

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION and PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the vacation of the portion of Keswick Street between Vantage Avenue and Laurel Canyon Boulevard - Walkway and Future Street Easement Vacation, VAC-E1401389 (Vacation).

Recommendations for Council action:

1. FIND that the Vacation is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, pursuant to Article III, Class 5(3) of the City's Environmental Guidelines.
2. FIND that the street vacation proceedings pursuant to the Public Streets, Highways and Service Easements Vacation Law be instituted for the vacation of the public right-of way indicated below and shown on the map of the December 1, 2021 City Engineer report, attached to the Council file:

Portion of Keswick Street between Vantage Avenue and Laurel Canyon Boulevard (Walkway and Future Street Easement).
3. FIND that there is a public benefit to the Vacation. Upon vacation of the street, the City is relieved of its ongoing obligation to maintain the street. In addition, the City is relieved of any potential liability that might result from continued ownership of the involved street easements.
4. FIND that the Vacation is in substantial conformance with the purposes, intent and provisions of the General Plan, in conformance with Section 556 of the City Charter.
5. FIND that the Vacation is not necessary for non-motorized transportation facilities, in conformance with Section 892 of the California Streets and Highways Code.
6. FIND that the Vacation is not necessary for present or prospective public use, in conformance with Section 8324 of the California Streets and Highways Code.
7. ADOPT said City Engineer's report with the conditions contained therein.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Engineer reports that a deposit of \$14,980 is typically required from the petitioner at the time of filing for the investigation of the request, as required by Section 7.42 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC). However, the petitioner, the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), has not paid the deposit. Furthermore, any deficit to recover the cost pursuant to Section 7.44 of the LAAC is required of the petitioner. Since the petitioner is a City department, it is feasible for the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) to proceed with the vacation proceedings while funding is being identified. Approval of this report will result in the need by RAP to identify sufficient funding to pay for services provided by BOE staff to process the vacation application. Maintenance of the public easement by City forces will be eliminated.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

SUMMARY

At the meeting held on January 12, 2022, your Public Works Committee considered the recommendations of the City Engineer as contained in its aforementioned report. The City Engineer reports that the area sought to be vacated is a portion of Keswick Street between Vantage Avenue and Laurel Canyon Boulevard - Walkway and Future Street Easement Vacation (a map of the area is included in the City Engineer report). The purpose of the vacation request is to use vacated area for the development of a park and pedestrian walkway. This vacation procedure is being processed under procedures established by Council on March 5, 2002 as detailed in Council file No. 01-1459.

After having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the recommendations as contained in said City Engineer report as detailed above. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
BLUMENFIELD	YES
LEE	YES
DE LEÓN	YES
O'FARRELL	ABSENT
KORETZ	ABSENT

ME 1/12/22

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-