

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 10/13/08		Item Number: <u>A-6</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Adoption of a Resolution Re-Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration, Reserving a Utility Easement, Ordering the Vacation of all of Helms Avenue from Washington Boulevard, Towards Venice Boulevard, to the City Limits of the City of Culver City and Rescinding Resolution No. 2002-R015			
Contact Person/Dept.: Andy O'Connell/PW		Phone Number: (310) 253-5606	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Master E-Mail Notification List e-mailed on (10/08/08) and Walter Marks, III, by telephone on September 30, 2008. Postcard Notices were mailed to all residents and occupants within a 500 foot radius of the project site, extended to the end of the block, on September 29, 2008.			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (10/02/2008)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (10/07/08)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (10/08/08)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (10/08/08)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council adopt a Resolution re-adopting a mitigated negative declaration, reserving a utility easement, ordering the vacation of all of Helms Avenue from Washington Boulevard, towards Venice Boulevard, to the City limits of the City of Culver City, and rescinding Resolution no. 2002-R015. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> The applicant for this vacation request is Mr. Walter Marks, III, who has acquired all properties on both sides of Helms Avenue between Washington and Venice Boulevards. Mr. Marks is in the process of redeveloping the area and wishes to include the area of Helms Avenue into his plans for development. Mr. Marks is proceeding with the City of Los Angeles to record a Final Map that will define new lot lines and eliminate Helms Avenue between the common City Limits line and Venice Boulevard. On February 25, 2002, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2002-R-015, which authorized the vacation of that portion of Helms Avenue from Washington Boulevard northerly to the City Limits of Culver City (Attachment 1). Prior to its recordation, certain conditions stated in Resolution No. 2002-R-015, have to be met. First, the applicant must submit a detailed plan for consideration of approval by the Public Works Director/City Engineer and Planning Manager illustrating any physical changes proposed to or near the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Helms Avenue. This plan has been submitted but not approved. Second, the applicant			

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must submit a traffic signal and striping plan for consideration and approval by the Public Works Director/City Engineer indicating the required changes to the traffic signal equipment and other operational details associated with the proposed street vacation. This plan has been submitted but not approved. Third, the applicant must submit a plan to the Culver City Fire Department and Culver City Police Department demonstrating adequate emergency access. A preliminary plan has been submitted to both Departments for review and has been returned with minor comments. As the development plan becomes complete, final approval from both the Fire and Police Departments is required.

DISCUSSION:

In preparation for recording of Resolution No. 2002-015 (which would occur when all conditions have been met and concurrently with the applicant's Final Map of the City of Los Angeles' portion of the property), it was discovered that the legal description and plat map of that portion of Helms Avenue to be vacated in Culver City did not accurately reflect the intent and physical description of the vacation. Additionally, a field review of Helms Avenue determined that there are public utilities on both sides of Helms Avenue. Adoption of the proposed Resolution will correct the legal description and plat map for the portion of Helms Avenue to be vacated and provide for a 60 foot wide public utility easement.

The notification and other procedural requirements established by the California Environmental Quality Act for the Mitigated Negative Declaration and the California Streets and Highways Code for this vacation have all been satisfied as part of the noticing provided and proceedings completed for the February 25, 2002 City Council hearing held on the related street vacation. Additionally, pursuant to the City Council's direction, postcard notices were mailed to all residents and occupants within a 500 foot radius of the project site, extended to the end of the block, on September 29, 2008.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There are no costs associated with the adoption of the proposed Resolution. However, the vacation of Helms Avenue will relieve the City from the cost of maintenance and liability.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. February 25, 2002 Staff report

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2. Proposed Resolution

MOTION:

That the City Council:

Adopt a Resolution re-adopting a mitigated negative declaration, reserving a 60 foot wide utility easement, ordering the vacation of all of Helms Avenue from Washington Boulevard, towards Venice Boulevard, to the city limits of the City of Culver City, and rescinding Resolution No. 2002-015.