

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEES REPORT relative to the re-scoping of the project at the intersection of Ventura Boulevard and Woodman Avenue.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Raman – Lee) and SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. INSTRUCT the Bureau of Engineering (BOE), with the assistance of the Bureau of Street Services (BSS), the Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL), and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), to report within 60 days with a re-scoping of the project at the intersection of Ventura Boulevard and Woodman Avenue to prioritize safety and accessibility for people walking, bicycling and taking transit, and for persons with mobility disabilities to include consideration of the following:
 - a. Reconstruction of catch basins on the east side of Woodman Ave and improvement of the flowline.
 - b. Construction of ADA accessible unidirectional curb ramps for all four corners of the intersection of Woodman Avenue and Ventura Boulevard.
 - c. Shortening of the crosswalk at Woodman Avenue along the north leg.
 - d. Widening of the sidewalks on Woodman Avenue north of Ventura Boulevard to the alley north of Ventura Boulevard and improvement of the ADA path of travel.
 - e. Curb extensions at all corners and bus bulbs or islands at any transit stop located on the near side or far side of the intersection of Woodman Avenue and Ventura Boulevard.
 - f. Planting and establishment of as many street trees as possible.
 - g. Recommendations for lighting improvements or additions at the intersection including street lighting and pedestrian-scaled lighting, especially at transit stops.
2. INSTRUCT the BOE to:
 - a. Terminate the active project entitled "Ventura Boulevard and Woodman Avenue Improvements," Work Order No. E1908174.
 - b. Terminate the construction contract awarded as Contract No. C-138493.
 - c. Negotiate all associated costs with the termination of Contract No. C-138493; and, transfer any remaining funds in the Engineering Special Services Fund No. 682/50, Appropriation Unit No. 50MVBW entitled "Ventura at Woodman Intersection Improvements" and/or appropriated to

the Ventura at Woodman Intersection; account in the Ventura/Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan Trust Fund 523.

3. AUTHORIZE the BOE and LADOT to make any corrections, clarifications or revisions to the above fund transfer and amendment instructions, including any new instructions, in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion; and, including any corrections and changes to fund or account numbers; said corrections/clarifications/changes may be made orally, electronically or by any other means.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On March 8, 2023, the Transportation Committee considered a Motion (Raman – Lee) relative to the re-scoping of the project at the intersection of Ventura Boulevard and Woodman Avenue. According to the Motion, six years ago, a roadway widening project was initiated at the intersection of Ventura Boulevard and Woodman Avenue in Sherman Oaks. This project was advertised and awarded and ready to begin construction early this year. Since the inception of this project, the City of Los Angeles and the State of California have both refined and reprioritized their mobility goals to emphasize reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), increasing our transit ridership, improving active transportation safety and comfort, and improving accessibility for those with mobility disabilities. These priorities reflect an overarching goal of reducing our Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions; according to 2020 California Air Resources Board data, 38 percent of our GHG Emissions come from the Transportation sector.

In the City of Los Angeles, the Circulation Element of the General Plan (Mobility Plan 2035) explicitly reorients our approach to intersection treatments and the transportation projects we undertake. Policy 1.1 of Mobility Plan 2035, is the first policy listed and is our guiding star: "Roadway User Vulnerability: Design, plan, and operate streets to prioritize the safety of the most vulnerable roadway user." Roadway widenings for the purpose of adding vehicular capacity and throughput are typically counterproductive to pedestrian safety and comfort. Additionally, the increase in vehicular capacity generally increases VMT, contrary to the current State and City goals. Some elements of the project are in line with improving pedestrian safety and some elements reflect a demonstrated engineering need. Namely, the improvement of existing curb ramps with accessible unidirectional curb ramps and the reconstruction of existing catch basins on the east side of Woodman Avenue, south of Ventura Boulevard. These project elements should remain. However, the widening of the roadway should be removed from the project scope, and replaced with other features and improvements, in line with the City's mobility goals. After further consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Transportation Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion, as amended.

Subsequently, on March 22, 2023, the Public Works Committee also considered this matter and after consideration and also having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Public Works Committee moved to concur with the Transportation Committee. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Transportation Committee

COUNCILMEMBER VOTE

HUTT:	YES
PARK:	YES
HERNANDEZ:	YES
RAMAN:	YES
YAROSLAVSKY:	ABSENT

Public Works Committee

COUNCILMEMBER VOTE

LEE:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
RAMAN:	YES

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4/4/23
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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-