

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

City of Salinas, California

DATE: November 29, 2016

FROM: Gary Petersen, Public Works Director

**SUBJECT: RELINQUISHMENT OF PORTIONS OF HIGHWAY 183 THROUGH THE
CITY OF SALINAS**

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a resolution initiating a dialogue between Caltrans and the City of Salinas that could result in the relinquishment of portions of Highway 183 through the City.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Salinas working with the Transportation Agency of Monterey County (TAMC) is underway in transforming the Salinas Rail Station into an intermodal transportation center (ITC). One part of this project is the realignment of Lincoln Avenue so that it enters directly into the ITC providing direct access to the facilities. The project also includes pedestrian access improvements to downtown from the ITC in the Market St. Corridor as enhanced crosswalks in several areas connecting to the ITC.

Market St. also serves as State Highway 183 and is operated and maintained by Caltrans which has oversight of these important improvements to the ITC. The issue is that the desired improvements include design standards that are not in alignment or consistent with those of Caltrans and the only way they could be completed is by the City taking back portions of the Highway.

Staff believes there is potential benefit in taking back some portions of Highway 183 where it passes through Salinas but in order to confirm this the City needs to enter into negotiations with Caltrans to review maintenance costs and other factors that would influence the decision.

It is important to note that this proposed resolution does not bind the City to taking back the highway or assuming any other costs. The resolution simply indicates interest on the City's part in beginning a discussion that may or may not result in the City taking over the highway right of way.

ISSUE:

Should the City Council approve a resolution allowing city staff to begin negotiations with Caltrans regarding the relinquishment of portions of Highway 183, to the City?

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal cost to the City associated with this action at this time. Should the City agree to take responsibility for highway right of way the decision will be brought to the Council for further discussion and approval.

TIME CONSIDERATIONS:

Timely affirmation of this resolution will allow negotiations to advance.

ALTERNATIVES/IMPLICATIONS:

The Council may choose to reject to this request which would result in the City not negotiating with Caltrans.

CITY COUNCIL GOALS:

The proposal is consistent with one of the City Council 2013-2016 Five Strategic Goals and Objectives associated with Economic Diversity and Prosperity and excellent infrastructure

CONCLUSIONS:

At its November 29, 2017 meeting, the City Council is being asked to approve a resolution indicating the City's willingness to advance conversations associated with the relinquishment of State Highway 183 with Caltrans.

Back Up Pages:
Resolution
Map

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (N.C.S.)

**A RESOLUTION INITIATING THE RELINQUISHMENT OF PORTIONS OF
HIGHWAY 183 THROUGH THE CITY OF SALINAS.**

WHEREAS, the City of Salinas has been working with the Transportation Agency of Monterey County to turn our rail station into an intermodal transit center; and

WHEREAS, this project includes the realignment of Lincoln and pedestrian access improvements to downtown from the ITC in the Market St./State Highway 183 corridor; and

WHEREAS, State Highway 183 and is operated and maintained by Caltrans who has oversight of these important improvements to the ITC; and

WHEREAS, the desired improvements include design standards that are not in alignment or consistent with those of Caltrans and the only way they could be completed is by the City taking back portions of the Highway; and

WHEREAS, Caltrans is willing to provide information that would be needed to support this decision but requires a resolution from the Council confirming the City's interest in taking back portions of the Highway to begin negotiations; and

WHEREAS, this resolution serves the purpose of notifying Caltrans of the City of Salinas willingness to open negotiations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Salinas City Council hereby requests that Caltrans provide information and negotiate with the City of Salinas regarding the potential relinquishment by Caltrans of Highway 183 through Salinas.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 29th day of November 2016 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

APPROVED:

Joe Gunter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia M. Barajas, City Clerk