

Agenda Report

July 20, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Department of Public Works
SUBJECT: CALTRANS LEASE EXTENSION FOR PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 182 AND 234 BELLEFONTAINE STREET

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(h), the General Rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to extend the lease agreement between the City of Pasadena and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the vacant lands, containing approximately 78,547 square feet, located South Westerly and South Easterly of Pasadena Avenue and South of Bellefontaine street, as well as the triangle portion in between in the City of Pasadena as outlined on map attached hereto and made a part hereof, for an additional two years at a cost of \$100 a year.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2003, the Transportation Advisory Commission formed a subcommittee of the then existing Design Advisory Group SR710 Mitigation Project liaison committee to study additional measures to protect neighborhoods from the SR 710 Freeway traffic. In November 2003, the subcommittee hosted a neighborhood meeting to gather community input from neighbors and representatives of neighboring associations.

Based on community input, the subcommittee made ten recommendations for beautification and neighborhood demarcation projects for the Pasadena Avenue/St. John Avenue corridor. One of the recommendations was to "create and implement a landscape plan for the three parcels of land (including the triangular island) at the intersection of Pasadena Avenue, St. John Avenue and Bellefontaine Street."

In response, the City of Pasadena entered into a lease agreement with Caltrans on October 29, 2009 for the subject properties for a term of five years. The terms and conditions of the draft lease included an annual rent payment of \$100 and limited the

use of the properties to drought-tolerant landscaping. The City of Pasadena was responsible for the care and maintenance of the property.

The Department of Public Works currently utilizes an outside contractor for routine maintenance at a cost to the City of \$130 per month.

Since October 29, 2014, Caltrans was only willing to offer a month-to-month agreement. Caltrans is now willing to enter into a two-year agreement using the same terms and conditions as the original agreement.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION

This project is consistent with the City Council's goals to improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure; support and promote the quality of life and local economy; and ensure public safety.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS;

This project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1984 in accordance with Article 19, Section 15301 (Class 1), Subsection (h) of the Guidelines (maintenance of existing landscaping).

FISCAL IMPACT:


Funding for this action, which is estimated at \$1,660 (\$100 for rent plus \$1,560 for contracted maintenance) exists annually (to maintain the property exists within the budgeted appropriations in the Parks and Natural Resources Division Operating Budget (budget account 8101-101-765400)).

Respectfully submitted,



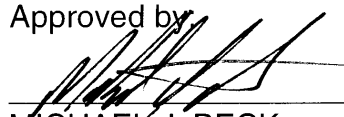
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Approved by:



MICHAEL J. BECK
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Attachment A – Location Map of Properties