



## REPORT TO COUNCIL City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2671  
www.CityofSacramento.org

PUBLIC HEARING  
May 5, 2009

Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council

**Title:** Temporary Street Closure of Two Alleyways within the Oak Park  
Neighborhood; Temporary Closure Proceeding No. TSC 09-01

**Location/Council District:** Two Alleyways located within the Oak Park neighborhood  
in Council District 5 (see Attachment 2, Page 5).

1. The alley bounded by 32<sup>nd</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> Streets and 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenues.
2. The alley bounded by 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenues and 37<sup>th</sup> Street and Martin Luther King  
Jr. Boulevard.

**Recommendation:** Adopt a **Resolution** authorizing the temporary closure of the two  
subject alleyways within the Oak Park Community.

**Contact:** Jerry Lovato, Senior Engineering Technician, (916) 808-7918; Thomas  
Adams, Engineering Technician, (916) 808-7929

**Presenters:** Thomas Adams

**Department:** Transportation

**Division:** Engineering Services

**Organization No:** 15001181

### Description/Analysis

**Issue:** The property owners have requested the temporary closures of the two  
subject alleyways to help eliminate or reduce the amount of criminal activity by  
restricting vehicular and pedestrian traffic within the alleyways. A summary of the  
project's history is included in Attachment 1, Page 4.

**Policy Considerations:** The procedures under which the restriction of traffic is  
being initiated are set forth in the Vehicle Code Section 21101.4 and Sacramento  
City Code Chapter 12.16 allowing the temporary closure of alleys for the  
protection or preservation of the public peace, safety, health or welfare. This  
temporary closure is consistent with the City's Strategic Plan focus area in that it



will improve and expand public safety, achieve sustainability and enhance livability. This is in keeping with the City's vision of being the most livable city in America.

**Environmental Considerations:**

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** The Environmental Planning Services section of the Development Services Department has reviewed the proposed temporary street closure and determined that the activity is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15301(f) of the CEQA Guidelines. This project consists of the temporary closure of an existing alley by adding a gate to the entrance of the alley. This project falls under CEQA Guidelines of Categorical Exemptions Section 15301(f) in that this temporary street closure involves no expansion of use beyond what currently exists. Access to the road will be given to appropriate departments and agencies.

**Sustainability Considerations:** None

**Committee/Commission Action:** None

**Rationale for Recommendation:** Adoption of the attached Resolution will provide additional security for the property owners by eliminating the opportunity for individuals to commit illegal acts and illegally dump within this subject alleyway.

**Financial Considerations:** The cost associated with this request is paid by the Alley Abatement Program (T15090900). The total estimated cost to process this alley request is \$12,000; fifty percent of the total costs will be paid for by the Alley Abatement Program (T15090900) and the other fifty percent will be paid for by the Redevelopment Agency through their contribution to the Quality of Life Program, Alley Gate Installations Project (T15088405). There are no General Funds planned or allocated for this project.

As of March 5, 2009 the Alley Abatement Program (T15090900) has a total budget of \$60,000 and an unobligated balance of \$60,000 and the Quality of Life Alley Gate Installation Project (T15088405) has a total budget of \$18,000 and an unobligated balance of \$18,000, which is sufficient to cover the total estimated costs of \$12,000.

**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** None

Respectfully Submitted by: Tim Marfor  
Nicholas Theocharides  
Engineering Services Manager

Approved by: Jerry Way  
Jerry Way  
Director of Transportation

Recommendation Approved:

Mat Kerridge  
Ray Kerridge  
10<sup>00</sup> City Manager

**Table of Contents:**

Report	Pg 1
<b>Attachments</b>	
1 Background	Pg 4
2 Location Map of Alley Closures	Pg 5
3 Police Department Clearance Letter: Alley #1	Pg 6
4 Police Department Clearance Letter: Alley #2	Pg 7
5 Fire Department Clearance Letter: Alley #1	Pg 8
6 Fire Department Clearance Letter: Alley #2	Pg 9
7 Department of Transportation Clearance Letter: Alley #1	Pg 10
8 Department of Transportation Clearance Letter: Alley #2	Pg 11
9 Resolution	Pg 12

**Attachment 1****Background**

The proposed temporary closure of the two subject alleyways were requested by property owners along the subject alleyways. Both alleyways are currently unrestricted to vehicular and pedestrian traffic. This accessibility has allowed the alleyways to be utilized as a conduit for illegal activity such as theft, drug use, prostitution and illegal dumping. Many of these activities have been documented by the Sacramento Police Department in which over a year's span from 2008 to 2009 more than several hundred calls for service have been reported. With this amount of calls for service the Police Department supports temporary closures of both alleyways. (see Attachments 3, 4 Pages 6, 7).

The temporary closure of both alleyways will entail the installation of two wrought iron gates within each alley. This will limit vehicular and pedestrian access to property owners, City maintenance personnel and affected utility companies. The temporary closure of this alleyway will assist in deterring criminal activity and reducing the number of vehicles and pedestrians utilizing the alleyway as a means to conduct criminal acts.

The total estimated cost of installing the four (4) wrought iron gates with appropriate signs and locks will be \$12,000.00. This cost will be shared between the City of Sacramento's Problem Alley Abatement Program and Sacramento's Redevelopment Agency. Each entity will pay fifty percent (\$6,000.00) toward the cost of installing the gates and required signs.

In addition to the Police Department's support of both of the temporary closure of the subject alleyways, the City of Sacramento Fire Department has also given support to the temporary closure of the alleyways. The Fire Department certifies that the proposed temporary closure of both of the alleyways will not adversely impact their operation or the safety within the surrounding neighborhoods (see Attachments 5, 6 Pages 8, 9).

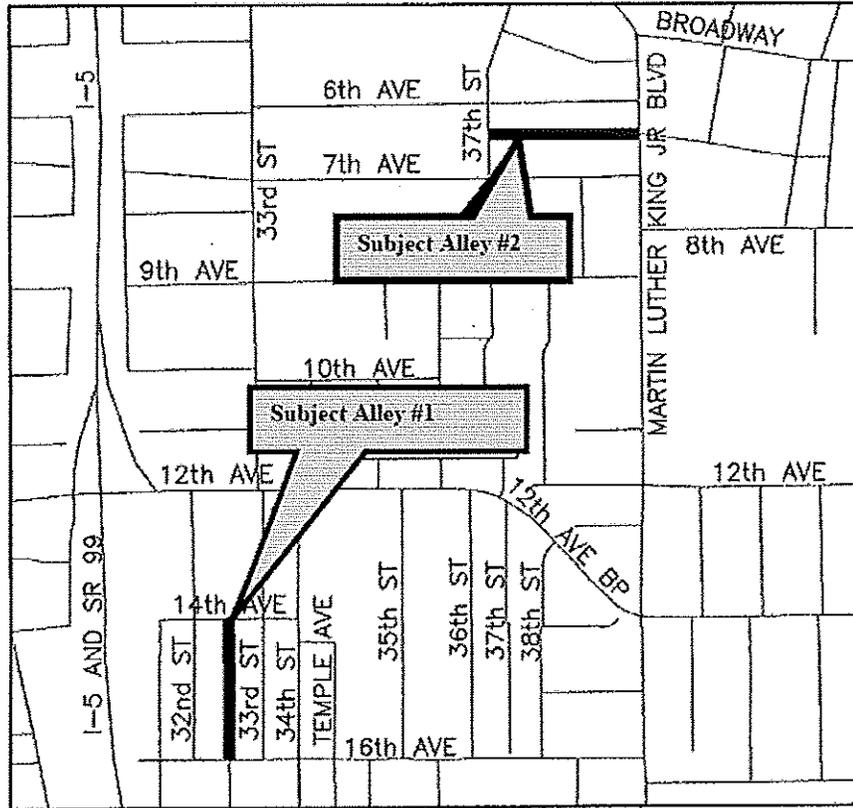
The temporary closure of both subject alleyways are supported by the City of Sacramento's Department of Transportation (DOT). DOT certifies that both of the proposed temporary closures of the alleyways does not include a through highway or arterial street and that the alley closures allows adequate and safe traffic circulation on the adjacent streets (see Attachments 6, 7 Pages 10, 11).

The temporary street closure is not to exceed (18) months unless the closure is properly extended. Once approved, the closure may be extended for an additional five (5) consecutive periods of not more than eighteen (18) months each. Prior to each extension, City Council must hold a Public Hearing. Noticing to the public regarding the temporary street closure has been completed prior to this City Council meeting in accordance with City Code section 12.16.220.

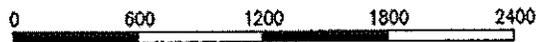
The majority of the adjacent property owners along with City staff support the temporary closures of both alleyways.

Attachment 2

Location map for:  
ALLEY CLOSURE



Map Contact: Boris Kikman  
Date: April 2009



MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Sacramento  
Department of Transportation  
300 Richards Blvd., Floor 300  
Sacramento, CA 95811

SUBJECT: CLEARANCE FOR THE CLOSURE OF TRAFFIC THROUGH THE  
ALLEY BOUNDED BY 14<sup>TH</sup> AVE/16<sup>TH</sup> AVE/32<sup>ND</sup> and 33<sup>RD</sup> Street .

I have reviewed the material on the subject alley proposed for restriction of traffic. On behalf of the Police Department, I find that the area of the proposed alley closure of traffic on the subject alley suffers from criminal activity. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic contributes to this activity. Given the ongoing criminal activity in the area of this alley, I recommend that the proposed restriction of traffic on the alley be implemented. Such action would substantially alleviate the serious and continual criminal activity in the area. Additional comments may follow below.

COMMENTS:

THE ALLEY LISTED ABOVE HAS BEEN REPORTED BY NEIGHBORS FOR THE  
LAST FEW YEARS TO BE A DUMP SITE AND HANG OUT FOR DRUG USERS AND  
TRANSIENTS. THE POLICE DEPT DOESN'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH CLOSING  
THE ALLEY OFF TO ALL TRAFFIC.

  
Police Department Signature

10/30/09  
Date

MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Sacramento  
Department of Transportation  
300 Richards Blvd., Floor 300  
Sacramento, CA 95811

SUBJECT: CLEARANCE FOR THE CLOSURE OF TRAFFIC THROUGH THE  
ALLEY BOUNDED BY 6<sup>TH</sup> AVE/7<sup>TH</sup> AVE/37<sup>TH</sup> Street and MLK.

I have reviewed the material on the subject alley proposed for restriction of traffic. On behalf of the Police Department, I find that the area of the proposed alley closure of traffic on the subject alley suffers from criminal activity. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic contributes to this activity. Given the ongoing criminal activity in the area of this alley, I recommend that the proposed restriction of traffic on the alley be implemented. Such action would substantially alleviate the serious and continual criminal activity in the area. Additional comments may follow below.

COMMENTS:

WE SUPPORT THE CLOSURE. THE SURROUNDING AREA  
SUFFERS FROM CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND THIS OPEN  
ALLEY DOESN'T HELP THAT AT ALL.

*[Signature]*  
Police Department Signature

April 13, 2009  
Date



MEMORANDUM

Attachment 5

TO: City of Sacramento  
Department of Transportation  
300 Richards Blvd., Floor 300  
Sacramento, CA 95811

SUBJECT: CLEARANCE FOR THE CLOSURE OF TRAFFIC THROUGH THE  
ALLEY BOUNDED BY 14<sup>TH</sup> AVE/16<sup>TH</sup> AVE/32<sup>ND</sup> and 33<sup>RD</sup> Street .

I have reviewed the material on the subject alley proposed for restriction of traffic. On behalf of the Department, I find that the proposed restriction will not adversely impact the operations of the Sacramento Fire Department. The Fire Department supports this restriction of traffic. Additional comments may follow below.

COMMENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fire Department Signature

9-16-09  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Attachment 6

MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Sacramento  
Department of Transportation  
300 Richards Blvd., Floor 300  
Sacramento, CA 95811

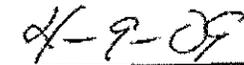
SUBJECT: CLEARANCE FOR THE CLOSURE OF TRAFFIC THROUGH THE  
ALLEY BOUNDED BY 6<sup>TH</sup> AVE/7<sup>TH</sup> AVE/37<sup>TH</sup> Street and MLK.

I have reviewed the material on the subject alley proposed for restriction of traffic. On behalf of the Department, I find that the proposed restriction will not adversely impact the operations of the Sacramento Fire Department. The Fire Department supports this restriction of traffic. Additional comments may follow below.

COMMENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fire Department Signature

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



MEMORANDUM

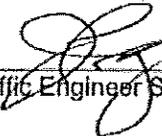
TO: City of Sacramento  
Department of Transportation  
300 Richards Blvd., Floor 300  
Sacramento, CA 95811

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CLOSURE OF TRAFFIC THROUGH THE ALLEY  
BOUNDED BY 14<sup>TH</sup> AVE/16<sup>TH</sup> AVE/32<sup>ND</sup> and 33<sup>RD</sup> Street.

In reference to the requested restriction of traffic, I have reviewed the material on the above subject alley. I find the alley is under the City of Sacramento's jurisdiction and the proposed restriction of traffic does not include an arterial or a through street. It also appears that the restriction will allow adequate traffic circulation on the area. The Department of Transportation supports this restriction of traffic on the subject alley. Additional comments may follow below.

COMMENTS:

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING IS NOT OPPOSED  
TO THIS PROPOSED CLOSURE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Traffic Engineer Signature

12-19-08  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Attachment 8

MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Sacramento  
Department of Transportation  
300 Richards Blvd., Floor 300  
Sacramento, CA 95811

SUBJECT: CLEARANCE FOR THE CLOSURE OF TRAFFIC THROUGH THE  
ALLEY BOUNDED BY 6<sup>TH</sup> AVE/7<sup>TH</sup> AVE/37<sup>TH</sup> Street and MLK.

I have reviewed the material on the subject alley proposed for restriction of traffic. On behalf of the Police Department, I find that the area of the proposed alley closure of traffic on the subject alley suffers from criminal activity. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic contributes to this activity. Given the ongoing criminal activity in the area of this alley, I recommend that the proposed restriction of traffic on the alley be implemented. Such action would substantially alleviate the serious and continual criminal activity in the area. Additional comments may follow below.

COMMENTS:

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING IS NOT OPPOSED TO  
THIS PROPOSAL.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Traffic Engineer Signature

12-19-08  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**RESOLUTION NO.**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

**Temporary Street Closure of Two Alleyways  
Located Within the Oak Park Neighborhood  
Proceeding No. TSC09-01**

**BACKGROUND**

- A. The City received a request from the adjacent property owners for a temporary closure of both of the subject alleyways within the Oak Park neighborhood.
- B. The Sacramento Redevelopment Agency has agreed to pay 50 percent of the total costs to construct the alley gates and placement of the necessary signage. The other 50 percent of total costs will be paid for by the City's Department of Transportation's Problem Alley Abatement Program.
- C. In accordance with Section 21101.4 of the Vehicle Code of the State of California and with Chapter 12.16 of the Sacramento City Code, the City Council hereby considers approval of the temporary street closure of traffic on two of the following subject alley to help prevent future criminal acts.

**BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL  
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1. Based upon substantial evidence present in the record of the proceedings regarding this matter, City Council hereby makes the following findings:
  - a) There is serious and continual criminal activity in the area of the subject alleyways recommended for closure. This finding is based upon a recommendation of the Police Department.
  - b) The alleyways recommended for closure is under the City's jurisdiction and has not been designated as a through highway or arterial street.
  - c) Vehicle or pedestrian traffic in the alleyways recommended for closure contributes to the criminal activity that is occurring there.
  - d) The alleyway closures will not substantially adversely affect traffic flow, safety on the streets or in the surrounding neighborhoods, the operation of emergency vehicles, the performance of municipal or public utility services, or the delivery of freight by commercial vehicles in the area of the street recommended for closure.

- Section 2. The temporary street closure of vehicular traffic through the two subject alleyways listed is necessary for the protection or preservation of the public peace, Safety, health or welfare of the neighborhood.
- a) Alleyway bounded between 32<sup>nd</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> streets and 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenues
  - b) Alleyway bounded between 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenues and 37<sup>th</sup> Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
- Section 3. The Council finds and determines that the subject alley closure will substantially alleviate the existing serious and continual criminal activity in that alley.
- Section 4. City Council grants the temporary street closure of the subject alley with the following conditions:
- a) A locking security device approved by the Sacramento Fire Department will be installed on the on each gate.
  - b) City departments and utility companies will have twenty-four (24) hour access to their facilities within the alley.
  - c) Signs giving notice of such restrictions shall be installed at the entrances to the subject alley prior to the installation of the gate security device.
  - d) The locking security device shall not be operated in a selective manner that restricts the access of some vehicles and/or pedestrians to the subject alley, while permitting other vehicles and pedestrians unrestricted access to the alley.
  - e) In the event that the security device requires construction by a private entity for improvements in the public right-of-way, a revocable encroachment permit and an excavation permit must be obtained from the Department of Transportation. The revocable encroachment permit is to be issued simultaneously with this Resolution. The excavation permit, if required, may be issued subsequent to this Resolution, but must be obtained prior to the construction of improvements in the public right-of-way. Staff recommends that the City Manager waive the fee for the revocable encroachment permit.