



CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: AUGUST 13, 2019

DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS

FROM: DAVID JACOBS, DIRECTOR

BY: JAMES SERRANO, TRANSPORTATION MANAGER

TITLE: CHEROKEE DRIVE/ADAMS STREET NEIGHBORHOOD
TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a resolution for the approval and implementation of the Cherokee Drive and Adams Street Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the implementation of the Cherokee Drive and Adams Street Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan in accordance with the City's Traffic Calming Policy and direct staff to implement the neighborhood Plan.

BACKGROUND:

On March 20, 2018, the City Council approved Resolution 21354 which prioritized the Cherokee Drive and Adams Street neighborhood as a priority location for the fiscal year 2018-2019 Traffic Calming Program. Residents of the Cherokee Drive neighborhood submitted a petition requesting the City to investigate speeding concerns along Cherokee Drive. At the same time, staff received separate requests from residents and Council regarding similar concerns on Adams Street. Both streets provide parallel routes from West Laurel Drive to areas north towards Alvin Drive. Traffic studies were conducted at various locations along the street, and results confirmed high speeds and vehicle volumes along both streets.

Nearly all of the residents on the petition were from the southerly segment of Cherokee Drive south of Alvin Drive. Staff recommended segmenting the requests into two segments of Cherokee Street with the South Cherokee segment located between Laurel Drive and Alvin Drive and the North Cherokee segment between Alvin Drive and North Main Street to provide a more manageable traffic calming process. Adams Street would be included in the South Cherokee segment for which this report is focused.

The Traffic and Transportation Division held two community meeting with residents of Cherokee Drive and Adams Street in February 2019 and another in April 2019 to develop a traffic calming

plan to address the speeding concerns of the neighborhood. With residents' input received at the meetings, a neighborhood traffic calming plan was developed and finalized (see Attachment 1).

Per the City's Traffic Calming Policy, the plan was taken to vote to determine support from residents. In June 2019, the neighborhood met the support vote requirement as prescribed the City's Traffic Calming Policy. The City received ballots from 58% of all applicable households, with 88% of the returned ballots in favor of the Plan. Staff is therefore recommending implementation of the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan.

The proposed 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 on fire department response and are spaced to promote a speed of approximately 25 mph, which corresponds to the intended speed limit for residential streets. The Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan attached shows the approximate locations of the speed cushions.

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

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION:

The recommendation for of the Cherokee Drive/Adams Street Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan was presented to the Traffic and Transportation Commission at its July 11, 2019 meeting. The Commission voted 5-0 to recommend to the City Council the approval and implementation of the Cherokee Drive and Adams Street Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan.

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 coordinate 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 \$100,000. There are sufficient funds available in the Traffic Calming Capital Improvements Project to complete this work.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution

Attachment 2: Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan

Attachment 3: Traffic Survey Report for Cherokee Drive and Adams Street