



# City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

April 5, 2011  
New Business Consent

**SUBJECT: CONSIDER AMENDING THE TRUCK ROUTE SYSTEM TO ELIMINATE SEGMENTS OF VICTORIA STREET AND/OR SANTA FE AVENUE FROM THE LIST OF STREETS DESIGNATED AS TRUCK ROUTES**

Submitted by M. Victor Rollinger  
Development Services General Manager

Approved by Clifford W. Graves  
Interim City Manager

## **I. SUMMARY**

This item is on the agenda at the request of Councilmember Santarina.

On December 7, 2010, the City Council considered a request to amend the truck route system to eliminate Victoria Street between Main Street and Avalon Boulevard from the list of streets designated as truck routes (Exhibit Nos. 1 and 2). Then on February 16, 2011, the City Council considered a subsequent request to eliminate Victoria Street between Main Street and Central Avenue from the list of streets designated as truck routes (Exhibit No. 3). The City Council referred the truck route issue to a joint meeting of the Planning Commission and the Public Works Commission and the meeting was held on March 23, 2011. The commissions continued the item with the request that staff return to a future Planning Commission / Public Works Commission joint meeting with additional information regarding truck traffic volumes, citations involving truck violations, the legality of nighttime truck restrictions, and the possibility of implementing such mitigation measures as sound walls, rubberized asphalt, and modernized truck fleets.

Prior to the joint meeting of the Planning Commission and Public Works Commission, a letter was received from the Carson Chamber of Commerce stating that the Chamber was opposed to any amendments to the truck route system that would eliminate part of Victoria Street from the truck route map (Exhibit No. 4).

## **II. RECOMMENDATION**

RECEIVE and FILE.

## **III. ALTERNATIVES**

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

17

**IV. BACKGROUND**

The issue of truck traffic on Victoria Street was addressed at the December 7, 2010 City Council meeting, and the Council directed staff to take the following actions:

1. Install “No Stopping Any Time” signs on the south side of Victoria Street between Main Street and Coltman Avenue.
2. Continue coordinating with the truck-oriented commercial operations near the intersection of Victoria and Main Streets to discourage their customers and employees from generating unnecessary noise.
3. Schedule a joint meeting of the Planning Commission and the Public Works Commission to consider an amendment to the Circulation Element of the General Plan to remove part of Victoria Street from the list of streets designated as truck routes.

The “No Parking Any Time” signs were subsequently installed on the south side of Main Street and representatives of the truck-oriented operations near the intersection of Victoria and Main Streets were contacted regarding the noise issues. In addition, the city’s Public Works Street Maintenance Division conducted grinding operations on Victoria Street east of Main Street and on Main Street south of Victoria Street to eliminate bumps and smooth out the pavement, thereby, reducing the vibration impacts associated with trucks.

With regard to the joint meeting of the Planning Commission and Public Works Commission, the meeting was held on March 23, 2011. The meeting addressed the truck route issues on Victoria Street as well as Santa Fe Avenue. Several residents spoke about the nuisances associated with trucks, such as noise, vibration, dust, air emissions, and structural cracks, and encouraged the commissions to support the request to eliminate Victoria Street from the truck route system. A representative of a freight forwarding company spoke about the impacts of eliminating roadways from the truck route system and encouraged the commissions to deny the request to eliminate any roadways from the truck route system. The letter from the Chamber of Commerce requesting that the commissions deny the request to eliminate a segment of Victoria Street from the truck route system was read into the record.

**V. FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**VI. EXHIBITS**

1. Location Map. (pg. 4)
2. Minutes, December 7, 2010, Item No. 21. (pgs. 5-6)

- 3. Minutes, February 16, 2011, Item No. 13. (pg. 7)
- 4. Letter from Chamber of Commerce. (pg. 8)

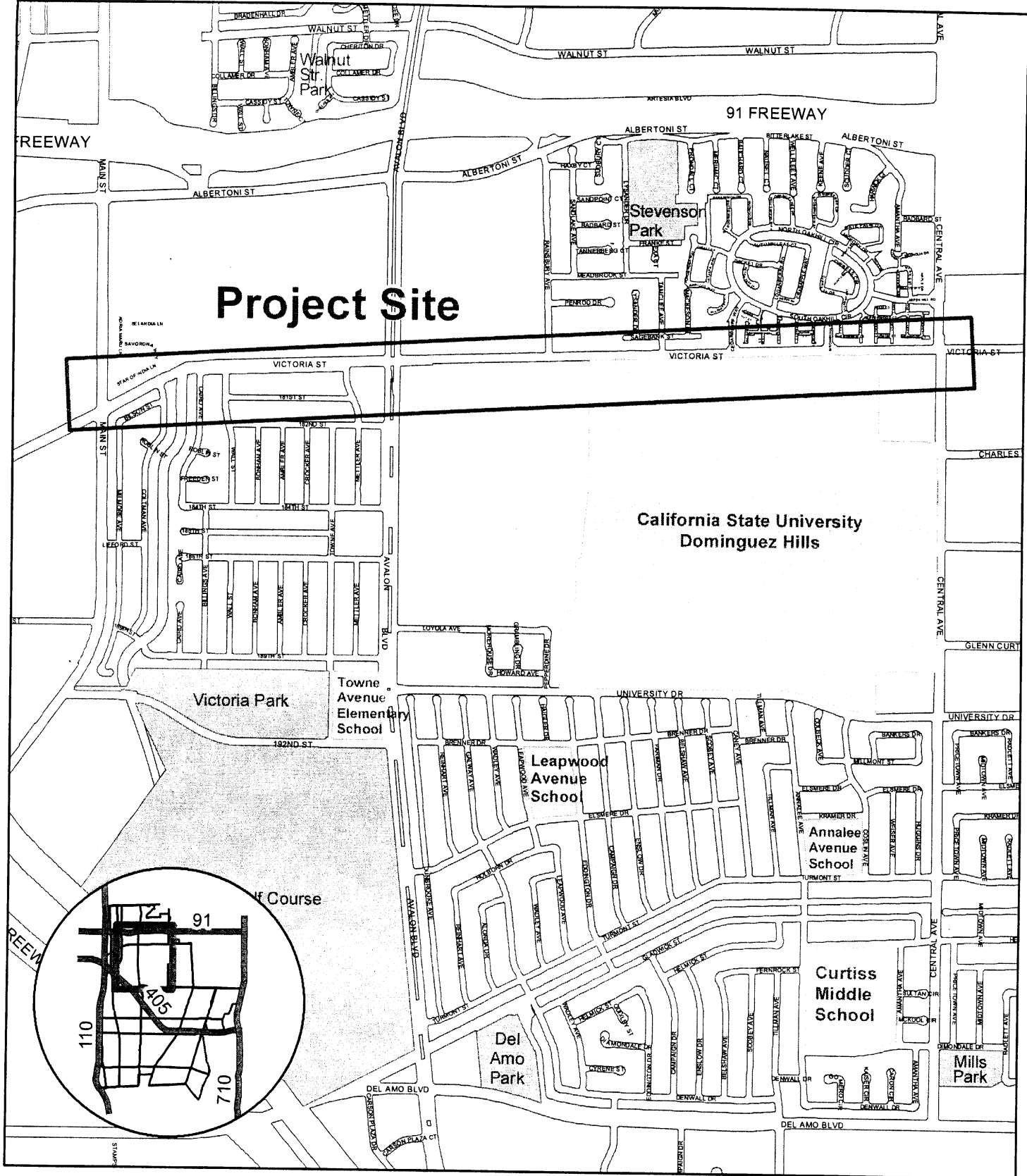
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Prepared by: Richard Garland, Traffic Engineer  
TO:Rev010511

Reviewed by:

|                               |                      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| City Clerk                    | City Treasurer       |
| Administrative Services       | Development Services |
| Economic Development Services | Public Services      |

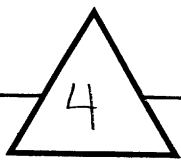
|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Action taken by City Council</b> |              |
| Date _____                          | Action _____ |
|                                     |              |



**Project Site**

California State University  
Dominguez Hills

**Location Map  
Victoria Street -  
Main Street to Central Avenue**



**EXHIBIT NO. 1**

**ITEM NO. (21) CONSIDER AMENDING THE TRUCK ROUTE SYSTEM TO ELIMINATE VICTORIA STREET BETWEEN MAIN STREET AND AVALON BOULEVARD (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)**

This item was heard at 9:43 P.M.

City Manager Groomes summarized the staff report and recommendation.

**Public Comments**

Debra Mason, 109 E. Bilson Street, Carson, California 90746.

Dee Carpenter-Kemp, 18409 Milmore Avenue, Carson, California 90746.

Miriam Vazquez, 21413 Martin Street, Carson, California 90745.

Pilar Hoyos, 22010 Wilmington, Carson, California 90745, representing Watson Land Company.

Cataya Dunn, 109 E. Bilson, Carson, California 90746.

Bill Smalley, 17700 Avalon Boulevard, No. 111, Carson, California 90746.

City Manager Groomes clarified that although staff was not opposed to the change in the truck route, it was not staff's position to recommend a change at this meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION for the City Council:**

**TAKE** the following actions:

1. DIRECT staff to install "No Stopping Any Time" signs on the south side of Victoria Street between Main Street and Coltman Avenue.
2. DIRECT staff to continue coordinating with the truck-oriented commercial operations near the intersection of Victoria and Main Streets to discourage their customers and employees from generating unnecessary noise.

**ACTION:** It was moved to take the following actions: 1) approve staff recommendation Nos. 1 and 2; 2) approve alternative staff recommendation No. 1, refer this issue to the Planning Commission to conduct public hearing and consider an amendment to the Circulation Element of the General Plan to remove the segment of Victoria Street between Main Street and Avalon Boulevard from the list of streets designated as truck routes and to add the segment of Avalon Boulevard between Victoria Street and Albertoni Street to the truck route list; and 3) refer this issue to the Public Works Commission for a recommendation to the City Council on motion of Dear and seconded by Santarina.

**Amendment to Motion**

Council Member Davis-Holmes offered a friendly amendment to the motion to refer this issue to a joint meeting of the Planning Commission and Public Works Commission, which was accepted by maker and the second.

**Additional Public Comments**

Jenny Vazquez, 21413 Martin Street, Carson, California 90745.

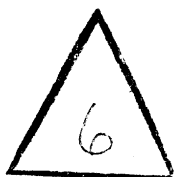
Council Member Ruiz-Raber requested the installation of “no honking” signage at service stations and on streets, which was accepted by Mayor Dear and referred to City Manager Groomes, with no objections heard.

Subsequently, City Manager Groomes clarified that he understood the request of Council Member Ruiz-Raber as administrative direction to staff and that staff would expedite the process as expeditiously as possible. He referred to the joint meeting of the Planning Commission and Public Works Commission and reported that the meeting was a scheduling issue.

Mayor Dear inquired whether Ms. Mason would be willing to take the lead and notify neighbors and interested individuals about the joint meeting, which was accepted by Ms. Mason.

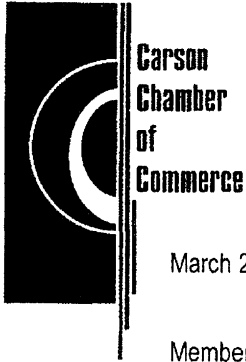
The amended motion was unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Mayor Dear, Mayor Pro Tem Santarina, Council Member Davis-Holmes, Council Member Gipson, and Council Member Ruiz-Raber  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None



|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Action taken by City Council |  |
| Date <u>2/16/11</u>          | Action <u>App. on consent calendar</u> |
|                              | <u>JD/MG 5/0</u>                       |
|                              | <u>MP</u>                              |

7  
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**Carson  
Chamber  
of  
Commerce**

March 21, 2011

Members of the Carson Planning Commission  
Members of the Carson Public Works Commission  
Carson City Hall  
701 E. Carson Street  
Carson, CA 90745

**RE: Item to Consider Amending the Truck Route System to Eliminate Victoria Street Between Main Street and Avalon Boulevard**


Dear Members of the Planning Commission and Public Works Commission,

The Carson Chamber of Commerce understands that the Planning Commission and the Public Works Commission have been asked to consider whether or not to recommend that the Circulation Element of the General Plan be changed to remove the segment of Victoria Street between Main Street and Avalon Boulevard from the City of Carson Truck Routes. For reasons that are listed below, the Chamber respectfully requests that you DECLINE to recommend this change.

1. Removing this section of street from the city's Truck Route System will not do anything to diminish the amount of truck traffic. It will merely divert it through other areas of the city and increase the impact on residents and businesses in those neighborhoods. Furthermore, as truckers seek shortcuts, the elimination of this portion of the truck route may actually increase the illegal use of roadways that abut area parks and residences.
2. Industrial and warehouse operations represent an important percentage of Carson's business demographic. When selecting a location these businesses, which depend on trucks to move material in and out of their facilities, consider the ease with which these movements can occur. Moving the truck route will result in additional time, expense, and inconvenience for Carson's businesses as well as for an already strained city staff which must implement and enforce the proposed new route.
3. The city is currently facing serious economic challenges. Successful businesses pay more fees and taxes into the city's treasury and contribute generously to local philanthropies. Carson, which prides itself on being a business friendly city, should not impose hardship on its business community when no net benefit will be realized.
4. City staff has already acted on several other mitigation measures requested by the petitioners.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
John Wogan  
President

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[www.carsonchamber.com](http://www.carsonchamber.com)

**EXHIBIT NO. 04**

