division held two community meeting with residents of the Chaparral Street and Maryal Drive neighborhood, in August and October 2018, to develop a traffic calming plan addressing the speeding concerns of the neighborhood. With residents' input received at these meetings, a neighborhood traffic calming plan was developed.

Per the City's Traffic Calming Policy, the plan was taken to vote to determine support from residents. In December 2018, the neighborhood met the support vote requirement as prescribed in the City's Traffic Calming Policy. The City received ballots from 59% of all applicable households, with 94% of the returned ballots in favor of the Plan. Staff is therefore recommending implementation of the Chaparral Street/Maryal Drive Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan.

The proposed Chaparral Street/Maryal Drive Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan includes the installation of speed cushions. Speed cushions are vertical traffic calming devices and are similar to speed humps but are made of rubberized material. Speed cushions are designed to reduce impact to fire department response-times and are spaced to promote a speed of approximately 25 mph, which corresponds to the intended speed limit for residential streets. Additionally, the plan includes the installation of striping (lane markings), to narrow the travel lanes for vehicles, thereby inducing drivers to lower their speeds. The Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan (Attachment 1) shows the approximate locations of the speed cushions.

With Council approval, staff will complete the design of the traffic calming plan and proceed to construction.

Traffic and Transportation Commission:

The recommendation for of the Chaparral Street/Maryal Drive Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan was presented to the Traffic and Transportation Commission at its January 2019 meeting. The Commission voted 7-0 to recommend to the City Council the implementation of the Chaparral St/Maryal Drive Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan, in accordance with the City’s Traffic Calming policy.

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 Traffic Calming Policy supports Council goals of a safe, livable community.

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

Public Works Staff coordinates with the Salinas Fire Department on the recommendation of the Traffic Calming Plan. Staff also coordinates with the Salinas Police Department if traffic calming enforcement assistance is necessary.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The estimated cost of these improvements is \$120,000. There are sufficient funds available in the Traffic Calming Capital Improvements Project (CIP # 9163) to complete this work.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

Attachment 1: Chaparral St/Maryal Drive Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan