

Action Item # 31
December 14, 2004

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Laurie Capitelli
Councilmember Betty Olds
Councilmember Linda Maio

Subject: **PROPOSAL REGARDING MARIN AVENUE
RECONFIGURATION**

RECEIVED AT
COUNCIL MEETING OF:
DEC 14 2004
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF BERKELEY

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council: 1. Postpone the vote on the Marin Avenue reconfiguration until the January 18, 2005 City Council meeting, 2. Direct the City Manager to schedule a time-specific public hearing at that meeting to include an informational presentation by staff, and 3. Request that the scope of the Marin Avenue project include before and after traffic counts on potentially impacted neighborhood streets to be specified after the public hearing.

BACKGROUND

The public response to the proposed Marin Ave. reconfiguration has been tremendous and predominately negative. The public process leading up to this vote has been widely perceived as inadequate, and misinformation has been distributed throughout District 5 and 6. Because of this, the prudent action for Council would be to allow time to distribute the correct information, and provide a public forum for constituents to express their concerns.

Traffic patterns in the surrounding neighborhoods need to be assessed and monitored during the one-year trial, and that evidence should be included in any evaluation of the project. Therefore, should the council elect to proceed with the trial reconfiguration, we should include the following conditions:

1. Prior to implementation, establish baseline traffic measurements for all potentially impacted side streets. These measurements should be conducted while UC and local schools are in session avoiding holidays and 3-day weekends.
2. Prior to the one-year review, remeasure all previous measured traffic under similar conditions to establish a valid comparison.
3. Include a sunset provision ending the trial period. Council could subsequently elect to sustain the reconfiguration only after a thorough staff review and a public hearing by the Transportation Commission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

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