Complete Streets Commission



REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Date: 10/9/2019 Time: 7:00 p.m. City Council Chambers 701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Call To Order

B. Roll Call

C. Reports and Announcements

Under "Reports and Announcements," staff and Commission members may communicate general information of interest regarding matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission. No Commission discussion or action can occur on any of the presented items.

D. Public Comment

Under "Public Comment," the public may address the Commission on any subject not listed on the agenda. Each speaker may address the Commission once under public comment for a limit of three minutes. Please clearly state your name and address or political jurisdiction in which you live. The Commission cannot act on items not listed on the agenda and, therefore, the Commission cannot respond to non-agenda issues brought up under public comment other than to provide general information.

E. Regular Business

- E1. Approve the Complete Streets Commission regular meeting minutes of September 11, 2019 (Attachment)
- E2. Recommend to City Council to implement time limited parking zones on Alma Street, East Creek Drive, and East Creek Place (Staff Report #19-015-CSC)
- E3. Receive a presentation on the Climate Action Plan (CAP) update from the Environmental Quality Commission CAP subcommittee
- E4. Review and approve the Chair's quarterly update to the City Council and potential amendments to the Complete Streets Commission's annual work plan
- F. Informational Items
- F1. Update on major project status

G. Committee/Subcommittee Reports

G1. Update from Active Transportation Network Subcommittee (Goldin/Kirsch/Weiner)

- G2. Update from Downtown Access and Parking Subcommittee (Behroozi/Goldin/Levin)
- G3. Update from Multimodal Subcommittee (Cebrian/Levin)
- G4. Update from Safe Routes to School Program Subcommittee (Cebrian/Lee/Meyer)
- G5. Update from Transportation Master Plan Subcommittee (Behroozi/Levin)
- G6. Update from Zero Emission Subcommittee (Cromie/Goldin/Meyer)

H. Adjournment

At every Regular Meeting of the Commission, in addition to the Public Comment period where the public shall have the right to address the Commission on any matters of public interest not listed on the agenda, members of the public have the right to directly address the Commission on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the Chair, either before or during the Commission's consideration of the item.

At every Special Meeting of the Commission, members of the public have the right to directly address the Commission on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the Chair, either before or during consideration of the item.

For appeal hearings, appellant and applicant shall each have 10 minutes for presentations.

If you challenge any of the items listed on this agenda in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Menlo Park at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Any writing that is distributed to a majority of the Commission by any person in connection with an agenda item is a public record (subject to any exemption under the Public Records Act) and is available for inspection at the City Clerk's Office, 701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025 during regular business hours.

Persons with disabilities, who require auxiliary aids or services in attending or participating in Commission meetings, may call the City Clerk's Office at 650-330-6620.

Agendas are posted in accordance with Government Code §54954.2(a) or §54956. Members of the public can view electronic agendas and staff reports by accessing the City website at menlopark.org/agenda and can receive email notification of agenda and staff report postings by subscribing to the "Notify Me" service at menlopark.org/notifyme. Agendas and staff reports may also be obtained by contacting City Clerk at 650-330-6620. (Posted: 10/3/2019)

Complete Streets Commission



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Date: 9/11/2019 Time: 7:00 p.m. City Council Chambers 701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Call to Order

Chair Behroozi called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present:Behroozi, Cebrian, Cromie, Goldin, Kirsch, Lee, Levin, Meyer, WeinerAbsent:NoneStaff:Associate Transportation Engineer Kevin Chen, Associate Transportation Engineer
Rene Baile

C. Reports and Announcements

Staff Chen announced upcoming City events and a summary of City Council actions on transportation related items since the August 14 Commission meeting.

D. Public Comment

- Alexander Van Dyke spoke in favor of eliminating the use of gas powered leaf blowers in the city.
- Ken Kershner spoke in favor of establishing a safe routes to work program.

E. Regular Business

E1. Approve the Complete Streets Commission regular meeting minutes of July 10 and August 14, 2019 (Attachment)

ACTION: Motion and second (Lee/Cromie) to approve the Complete Streets Commission regular meeting minutes of July 10, 2019, passed (6-0-3, Cebrian, Kirsch and Weiner abstained).

Motion and second (Kirsch/Levin) to approve the Complete Streets Commission regular meeting minutes of August 14, 2019 with one suggested edit, passed (5-0-4, Cromie, Goldin, Lee, Meyer abstained).

E2. Adopt a resolution to remove on-street parking spaces at Alma Street and East Creek Drive and review request to implement time limited parking zone on the east side of Alma Street between Willow Road and East Creek Drive (Staff Report #19-013-CSC)

Staff Chen provided a presentation (Attachment).

• Doss Welsh spoke in support of the intersection parking removal and suggested new stop sign

on East Creek Drive at Alma Street and new red curb locations. He spoke against implementing time limited parking zones and suggested working with the City of Palo Alto to resolve parking issues (Attachment).

- Althea Tomijima spoke in support of the intersection parking removal and time limited parking zones for Alma Street and East Creek Drive. She asked for additional intersection safety improvements and noted more collisions at this intersection than the reported number of two.
- George Couluris spoke in support of the time limited parking zones for Alma Street and East Creek Drive.
- William D. Pflaum spoke in support of the time limited parking zones for Alma Street and East Creek Drive. He also requested more red curbs to improve driveway visibilities.

ACTION: Motion and second (Meyer/Weiner) to adopt a resolution to remove on-street parking spaces at Alma Street and East Creek Drive, passed (9-0-0). Then the commission provided feedback for future consideration on the resident requests to implement time limited parking zone on Alma Street and East Creek Drive.

E3. Consider recommendation to City Council to approve the North Lemon Avenue traffic plan measures to be made permanent (Staff Report #19-014-CSC)

Staff Baile provided a presentation (Attachment).

• P.J. Hunerkamp spoke in support of the project in reducing extreme speeding vehicles and protecting vulnerable users from turning vehicles.

ACTION: Motion and second (Kirsch/Meyer) to recommendation to City Council to approve the North Lemon Avenue traffic plan measures to be made permanent, passed (9-0-0).

E4. Consider amending subcommittee membership

ACTION: By acclamation, the Commission voted to:

- Select Commissioner Cebrian to the Safe Routes to School Program Subcommittee and Multimodal Subcommittee
- Select Commissioner Cromie to the Zero Emission Subcommittee
- Select Commissioner Goldin to the Active Transportation Network Subcommittee

F. Informational Items

F1. Update on major project status

Staff Chen provided updates on the Belle Haven neighborhood turn restrictions, neighborhood traffic management program project, the US 101 / Willow Road interchange construction, the Middle Avenue rail crossing, the Middle Avenue bike lane proposal, and the Oak Grove sidewalk project.

G. Committee/Subcommittee Reports

G1. Update from Active Transportation Network Subcommittee

Commissioner Weiner provided a presentation (Attachment).

G2. Update from Downtown Access and Parking Subcommittee

Draft Minutes Page 3

Commissioner Levin provided update on an upcoming community forum with community partners on downtown access and parking improvements scheduled for the evening of November 6, 2019.

G3. Update from Multimodal Subcommittee

Commissioner Levin provided update on potential community meetings from the Dumbarton Rail Corridor study.

G4. Update from Safe Routes to School Program Subcommittee

Commissioner Lee provided update on Jefferson Drive parking removal and ongoing communication between TIDE Academy and Facebook on external circulation for the students.

G5. Update from Transportation Master Plan Subcommittee

None.

G6. Update from Zero Emission Subcommittee

None.

H. Adjournment

Chair Behroozi adjourned the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

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ALMA STREET AND EAST CREEK DRIVE PARKING RESTRICTIONS

SEPTEMER 11, 2019



AGENDA

- Background
- Evaluation
- Action





BACKGROUND

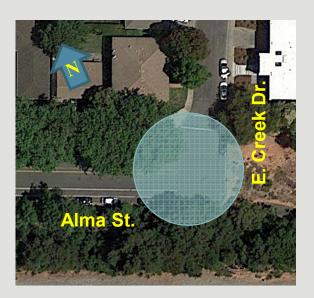
- Resident Request
 - Evaluate sight visibility at the intersection of Alma St. and E. Creek Dr.





INTERSECTION EVALUATION

- Field observations
- Past Collisions
 - Two in five years: one pedestrian and one bicycle
- Utilization rate
 - Usage rate likely to increase
- California Vehicle Code
 - No parking within an intersection





OTHER REQUESTS -ROADWAY TIME LIMITED PARKING ZONES



- Basis: inadequate on-street parking
- Request: 4-hour limit, 9am to 6pm, weekdays





TIME LIMITED PARKING ZONES EVALUATION

- Field Observations
 - Occupancy Rate
 - Destination
- Community Consensus







COMMISSION ACTIONS

- Adopt a resolution to remove five on-street spaces at the intersection (two on E. Creek Dr. and three on Alma St.)
- Provide feedback on time limited parking zone requests





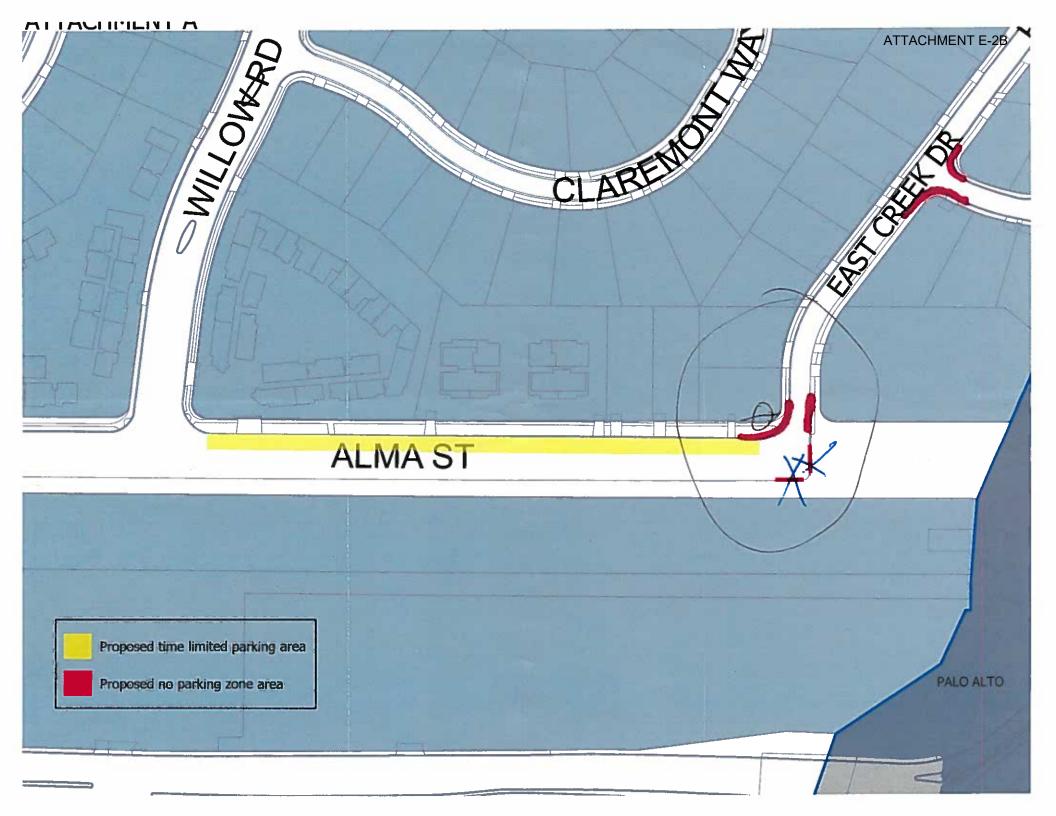
NEXT STEPS

- Intersection no parking zones
 - A 15 days appeal period prior to installation
- Roadway time limited parking zones
 - Return to Complete Streets Commission in October for final recommendation





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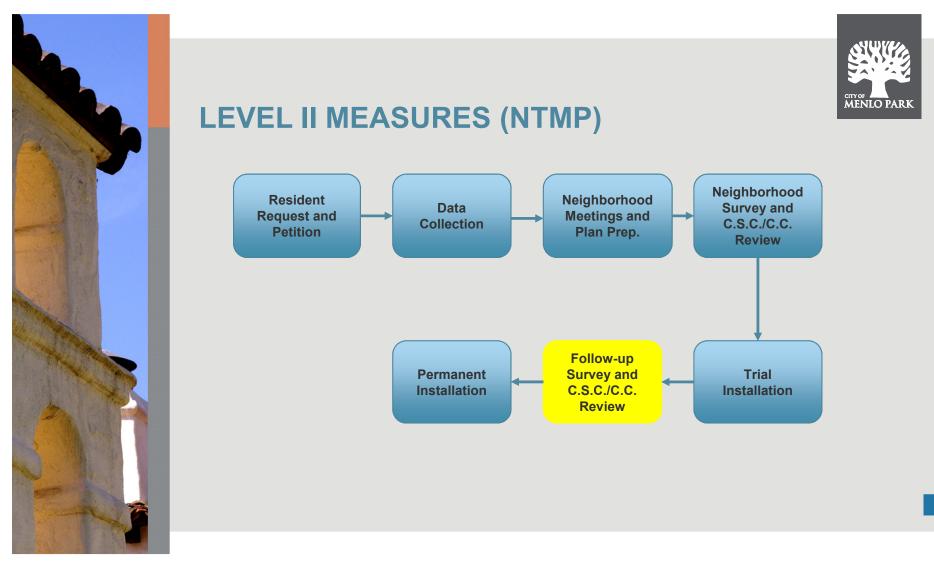


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CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE NORTH LEMON AVENUE TRAFFIC PLAN MEASURES TO BE MADE PERMANENT (NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM)

SEPTEMER 11, 2019





PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING

- Commission review the results of the North Lemon Avenue Resident Survey for Trial Installation; review the traffic plan as it was currently installed
- Commission recommend either plan revisions, or Council approval for traffic plan measures to be made permanent.



BACKGROUND

- January 16, 2018 Approval by City Council to install the traffic plan for a six-month trial period.
- September 19, 2018 Completion of installation
- March 19, 2019 End of trial Installation



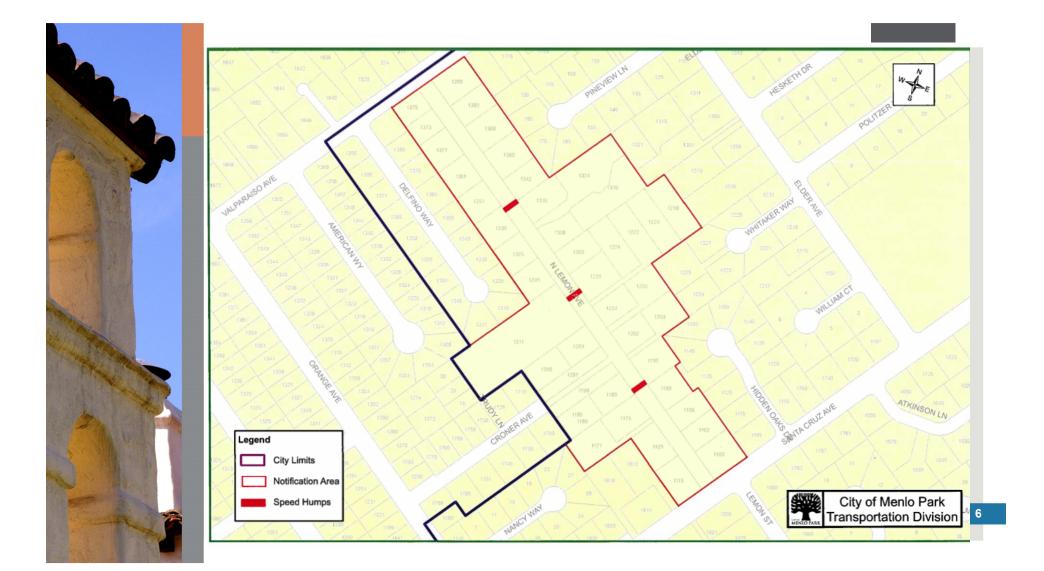


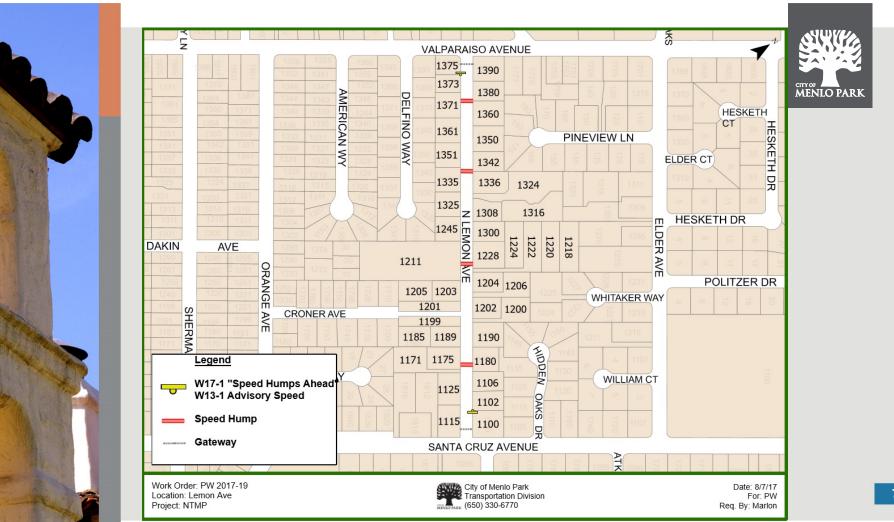




SURVEY FOR PERMANENT INSTALLATION

- May 22, 2019 and June 12, 2019 City staff circulated the survey for permanent installation of traffic plan for a six-month period.
- NTMP requirement 51% yes on supporting the plan







BEFORE INSTALLATION VS. AFTER INSTALLATION STUDIES



	Before Studies		After Studies		Difference	
	Direction of Traffic		Direction of Traffic		Direction of Traffic	
	NB	SB	NB	SB	NB	SB
85 Percentile Speeds (mph)	30	30	24	25	-6	-5
Mean Speeds (mph)	25	25	19	20	-6	-5
Volumes (veh/day)	775	505	425	310	-350	-195



RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

- Yes, I support the plan 25 votes or 58.1%
- No, I do not support the plan 4 votes or 9.3 %
- No response 14 or 32.6 %





PERMANENT NEIGHBORHOOD GATEWAY STRUCTURE





a Middle Ave.



a Cambridge Ave.



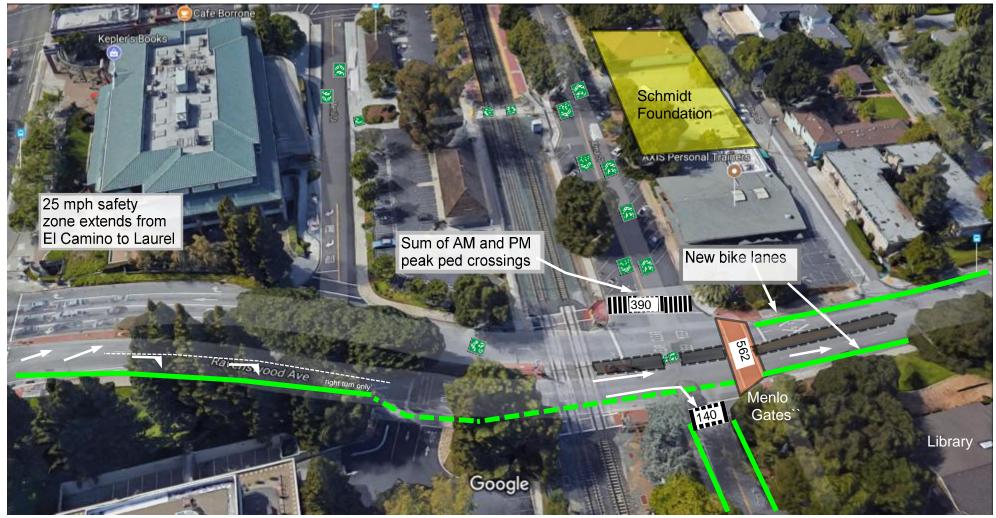
NEXT STEPS

City Council – review this traffic plan and results of the survey for permanent installation City Council – either deny, recommend plan revisions, or approve traffic plan to be made permanent City– after approval by Council will install the permanent gateway structures





Menlo Gates Safety Improvement Proposal



Busiest pedestrian intersection in MP. Reduce speed limit to 25. Allows shorter eastbound merge. Ravenswood eastbound traffic merges to one lane east of tracks. Ravenswood westbound traffic stays single lane until west of tracks. Use resulting space for pedestrian refuge and bike lanes Possible dedicated right-turn Ravenswood to Alma Imagery ©2017 Google, Map data ©2017 Google United States 50 ft L

Ravenswood at Alma looking West Existing



Ravenswood at Alma looking West Proposed



Medians and Crossing Islands (1 of 2)



DESCRIPTION AND DEFINITION

Medians and crossing islands (also known as refuge islands or center islands) are raised areas that are constructed in the center portion of a roadway that can serve as a place of refuge for pedestrians who cross the road mid-block or at an intersection. After crossing to the center island, pedestrians wait for motorists to stop or for an adequate gap in traffic before crossing the second half of the street.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY STRATEGIES

SAFETY CHARACTERISTICS

Medians provide a simplified crossing maneuver by allowing pedestrians to concentrate on only one direction of traffic at a time, creating the equivalent of two narrower one-way streets instead of one wide two-way street. Medians also provide space for landscaping that can be used to change the visual cues of the roadway and reduce driver speeds. Medians that are only painted do not provide the same safety benefits as raised ones. Having raised medians, or median islands, typically reduces motor-vehicle crash rates (such as head-on crashes) as well as pedestrian crash rates.

PROVEN, TRIED, OR EXPERIMENTAL

Medians and raised islands are a PROVEN safety strategy. One study found a 39 to 46 percent reduction in pedestrian-vehicle crashes at unsignalized crosswalks on multi-lane roads (Zegeer et al., 2002).

TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF CANDIDATE LOCATIONS

Raised medians are most applicable on multilane arterial roadways, and particularly those with high traffic volumes (average daily traffic rates of 10,000 vehicles per day and above).

BEST PRACTICE

The use of raised median islands to simplify crossing maneuvers has been proven to be an effective technique to improve pedestrian safety, especially on multi-lane arterials with traffic volumes greater than 10,000 vehicles per day. n can range from \$15,000 to \$30,000 per site conditions, and whether the median onstruction or utility project.

t be appropriate or physically possible at all ghed against other roadway features such

as wider sidewalks, bicycle lanes, landscaping buffers, or on-street parking.



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STAFF REPORT

Complete Streets CommissionMeeting Date:10/9/2019Staff Report Number:19-015-CSC

Regular Business:

Recommend to City Council to implement time limited parking zones on Alma Street, East Creek Drive, and East Creek Place

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Complete Streets Commission:

• Recommend to City Council to implement time limited parking zones (4-hour between 9am to 6pm on weekdays) on Alma Street, East Creek Drive, and East Creek Place as illustrated in Attachment A.

Policy Issues

The recommendation is consistent with policies (i.e., CIRC-7.4) stated in the 2016 General Plan Circulation Element. These policies seek to maintain a safe and efficient circulation system that promotes a healthy, safe and active community and quality of life throughout Menlo Park.

Background

Alma Street time limited parking zone request

In early 2018, staff received a resident inquiry on the City's process to establish a time limited parking zone on the east side of Alma Street between Willow Road and East Creek Drive. The resident lives in the apartment complex located on 150 Alma Street and noted difficulty for local guests and service vehicles to find on-street parking spaces, as they are often occupied by vehicles from people having business in the City of Palo Alto.

After learning the process and several discussions with City staff, the resident elected to withhold the request in favor of further observations. In mid-2019, the same resident contacted City staff again and noted worsening of the on-street parking demand from those similar vehicles. As a result, the resident elected to formally submit a request for a time limited parking zone and began a signature gathering effort to demonstrate community support from Alma Street residents.

East Creek Drive / East Creek Place time limited parking zone request

Independent of the Alma Street effort, staff received a request in early August 2019 from an East Creek Drive resident to implement a time limited on-street parking zone on East Creek Drive. Similar to the Alma Street applicant, this resident stated parked vehicles from drivers traversing to the City of Palo Alto as the main reason for the request.

After learning about the ongoing Alma Street time limited parking zone, the East Creek Drive resident asked to be included in the process and began a similar signature gathering effort from East Creek Drive residents.

Staff Report #: 19-015-CSC

Complete Streets Commission

On September 11, 2019, staff presented the resident requests, preliminary staff evaluation, and ongoing data collection to the Complete Streets Commission for feedback. The requests included:

- Alma Street, from Willow Road to East Creek Drive
- East Creek Drive, from Alma Street to Willow Road
- East Creek Place

After receiving feedback from local residents and a comprehensive discussion amongst commissioners, the Commission provided the following feedback for consideration:

- Stop control on East Creek Drive at the intersection of Alma Street and East Creek Drive
- Red curbs at intersection corners to improve sight distance
- Parking evaluation on Alma Street south of Burgess Drive
- Establish a pilot implementation period to evaluate effectiveness

Analysis

Upon receiving the official resident requests, staff conducted weekday field observations in early September to verify statements that most drivers have business in the City of Palo Alto after parking their vehicles on Alma Street and East Creek Drive all day.

These observations revealed the following:

- Alma Street, between Willow Road and East Creek Drive, had 90% or above occupancy rate and many over a five-hour duration
- East Creek Drive, between Alma Street and East Creek Place, had 80% or above occupancy rate and many over a five-hour duration

Additionally, traffic monitoring video collected over a two-day period confirmed that over 80% of the drivers were seen walking toward the City of Palo Alto.

To ensure there is a majority neighborhood consensus to establish a time limited on-street parking zone on Alma Street, East Creek Drive, and East Creek Place, staff asked both applicants to collect signatures from local residents and/or property owners at their corresponding streets. Both applicants submitted supportive signatures from over 51% of the local residents. Due to privacy concerns, collected signatures will be available for viewing in City Hall upon request.

Staff also evaluated the Commission feedback and the table below summarizes that feedback and staff responses:

Table 1: Complete Streets Commission feedback and responses					
Stop control at the intersection of Alma St and E Creek Dr	A stop warrant analysis will be conducted in the future, independent of this project				
Red curbs at intersection corners to improve sight distance	Evaluation will be conducted, independent of this project				
Parking evaluation for Alma St	The 500 El Camino Real development is expected to conduct a parking study that includes Alma St for overflow parking, within six months after opening of the Middle Avenue pedestrian and bicycle rail crossing				

Table 1: Complete Streets Commission feedback and responses

Establish a pilot implementation period to evaluate effectiveness Staff will monitor the project effectiveness three months after its implementation

Based on the findings above, staff recommends that the Complete Streets Commission recommend to City Council to implement time limited parking zones (4-hour between 9am to 6pm on weekdays) on the following street segments:

- Alma Street, from Willow Road to East Creek Drive,
- East Creek Drive, from Alma Street to Willow Road
- East Creek Place

If approved by the Commission, the project will be an agenda item at a future City Council meeting for final approval and implementation.

Impact on City Resources

If approved by City Council, the project implementation will be funded through the City's signing and striping maintenance program. Ongoing monitoring efforts will require resources from the City's Police Department.

Environmental Review

Both actions are categorically exempt under Class 1 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. Class 1 allows for minor alterations of existing facilities, including highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian access, and similar facilities, as long as there is negligible or no expansion of use.

Public Notice

Public Notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with the agenda items being listed, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Letter mailers and postcards were mailed to residents bounded by Alma Street, East Creek Drive, and Willow Road.

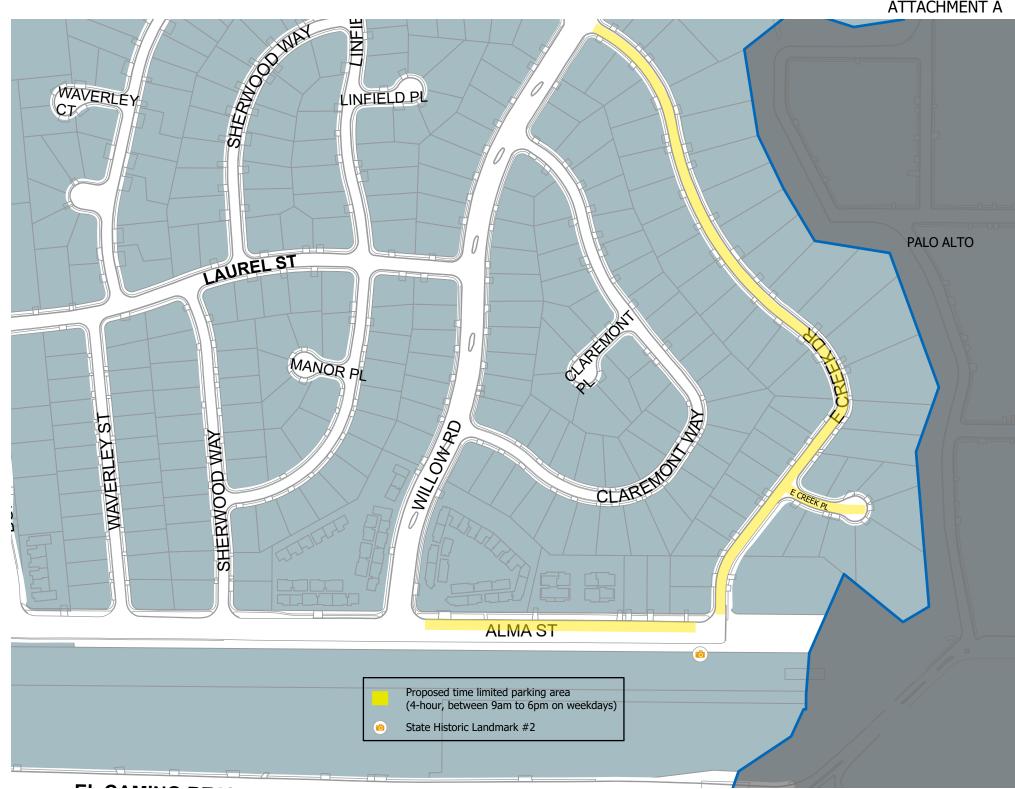
Attachments

A. Project location

Report prepared by: Kevin Chen, Associate Transportation Engineer

Report reviewed by: Angela Obeso, Senior Transportation Engineer THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

ATTACHMENT A



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