



CITY COUNCIL
Staff Report

Meeting Date: Dec. 10, 2019

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Scott Chadwick, City Manager

Staff Contact: John Kim, City Traffic Engineer
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Subject: Poinsettia Lane Traffic Analysis

Recommended Action

Receive an informational presentation providing the findings of the Poinsettia Lane Traffic Analysis performed by LSA Associates.

Executive Summary

On March 14, 2017, a Minute Motion was proposed by Council Member Cori Schumacher, seconded by Council Member Michael Schumacher, to direct staff to utilize the Carlsbad Residential Traffic Management Program (CRTMP) to develop traffic-calming solutions to discourage pass-through traffic in the Viadana and Pavoreal neighborhoods concurrent with the completion of Poinsettia Lane; and complete a comprehensive traffic analysis in neighborhoods encompassed by Viadana Homeowners Association (HOA), Pavoreal HOA, Poinsettia Heights HOA and Voscana HOA located along Poinsettia Lane, including Mimosa Lane, Oriole Court, Skimmer Court, Cassia Lane and the El Camino Real southbound turn onto Poinsettia Lane. The Motion carried 4-0-1.

Discussion

On March 22, 2018, an Agreement with LSA Associates was signed to conduct a comprehensive traffic study associated with the proposed construction of Poinsettia Lane, per City Council direction. The study area included the following roadway segments:

- Poinsettia Lane (Aviara Parkway to Ambrosia Lane)
- Poinsettia Lane (Ambrosia Lane to Cassia Road)
- Poinsettia Lane (Cassia Road to El Camino Real)
- El Camino Real (Cassia Road to Poinsettia Lane)
- El Camino Real (Poinsettia Lane to Aviara Parkway)
- Cassia Road (Poinsettia Lane to El Camino Real)
- Ambrosia Lane (Poinsettia Lane to Aviara Parkway)
- Mimosa Drive (Oriole Court to Aviara Parkway)
- Dove Lane (Moorhen Place to El Camino Real)

In addition, the study area included the following intersections:

- Ambrosia Lane/Poinsettia Lane
- Poinsettia Lane/Cassia Road
- El Camino Real/Cassia Road
- El Camino Real/Poinsettia Lane
- El Camino Real/Dove Lane
- El Camino Real/Aviara Parkway
- Ambrosia Lane/Aviara Parkway
- Skimmer Court/Poinsettia Lane/Oriole Court
- Mimosa Drive/Moorhen Place
- Dove Lane/Moorhen Place
- Mimosa Drive/Aviara Parkway

Level of Service Evaluation

The report included an analysis of vehicular and multimodal levels of service based on guidelines and criteria available at the time, including the City of Carlsbad Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines, Carlsbad Roadway Capacity Tables Report and the Carlsbad Multi-Modal Level of Service (MMLOS) methodology. An analysis was also conducted using vehicle miles traveled consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines issued on Dec. 18, 2018. All analyses show that the Poinsettia Project can be completed without significant impacts.

Traffic control at Poinsettia Lane/Cassia Road and Poinsettia Lane/Oriole Court/Skimmer Court

The report analyzed the intersections of Poinsettia Lane/Cassia Road and Poinsettia Lane/Oriole Court/Skimmer Court for traffic control using California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) traffic signal warrant guidelines. Based on this analysis, it was determined that both intersections met at least one or more of the nine warrants and that traffic signal control was recommended for both intersections.

Southbound Right Turn Lane on El Camino Real at Poinsettia Lane

The report evaluated the need for a dedicated right turn lane on southbound El Camino Real at Poinsettia Lane. Analysis of collision data, intersection level of service and environmental constraints indicated that the intersection would perform satisfactorily without a dedicated right turn lane and that the required roadway widening to accommodate a right turn lane would require a retaining wall, relocation of a utility vault and would encroach on a hardline preserve of the city's Habitat Management Plan.

Cut-Through Traffic Evaluation

The report evaluated the potential for cut-through traffic with the completion of Poinsettia Lane and identified potential areas of concern including the Oriole Court/Mimosa Drive/Moorhen Place/Dove Lane corridor and Cassia Road. Using baseline volume, speed and collision measurements along these areas of concern, the report recommends utilization of the CRTMP to analyze traffic conditions in affected residential streets after the opening of the

newly constructed portion of Poinsettia Lane and identifies potential actions by the city as conditions warrant.

Public Outreach

A neighborhood workshop was held on Nov. 7, 2018, to hear public comments and concerns regarding the Poinsettia Lane Project. Residents from the Viadana, Pavoreal, Poinsettia Heights and Voscana neighborhoods were invited.

A follow-up neighborhood meeting was held on Nov. 21, 2019 to present the findings of the Poinsettia Lane Traffic Analysis (Exhibit 1) to the public. Again, residents from the Viadana, Pavoreal, Poinsettia Heights and Voscana neighborhoods were invited.

On Nov. 19, 2019, Exhibit 1 was provided in an additional information memorandum to City Council for an item to approve plans and specifications and authorize bidding for traffic signals at Poinsettia Lane/Cassia Road and Poinsettia Lane/Oriole Court/Skimmer Court.

This item was presented to the Traffic and Mobility Commission on Dec. 2, 2019 as an informational item. Attached as Exhibit 2 are the draft minutes from that meeting.

Next Steps

Construction of Poinsettia Lane is expected to be complete by mid 2020.

City Council approved the plans and specifications for the traffic signals at Poinsettia Lane/Cassia Road and Poinsettia Lane/Oriole Court/Skimmer Court for the advertisement of bids on Nov. 19, 2019.

Based on the findings in the report, staff will not be pursuing a project to install a right turn only lane on southbound El Camino Real at this time.

Phase I of the CRTMP has been implemented on the Oriole Court/Mimosa Drive/Moorhen Place/ Dove Lane corridor, including deployment of portable speed feedback signs on Mimosa Drive and Oriole Court. A public meeting for the Oriole/Mimosa/Moorhen/Dove neighborhood has been tentatively scheduled for January 2020.

Staff will continue to work with the Police Department to provide focused speed enforcement on Cassia Road. Staff will take new measurements after Poinsettia Lane opens and compare them to the report's baseline measurements to determine the city's future course of action.

Fiscal Analysis

This item is an informational presentation on the topic of traffic control, traffic calming and traffic safety and as such there is no financial impact.

Environmental Evaluation (CEQA)

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21065, receiving an informational presentation on the work related to traffic control, traffic calming and traffic safety does not qualify as a "project" within the meaning of the CEQA in that it has no potential to cause either a direct

physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and therefore does not require environmental review.

Public Notification

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date.

Exhibits

1. Traffic Investigation Poinsettia Lane Gap Closure Report, November 2019
2. Draft minutes from the Dec. 2, 2019 Traffic and Mobility Commission