



## City Council Report

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Sacramento, CA 95814

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**File ID:** 2019-00148

February 26, 2019

**Public Hearing Item 29**

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**Title:** Temporary Closures of Two Alleys: 1) El Camino Avenue Darina Avenue Alley between Empress Street and Boxwood Street and 2) Amaranth Alley between Eleanor Avenue and Las Palmas Avenue Within Council District 2

**Location:** District 2

**Recommendation:** Conduct a public hearing and upon conclusion, adopt a Resolution authorizing the temporary closures of two alleys to through vehicular and pedestrian traffic: 1) El Camino Avenue Darina Avenue Alley between Empress Street and Boxwood Street; and 2) Amaranth Alley between Eleanor Avenue and Las Palmas Avenue.

**Contact:** Jair Bautista, Engineering Technician, (916) 808-7929; Jennifer Johnson, Supervising Engineer, (916) 808-7754; Nader Kamal, Interim Engineering Services Manager, (916) 808-7035, Department of Public Works.

**Presenter:** Jair Bautista, Engineering Technician, (916) 808-7929, Department of Public Works

**Attachments:**

1-Description/Analysis

2-Resolution

3-Clearance Letters

## Description/Analysis

**Issue Detail:** The adjacent property owners have raised concerns regarding illegal activities occurring within the alleys. Drug activity and illegal dumping were reported by the property owners to the Police Department. Applications for temporary street closure of the alleys have been submitted and processed by the Department of Public Works. The Department of Public Works is processing two temporary closures to through vehicular and pedestrian traffic as a means to reduce the amount of criminal activity. Wrought iron gates at the end of each alley will be installed as a deterrent to the illegal activities in the alley. The Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments support these temporary closures.

**Policy Considerations:** The procedures for the temporary street closures to vehicular and pedestrian traffic are set forth in the Vehicle Code Section 21101.4 and Sacramento City Code Chapter 12.16 allowing the temporary closures to through vehicular or pedestrian traffic for the protection or preservation of the public peace, safety, health or welfare. The temporary closures will improve and expand public safety and enhance livability.

**Economic Impacts:** None

## Environmental Considerations:

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** The Environmental Planning Services section of the Community Development Department has reviewed the proposed temporary alley closures and determined that the activity is exempt from the provisions of the CEQA under Section 15301(f) of the CEQA Guidelines in that this temporary closure involves no expansion of use beyond what currently exists. Access to the alley will be given to appropriate departments and agencies.

**Sustainability:** Not applicable

**Commission/Committee Action:** None

**Rationale for Recommendation:** Temporary closures of these alleys will provide security for the property owners for the duration of 18 months by reducing opportunities for individuals to commit illegal acts, illegal dumping, and other transient activity within these alleys. A majority of the affected property owners support these temporary closure requests. A time extension of the temporary closures will require the approval by the City Council prior to the expiration of the 18-month period.

**Financial Considerations:** The construction and installation of the gates will be funded by Council District 2 and an abutting property owner. The former will fund the entirety of the costs for the street closure at El Camino Avenue Darina Avenue Alley as well as 50 percent of the costs for Amaranth Alley. The latter will be responsible for the remaining 50 percent of the temporary closure at Amaranth Alley. The total estimated cost for the construction and installation of the gates is approximately \$17,000.

**Local Business Enterprise (LBE):** Not applicable

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2019-**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

February 26, 2019

### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY CLOSURES OF (1) EL CAMINO AVENUE DARINA AVENUE ALLEY BETWEEN EMPRESS STREET AND BOXWOOD STREET AND (2) AMARANTH ALLEY BETWEEN ELEANOR AVENUE AND LAS PALMAS AVENUE, WITHIN COUNCIL DISTRICT 2**

#### **BACKGROUND**

- A. The City received a request from the adjacent property owners to temporarily close the alleys: (1) El Camino Avenue Darina Avenue Alley between Empress Street and Boxwood Street & (2) Amaranth Alley between Eleanor Avenue and Las Palmas Avenue.
- B. In accordance with Section 21101.4 of the Vehicle Code of the State of California and with Chapter 12.16 of the Sacramento City Code, the City Council hereby considers approval of the temporary closures of the subject alleys identified in this Resolution.

#### **BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE RECITALS, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1. Based upon substantial evidence present in the record of the proceedings regarding this matter, the City Council hereby makes the following findings:
  - a) There is serious and continual criminal activity in these areas of the subject alleys recommended for temporary closures. These findings are based upon recommendations from the Police Department.
  - b) The alleys recommended for closures are under the City's jurisdiction and have not been designated as through highways or arterial streets.

- c) Vehicle or pedestrian traffic in the alleyways recommended for closures contributes to the criminal activities that are occurring there.
- d) The alley closures will not adversely affect traffic flow, safety on the adjacent streets or in the surrounding neighborhoods, the operation of emergency vehicles, the performance of municipal or public utility services, or the delivery of freight by commercial vehicles in the area of the streets recommended for closure.

Section 2. The temporary closures of the subject alleys to through vehicular and pedestrian traffic are necessary for the protection or preservation of the public peace, safety, health or welfare of the neighborhood.

Section 3. Under Vehicle Code Section 21101.4 of the State of California, all temporary closures are valid for the 18 months except for when this period has been extended for an additional 18 months of not more than eight additional consecutive periods by resolution.

Section 4. The City Council approves the temporary closures of the subject alleys identified herein to through vehicular and pedestrian traffic with the following conditions.

- a) A locking security device approved by the Sacramento Fire Department will be installed on each gate.
- b) City departments and utility companies will have twenty-four (24) hour access to their facilities within the alleys.
- c) Adjacent property owners may be granted access to the alleys through the security device that has been approved by the City's Department of Public Works.
- d) In the event that the security device requires construction by a private entity for improvements in the public right-of-way, a revocable encroachment permit, and an excavation permit must be obtained from the Department of Public Works.

**CLEARANCE LETTER**

**DATE:** January 31, 2018

**TO:** **Matt Young**  
Police Sergeant

**FROM:** Jair Bautista, Engineering Technician, Public Works  
(916) 808-7929

**SUBJECT:** Clearance for the temporary closures of through traffic of the right-of-way roads (alleys) located: (1) El Camino Avenue Darina Avenue Alley between Empress Street and Boxwood Street & (2) Amaranth Alley between Eleanor Avenue and Las Palmas Avenue

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I have reviewed the material on the subject alleys/streets proposed for the temporary closures. On behalf of the Police Department, I find that the proposed alley/street closures detailed within Council Districts 2 will benefit the adjacent property owners and residents. Restrictive devices such as gates or bollards will deter criminal activity and illegal dumping. I recommend that the proposed temporary closures of the subject alleys/streets be implemented. Such action will benefit the community. Additional comments may follow below.

**COMMENTS:**

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*N/A*

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Signed: *Agt. Matt Young #3063*

Date: *2/2/19*

**CLEARANCE LETTER**

**DATE:** January 31, 2018

**TO:** **King Tunson**  
Fire Program Analyst

**FROM:** Jair Bautista, Engineering Technician, Public Works  
(916) 808-7929

**SUBJECT:** **Clearance for the temporary closures of through traffic of the right-of-way roads (alleys) located: (1) El Camino Avenue Darina Avenue Alley between Empress Street and Boxwood Street & (2) Amaranth Alley between Eleanor Avenue and Las Palmas Avenue**

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**COMMENTS:**

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Signed: 

Date: 1/30/19