

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: JASON NUTT, DIRECTOR
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS
COLLEEN FERGUSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR – CAPITAL
PROJECTS ENGINEERING
SUBJECT: COURTHOUSE SQUARE REUNIFICATION PROJECT -
AUTHORIZATION TO INSTALL AND REMOVE TEMPORARY
MID-BLOCK CROSSWALKS ON FOURTH STREET

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Council, by resolution, authorize installation of temporary mid-block crosswalks on Fourth Street at the east and west sides of the Square.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Construction of the Courthouse Square Reunification project is temporarily impacting pedestrian circulation near the Square. Council action is needed to authorize installation of temporary mid-block crosswalks on Fourth Street at the east and west sides of the Square, to notify motorists of the presence of and the crossing of pedestrians.

BACKGROUND

In 2004, the City Council adopted goals which included reunification of Courthouse Square. Over the following 10 years, Council took several actions in support of that goal. At the meeting on November 3, 2015, City Council approved basic design guidelines for Courthouse Square, approved the public outreach process for the interior of the square, and delegated authority to the City Manager to select a consultant team to design the improvements associated with the reunification of Courthouse Square. Construction of the Courthouse Square Reunification project began on May 23, 2016. Project construction is temporarily impacting east-west pedestrian passage along the south side of Fourth Street near the Square.

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PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

On April 19, 2016, the City Council by Resolution No. 28772 approved a revised Master Plan for the Courthouse Square Reunification project and, by motion, awarded a contract for construction of the project.

ANALYSIS

1. On August 5, 2016, the Courthouse Square Reunification project removed the center street through the Square, temporarily impacting north-south pedestrian passage along Santa Rosa Avenue and Mendocino Avenue between Third Street and Fourth Street. Project construction had already been temporarily impacting east-west pedestrian passage along the south side of Fourth Street near the Square. These temporary impacts have increased the need for pedestrians to cross from the south side to north side of Fourth Street, where east-west pedestrian passage is available.
2. Mid-block crosswalks on Fourth Street at the east and west sides of the Square would provide convenient pedestrian access to businesses and appropriate notification to motorists of the presence of and the crossing of pedestrians.
3. California Vehicle Code Section 21106, Establishment of Crosswalks, allows local authorities, by ordinance or resolution, to establish and remove crosswalks between intersections.

FISCAL IMPACT

None. Installation and removal of temporary mid-block crosswalks on Fourth Street is within the construction contingency for the Courthouse Square Reunification project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Council certified the Final Tiered Environmental Impact Report on February 25, 2014. An Addendum to the FTEIR has been prepared pursuant to Section 15164 of the California Environmental Quality Act for the updated plan options, and documents that the project involves only minor technical changes and additions. It further documents that none of the conditions described in Section 15162, which would require a subsequent EIR, have occurred because neither Courthouse Square Reunification Master Plan involves substantial changes to the project or the circumstances under which the project has been undertaken. Based on this analysis, staff found it appropriate to rely on the FTEIR.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The concept of installing temporary mid-block crosswalks on Fourth Street at the east

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and west sides of Courthouse Square was discussed with the Council Downtown
Subcommittee on August 2, 2016.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable

ATTACHMENTS

- Location Map and Graphic Representations
- Resolution

CONTACT

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