



CITY OF ALBANY CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Agenda Date: December 4, 2023

Reviewed by: NA

SUBJECT: Temporary Street Closure for Albany Community Expo

REPORT BY: Danielle Brownlie, Recreation & Community Services Manager
Sid Schoenfeld, Recreation & Community Services Director

SUMMARY

The action before the Council is to authorize the closure of a one-block area of Masonic Ave for the annual Albany Community Expo.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt Resolution No. 2023-74, authorizing staff to approve for a period of three years the closure of a one-block area of Masonic Avenue between Solano Avenue and Marin Avenue adjacent to Albany Community Center for the Albany Community Expo.

BACKGROUND

Use of the public right-of-way is regulated by Section 14-2 of the Albany Municipal Code. Per the Municipal Code, applications for work or use of the public right of way are processed in the form of an encroachment permit, which is subject to the approval of the Community Development Director. According to the City's Master Fee Schedule, City Council approval is required for group permits for special activities occurring in the public right-of-way.

In addition, California Vehicle Code section 21101 requires the City to approve by resolution the temporarily closure of any street for celebrations, parades, local special events, and other purposes when the closing is necessary for the safety and protection of persons who are to use that portion of the street during the temporary closing.

DISCUSSION

Albany Community Expo is organized by the Recreation & Community Services Department for the Albany community. This expo is a fun, family-friendly way to learn about community based-organizations in Albany as well as City services. The dates for the annual Albany Community Expo to be held in the next three years are scheduled for April 27, 2024, April 26, 2025, and April 26, 2026. This event provides helpful informational resources, and

features live entertainment, great food, a free raffle, and kids zone. Walking or biking is encouraged! Due to this event road closure (Masonic Avenue between Solano and Marin Avenues), through traffic may detour on either Key Route Boulevard or Evelyn Avenue. Residents on Masonic Avenue will only be allowed to travel northbound.

Residents on the affected streets and the area surrounding the area will receive a notice regarding the closure at least a week in advance of the event. Staff will be posting the area for “No Parking” 72-hours in advance of the event. In coordination with Albany Police and Fire Departments, additional measures will be taken to ensure the safety of event attendees.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Periodic street closures are recognized as an effective way that give residents and visitors an opportunity to enjoy a neighborhood in a different way than experienced by driving on the street. The Albany Community Expo event encourages walking and spending time outdoors. The event will provide secure bike parking in a prominent location, near the center of activity to encourage biking. In addition, the availability of bike parking shall be displayed and encouraged on all event marketing materials and website.

SOCIAL EQUITY AND INCLUSIVITY CONSIDERATIONS

The Albany Community Expo is a free event at Albany Community Center that provides equal access to parks and recreation for public enjoyment and engagement.

CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES

GOAL 4: Encourage Community Connectivity Through Diversity, Equity & Inclusivity;
OBJECTIVES: Enhance programs and services for residents across the full lifespan;
Increase accessibility and enhance communication to residents on City resources and information.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION

No substantial financial impact.

Attachments:

1. Resolution No. 2023-74
2. Proposed Street Closure Map

