

COMMUNICATION

File No. 08-2521

TO: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

FROM: COUNCILMEMBER JOSE HUIZAR, CHAIR
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT and COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR, PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE relative to vacating Towne Avenue and 53rd Street Vacation District in connection with the construction of Central Region High School No. 16 (VAC E1401119).

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that the City Council has imposed all of the mitigation measures that are within the control of the City, as described in Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR-09-031 LAUSD; SCH No. 2006061006; EIR-10-007 LAUSD), that are associated with the impacts of the street vacation of Towne Avenue and 53rd Street Vacation District and that other mitigation measures that are not within the authority of the City, have been or should be imposed as set forth in the findings of the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, dated September 25, 2007 and attached to the Council file.
2. FIND that the street vacation proceedings pursuant to the Public Streets, Highways and Service Easements Vacation Law be instituted for the vacation of the public right-of-way indicated below and shown colored blue on Exhibit B of the February 18, 2010 City Engineer report and attached to the Council file:
 - a. 53rd Street from Towne Avenue to Avalon Boulevard
 - b. The alley westerly of Avalon Boulevard from 52nd Street to 53rd Street
 - c. The alley northerly of 53rd Street from Towne Avenue to the alley westerly of Avalon Boulevard
3. FIND that there is a public benefit to this vacation and that upon vacation of the alleys; that the City is relieved of its ongoing obligation to maintain the rights-of-way and that the City is relieved of any potential liability that might result from continued ownership of the involved street and alley easements as detailed in the February 18, 2010 City Engineer report and attached to the Council file.
4. AMEND the February 18, 2010 report of the City Engineer to delete the language contained in Condition No. 6(c) and replace with:

“Construct an additional 2-foot wide concrete sidewalk adjoining the existing 10-foot wide sidewalk along the northerly side of 54th Street.”
5. ADOPT the FINDINGS of the City Engineer dated February 18, 2010, as amended, as the Findings of the Council.
6. ADOPT the accompanying City Engineer report dated February 18, 2010, as amended, to approve the vacation.

7. INSTRUCT the City Clerk to set a public hearing date for **April 9, 2010**.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Engineer reports that to date, an estimated \$19,595.51 in charges have been expended in the investigation and processing of this vacation proceeding. Since Section 7.46 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) exempts all governmental agencies from payment of fees, the processing of this vacation action will be absorbed by the Bureau of Engineering. Maintenance of the public easement by City Forces will be eliminated.

Community Impact Statement Submitted: No

SUMMARY

The City Engineer reports that the area sought to be vacated is:

- a. 53rd Street from Towne Avenue to Avalon Boulevard
- b. The alley westerly of Avalon Boulevard from 52nd Street to 53rd Street
- c. The alley northerly of 53rd Street from Towne Avenue to the alley westerly of Avalon Boulevard

(A map of the area is included as Exhibit B in the February 18, 2010 City Engineer report and is attached to the Council file). The purpose of this vacation request is to consolidate the alleys to be vacated with the adjoining properties for the construction of the South Region Span K-8 No. 1 School site. This vacation procedure is being processed under procedures established by Council on March 5, 2002 as detailed in Council file No. 01-1459.

Furthermore, according to the City Engineer, the vacation of the public street areas as shown on the map designated as Exhibit A could be conditionally approved based upon the following: 1) it is unnecessary for present or prospective public use; 2) it is not needed for vehicular circulation or access; and 3) it is not needed for nonmotorized transportation purposes.

On March 3, 2010, the Chair of the Public Works Committee considered the recommendations of the City Engineer as contained in its February 18, 2010 report along with the Initial/Final Environmental Impact Reports. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee Chair moved to recommend approval of the recommendations as contained in said City Engineer report and detailed above in Recommendation Nos. 1-3 and 5-7. Additionally, the Committee recommended making a technical change to Condition No. 6(c) in the February 18, 2010 City Engineer report and detailed above in Recommendation No. 4.

This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Councilmember Jose Huizar, Chair
Public Works Committee

| <u>MEMBER</u> | <u>VOTE</u> |
|---------------|-------------|
| HUIZAR: | YES |
| ALARCÓN: | ABSENT |
| SMITH: | ABSENT |

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- Not Official Until Council Acts -