

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
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October 15, 1999

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT: J STREET BETWEEN 12TH AND 13TH STREETS TRAFFIC
ISSUES - REPORT BACK**

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT:

J Street Between 12th and 13th Streets, Council District 1.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. This report is information only.

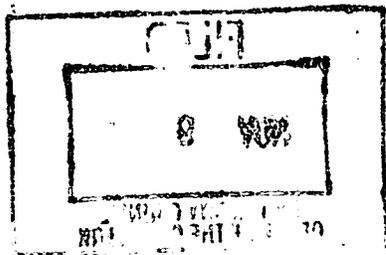
CONTACT PERSON: Marty Hanneman, City Traffic Engineer, 264-7508

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: November 9, 1999

SUMMARY:

At the June 29th Council Meeting, staff presented a report regarding traffic impacts related to the Convention Center hotel project on J Street between 12th and 13th Streets. Staff provided two options. The first option was to leave parking along the north side of J Street and maintain two travel lanes. Staff would also continue monitoring via the Traffic Operations Center and adjust signal timing as needed for the next 17 months of construction. The second option would be removal of on-street parking along the north side of J Street to accommodate three travel lanes. Because impacts to businesses on the north side and the hotel contractor-Hensel Phelps requiring all approved space for construction, staff recommended option one. However, Council directed staff to provide a report back on what additional options may be available to provide for better traffic flow on J Street.

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Staff has considered the Council Members input from the June 29th meeting, revisited the available feasible options, and is again recommending option one – no change be maintained for the duration of the project.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION:

None.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At the June 29th Council Meeting, staff presented a report regarding traffic impacts related to the Convention Center hotel project on J Street between 12th and 13th Streets. Staff provided two options. The first option was to leave parking along the north side of J Street and maintain two travel lanes. Staff would also continue monitoring via the Traffic Operations Center and adjust signal timing as needed for the next 17 months of construction. The second option required removal of on-street parking along the north side of J Street to accommodate three travel lanes. Because impacts to businesses on the north side and the hotel contractor-Hensel Phelps requiring all it's approved space for construction, staff recommended option one. However, Council directed staff to provide a report back on what additional options may be available to provide for better traffic flow on J Street.

Some suggestions by Council Members included:

- Provide additional signage on 12th Street directing motorists to the 13th Street garage to use H Street to reduce traffic volumes on J Street.
- Narrow the lane widths of the existing lanes and remove parking to accommodate an additional travel lane.
- Move the construction barricades to provide additional space.

Staff has completed or is in the process of the following:

- Installing a CCTV at 12th and J Streets that would be connected to the Traffic Operations Center to monitor traffic operations and adjust signal timing as necessary.
- Installing signage along 12th Street for motorists going to the 13th Street parking garage to use H Street.
- Reviewed space needs with the hotel contractor. The contractor has shown a real need for area it currently has for construction. The barricades weigh approximately 3 tons each and require heavy equipment to move them.
- Observed traffic conditions during midday and p.m. peak hours and observed average delays for these periods.
- Removing parking on the north side and narrowing lane widths to approximately 9 to 10 feet, coupled with the severe crown of the roadway and required transition at 13th, would result in only a marginal capacity increase.

When completed in February 2001, the new convention center hotel will stand approximately 295 feet tall with 27 floors. To construct the building, the contractor received City approval to



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use the sidewalk, parking lane, and one travel lane on J Street. The contractor—Hensel Phelps Inc., has done everything requested to minimize impacts to J Street.

Because the hotel site is located on J Street, which has average daily traffic volumes of approximately 20,000 combined with special events at either the Community Center, Convention Center, and/or Thursday Night Summerfest, traffic congestion is likely to occur.

Option one is currently in place, and removal of parking on the north side would negatively impact businesses and only increase capacity marginally. Thus, staff again recommends continued monitoring with no change to the existing operations for the duration of the project.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None. All traffic control costs for J Street between 12th and 13th Streets is part of the Convention Center Hotel project.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Neighborhoods, Planning and Development Services Department, Office of Environmental Affairs has reviewed the project and has determined that this project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under section 15301-C of the CEQA guidelines.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

The traffic control plan is consistent with the City Council's priority of Public Safety.

ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:

None, since no goods or services are being procured with this action.

Respectfully submitted,



Marty Hanneman
City Traffic Engineer

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:



ROBERT P. THOMAS
City Manager
J St Traffic issues council report Nov 9, 1999

Approved:



Michael Kashiwagi
Director of Public Works