



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT GEORGETTE GÓMEZ
NINTH DISTRICT
M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: April 28, 2020

TO: Honorable Mayor Kevin Faulconer

FROM: Council President Georgette Gómez, District 9

SUBJECT: Proposed Council District 9 Slow Streets

Due to the stay at home orders and closure of our city from COVID-19, we have learned that the need to create space for exercise while safely social distancing has never been greater. Automobile traffic has been greatly decreased while walking and bicycling has surged throughout our neighborhoods. Across the country a new grass roots initiative, the Slow Streets movement, has risen and is taking shape in different cities including Oakland and New York City. This is an exciting initiative that will benefit the residents of these cities by making the streets safer and more friendly to pedestrians and bicyclists. I am pleased that the City of San Diego is embarking on this initiative. I believe that this needs to be done in a collaborative manner between the city and local neighborhoods in order to successfully reclaim some street space during a period when traffic volumes are down. As such, my office prepared and sent a neighborhood survey to collect desired street closure information from our residents. As was noted in the survey, these streets would not be closed to emergency vehicles or local traffic that must use these streets to access a final destination and would not affect transit routes. I continue to request neighborhood input as we implement this initiative. The survey can be accessed at <https://forms.gle/e6YMUtBYJtQTjfyJ9>.

Based on the feedback that I have received, I would like to provide my initial top five District 9 slow streets areas. These include:

1. The entire length of both Orange Avenue and Howard Avenue
2. Saranac Street from 67th Street to 70th Street
3. Vista Street from Adams Avenue to Monroe Avenue

4. Oceanview Boulevard from 32nd Street to 46th Street
5. Poplar from Fairmount Avenue to Violet Street

I also request that in District 9, the pedestrian call buttons be examined to determine if they can be transitioned to be automatic and timed with the lights rather than having individuals “push” the button. This is an effective way to help reduce exposure to COVID-19 in public spaces. I specifically request that University Avenue and El Cajon Boulevard be examined by our traffic engineering department as priority areas for this transition.

If you have any questions, please contact Lara Gates, Deputy Chief of Staff, at lgates@sanidiego.gov.

Cc:

Jessica Lawrence, Mayors Office
Conrad Wear, Mayors Office
Cody Hooven, Planning Department
Allyssa Muto, Planning Department
Kris McFadden, Transportation Storm Water Department
Evert Hauser, Transportation Storm Water Department