



CITY OF ALBANY CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Agenda Date: May 1, 2023
Reviewed by: NA

SUBJECT: Approval of Temporary Street Closure for City of Albany 4th of July Event

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

SUMMARY

The action before the Council is to authorize the closure of a two-block area of Portland Avenue for the City's annual 4th of July Event.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt Resolution No. 2023-22, authorizing staff to approve for a period of three years the closure of a two-block area of Portland Avenue between Carmel Avenue and Pomona Avenue adjacent to Memorial Park for the City's July 4th Event.

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

4th of July in the Park is a one-day celebration organized by the Recreation & Community Services Department for the Albany community with live entertainment, food trucks, and activities for kids and families. Due to this event road closure (Portland Avenue between Carmel and Pomona Avenues), through traffic may detour on either Thousand Oaks or Washington Avenues. Residents on Ramona will only be allowed to travel southbound.

Residents on the affected streets and the area surrounding the park 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 4th of July 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 4th of July event is a free event at Memorial Park 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. 2023-22