

Office of the City Engineer  
Los Angeles, California

To the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee

Of the Honorable Council

Of the City of Los Angeles

September 3, 2019

Honorable Members:

C. D. No. 3 and C. D. No. 12

SUBJECT:

Temporary Closure of Victory Boulevard from Gilmore Street to its northwesterly terminus. – Council File No. 12-0101-S2

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. That the street as shown on the attached sketch, subject to the conditions contained herein, be temporarily closed pursuant to State Vehicle Code Section 21101.4 for a period of eighteen (18) months upon Council approval.
- B. That the City Council find that this is categorically exempt under Article III, Class 5, of the Los Angeles City Guidelines for the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970.
- C. That the City Council adopt the accompanying Resolution signed by the City Attorney.
- D. That the City Council adopt the following findings:
  - 1. There is substantial evidence of serious and continual criminal activities in the street recommended for temporary closure.
  - 2. The temporary closure of the street will reduce the criminal activity in the area.
  - 3. The street does not provide necessary vehicular or pedestrian access to adjacent properties but affected property owners have agreed to the temporary closure.
  - 4. The closure will not adversely affect traffic flow, safety on adjacent streets or in the surrounding neighborhoods, operation of emergency vehicles, and performance of municipal or public utility services.

5. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic on the street contribute to the criminal activities.
  6. The street has not been designated as a through highway or arterial street.
- E. That notification of the time and place on the Public Works and Gang Reduction committee meeting to consider this request be sent to:
1. Joan Rokahr  
6175 County Oak Road  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
  2. Roman Mosqueda  
3460 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 407  
Los Angeles, CA 90010
  3. Steven Berman  
2995 Red Hawk Lane  
Sedona, AZ 86336
  4. Sean and Tabitha Kane  
23104 Hatteras Street  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
  5. Leonardo and Carmela Cordola  
24802 Wooded Vista  
West Hills, CA 91307
  6. Paul and Vicki Sabella  
24794 Wooded Vista  
West Hills, CA 91307
  7. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
Attn: Paul Edelman  
5750 Ramirez Canyon Road  
Malibu, CA 90265
  8. Michael and Suzanne Benson  
6167 County Oak Road  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
  9. Mikhael and Elizabeth Levis  
6154 County Oak Road  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

10. Mohammad and Rukshana Sawez  
24796 Gilmore Street  
West Hills, CA 91307
11. Harry Bavis  
24784 Wooded Vista  
West Hills, CA 91307
12. Darren Roberts  
24822 Wooded Vista  
West Hills, CA 91307
13. Bruce and Karel Long  
6151 Paseo La Vista  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
14. Ventura County Public Works  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009-1600
15. Valley Circle Estates Woodland Hills HOA  
Attn: Stanley Getz  
P. O. Box 6508  
Woodland Hills, CA 91365
16. Councilman Bob Blumenfield  
Third Council District  
Attn: Cecilia Castillo  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 415  
Los Angeles, CA 90012
17. Councilman Mitchell Englander  
Twelfth Council District  
Attn: Hannah Lee  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 405  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**

The Bureau of Engineering is absorbing the cost of processing the request in the approximate amount of \$5,000.00. Maintenance of the public easement by City forces will be eliminated.

**TRANSMITTALS:**

1. Sketch indicating the area to be temporarily closed.
2. Consent Petition.
3. Motion and Council Action from Council District No. 3 and Council District No. 12, adopted by City Council on February 22, 2019, under Council File No. 12-0101-S2.
4. Letter from the Police Department, dated May 6, 2019.
5. Draft of Resolution for Temporary Street closure.

CONDITIONS:

1. That any gates to be installed to effectuate a physical closure of the street area together with the gate locations be approved by the Fire Department, the Department of Water and Power, the Department of Transportation and the Bureau of Sanitation's Wastewater Collection Systems Division and be done under "A Permit" issued by the City Engineer and be installed at no cost to the City.
2. That the keys to any gates to be installed be provided to all affected City Departments and Public Utility Companies.
3. That the closed area be physically closed within 6 months of Council approval of the temporary closure or the approval be rescinded.
4. That the petitioners agree to remove the gates/fences upon termination of the allowed closure period at no cost to the City.

DISCUSSION:

On February 22, 2019, under Council File No. 12-0101-S2, a motion from Council District No. 3 and Council District No. 12 was adopted by the City Council directing the City Engineer to initiate proceedings to close Victory Boulevard from Gilmore Street to its northwesterly terminus. The motion stated "Nearby residents support the continuation of this street closure to prevent crimes such as graffiti, vandalism and burglaries in this area and to enhance the quality of life within the neighborhood." The previous street closure authorization expired on April 20, 2019.

Commanding Officer, Maureen E. Ryan, Captain of Los Angeles Police Department in a letter received May 6, 2019 stated "There has been a significant reduction in crime in this area which we feel is due in large part to the gate. We continue to be of the opinion that the continuance of the security is essential in our crime prevention efforts here at Topanga Division and the Los Angeles Police Department. The gate continues to prevent

crimes such as graffiti, vandalism and burglaries in that area and serves to enhance the quality of life within this neighborhood.”

Conclusion:

The temporary closure of Victory Boulevard from Gilmore Street to its northwesterly terminus is feasible subject to the conditions of this report.

Report prepared by:  
Land Development and GIS Division

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Charles H. Vandenberg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "C".

Phillip Martinez  
Civil Engineering Associate II  
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Edmond Yew, Manager  
Land Development and GIS Division  
Bureau of Engineering

EY/GV/SY/PM  
LDG