

October 6, 2004

Honorable Chairman and Members of the
Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting of
October 20, 2004

CHANGE 26TH STREET TO BE ONE-WAY WESTBOUND

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Commission receive public comments and deny the request to change 26th Street to one-way westbound beginning at Morningside Drive southbound and ending at Manhattan Avenue.

Summary:

This item was on the Public Works Commission's September 15 meeting agenda, but due to the absence of two of the commissioners and recusal by a third, the Commissioners could not vote on this issue, as they didn't have a quorum. They did, however, hear public comments as a courtesy to the residents in attendance. Please see Attachment 3 for residents' comments.

Staff has received a petition from residents of 26th Street requesting that this change be made (see Attachment 1). The residents cited concerns regarding the safety of school children on this busy and narrow street. There is a large volume of traffic in the mornings and the afternoons during drop off and pick up of school children at Valley Park School. The street is 25 feet wide with parking on both sides. This is typical of other residential streets in the vicinity but the others do not have a school on their block.

Staff observed traffic along 26th Street on multiple occasions during school drop off and pickup times and has not seen any serious congestion or safety issues. Most drop offs/pick ups are done in the school parking lot. Staff is also concerned about potential diversion of traffic to Ozone Court and 27th Court if 26th Street were to be changed to one-way. There's be an increase in traffic on both, which are very narrow alleys.

For the above reasons, staff recommends against the requested change to a one-way street.

Staff has mailed notices of this proposed change to all owners and residents who may be affected by this change.

If supported by the Commission, the request would then go to the Planning Commission for approval as an Amendment to the General Plan Circulation Element. If approved there, the Amendment would go to City Council for final approval for implementation.

Attachments:

1. Petition
2. Vicinity Map
3. Excerpts from 9/15/04 Meeting Minutes
4. Notice to Residents/Property Owners
5. Letters from Residents

Respectfully submitted,

Richard D. Morgan, P.E.
Director of Public Works/City Engineer

6a