



CITY OF SALINAS

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

DATE: JULY 11, 2019

DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS, TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

FROM: ANDREW EASTERLING, TRAFFIC ENGINEER

TITLE: REMOVAL OF UNCONTROLLED MARKED CROSSWALKS AT
JOHN STREET AND MAGNOLIA DRIVE

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion for the Traffic and Transportation Commission to recommend to the City Council the removal of the uncontrolled marked crosswalks located at the intersection of John Street and Magnolia Drive.

RECOMMENDATION:

Traffic staff recommends the removal of the uncontrolled marked crosswalks at the intersection of John Street and Magnolia Drive. The uncontrolled marked crosswalks were requested for reevaluation and found to not meet the requirements necessary to justify a marked crosswalk.

BACKGROUND:

In California, a legal crosswalk exists where a sidewalk meets a street, regardless of whether the crosswalk is marked. Pedestrians may legally cross any street except at unmarked locations between signalized crossings, or where crossing is prohibited. Marked crosswalks reinforce the location and legitimacy of a pedestrian crossing. A marked crosswalk alone is not a safety device, as the general public perceives them to be. Pedestrians must exercise caution when crossing any street, marked or unmarked.

The City of Salinas initiated Crosswalk Policy Guidelines to prescribe a formal and transparent process for marked crosswalk implementation. It provides information to be used when making decisions about where standard crosswalk can be marked; which crosswalks require pedestrian enhancements; and where crosswalks will not be marked due to safety concerns resulting from volume, speed, or sight distance issues.

The City was completing a roadway maintenance project to resurface segments of John Street. The resurfacing project required the review and reevaluation of existing striping. The crosswalks at John Street and Magnolia Drive was determined to be inconsistent with the City's crosswalk policy and best practices. Per the Crossway Policy Guidelines, the nearest appropriately marked or protected crosswalk is less than 300 feet away on a four-lane roadway. 300 feet is a reasonable

distance as to not over create an unnecessary inconvenience to the pedestrian's path of travel. The ideal and crossing location is at the signalized controlled intersection and since the controlled crossing is less than 300 feet the uncontrolled marked crosswalk at John Street and Magnolia Drive no longer meets the requirements necessary to justify a marked crosswalk at this location.

Consistent with California Vehicle Code Policy, a 30-day notice has been posted at the crosswalk indicating the consideration for removal.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

This action supports the Council's initiative of Safe, Livable Community by removing the uncontrolled marked crosswalk at said location.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

There is no cost for the crosswalk removal. The roadway resurfacing project has covered the existing markings and new markings will not be installed.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Crossing Study at John Street and Magnolia Drive

Attachment 2: City of Salinas Crosswalk Policy Guidelines