

## 2014 Council Study Issue

## DPW 14 - 17 Analysis of Reconfiguration or Other Capacity Improvement Alternatives for the Wolfe Road/El Camino Real/Fremont Avenue Intersection Complex

**Lead Department** Department of Public Works

**Sponsor(s)** Councilmember Whittum, Councilmember Hendricks

**History**      1 year ago:      2 years ago:

## 1. Scope of the Study

a. What are the key elements of the study?

This study would evaluate existing and forecast traffic operations at the Wolfe Road/El Camino Real/Fremont Avenue intersections and identify and assess alternatives for the improvement of motor vehicle throughput. Alternatives could include but not be limited to signal timing or operational changes, or the addition of through or turn lanes.

b. What precipitated this study?

This intersection features a unique geometric layout and the intersection of three major arterial streets, including El Camino Real, which is the heaviest travelled arterial street in the City, and Wolfe Road, which is subject to concentrated peak commute hour traffic. While the intersection complex has been studied in detail in the past, traffic studies have not been updated for 14 years. Changing traffic volumes and patterns and potential land development at the intersection have elicited interest on the part of City Council members to update traffic studies of the intersection complex.

c. Is this a multiple year project? Yes	Planned Completion Year
2015	

## 2. Fiscal Impact

a. Cost to Conduct Study

i. Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost)

☒ Major ☐ Moderate ☐ Minor

ii. Amount of funding above current budget required \$ 100,000

☒ Will seek budget supplement funding      ☒ Will seek grant funding

iii. Explanation of Cost:

Consultant services for traffic analysis, conceptual design, cost estimating, environmental evaluation, public outreach, report and presentation material preparation.

b. Costs to Implement Study Results

- ☐ No cost to implement.  
☒ Unknown. Study would include assessment of potential costs.  
☐ Some cost to implement. Explanation:

3. **Expected participation in the process**

- ☒ Council-approved work plan  
☒ Council Study Session  
☒ Board/Commission Review by BPAC

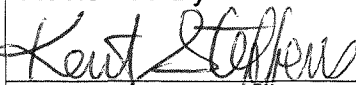
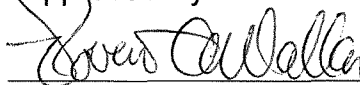
4. **Staff Recommendation**

a. Position: Support

- b. Explanation: The intersection of Wolfe Road/El Camino Real/Fremont Avenue has been studied in detail in the past, and City policy has been subject to extensive public and political debate. Studies completed in 1991 and 2000 identified a number of improvement alternatives, the most effective of which would require acquisition of right of way and roadway widening in the vicinity of residences. Public sentiment was strongly in opposition to the previous roadway widening project.

Currently the intersections operate at an acceptable level of service (Level D), although certain movements, particularly the northbound and southbound Wolfe Road movements are experiencing intermittent queuing during peak hours.

A detailed technical analysis has not been performed at the location for many years. An updated analysis that takes into account changed travel patterns and volumes, changes in signal technology, and potential geometric and/or operational improvements may yield low impact improvements that can improve traffic flow in the near term. The proposed study would seek to find alternatives not previously studied and consider new or innovative improvements to the intersections.

Reviewed By:	Approved By:
 1-23-14	 1-23-14
Department Director      Date	City Manager      Date