

**NB-38**

Rex Richardson
Long Beach City Councilmember, 9th District

Date: December 2, 2014
To: Honorable Mayor Robert Garcia and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Rex Richardson, Ninth District *RR*
Subject: New Downey Avenue Traffic Signal

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager or City Manager Designee to negotiate an agreement with the City of Bellflower to undertake a traffic study at the intersection of Downey and 64th Streets in the City of Bellflower for the purpose of determining if installation of a traffic control device at that intersection is warranted. If said traffic control device is deemed appropriate at this location, authorize the expenditure of \$175,000 in 9th District Discretionary Infrastructure Funds and an additional expenditure of up to \$75,000 in general fund money for construction of the traffic control device.

DISCUSSION

The intersection of Downey Avenue and 64th Street is heavily utilized by Long Beach residents. While it is on the border of Long Beach and Bellflower, previous studies by the City of Long Beach Department of Public Works determined that the intersection is located in the City of Bellflower. Homes and sidewalks on the west side of the street are in Long Beach, while the street directly in front of them is in Bellflower. Increasingly over the past few years, this intersection has been a major problem for pedestrians and families in the surrounding neighborhoods. The 9th District Council Office has received numerous complaints from constituents, specifically those in the Ramona Park neighborhood, St. Francis neighborhood and Andy Street neighborhood. Because the traffic signals north and south of 64th Street are spread out, cars routinely speed on Downey Avenue. Most resident complaints center on this speed and the difficulty it causes when attempting to turn onto Downey Avenue from 64th Street.

The Long Beach Department of Public Works has engaged the City of Bellflower in initial discussions about the potential of signaling the intersection. These discussions have arrived at a place where Long Beach City Council action is required to proceed. The City



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of Bellflower has agreed to allow a traffic study to be performed, once the City of Long Beach agrees to pay for the study and traffic signal if it is found to be critical.

It is necessary to improve traffic controls at Downey Avenue and 64th Street. The installation of a full traffic signal would positively impact the quality of life for the surrounding Long Beach residents, and provide a sense of security and increased safety to those living in the neighborhood.

FISCAL IMPACT

Council District 9 has \$175,000 in Discretionary Infrastructure Funds set aside for this project, including the traffic study. An additional expenditure of up to \$75,000 in general fund money for construction of the traffic control device may be needed. The City of Long Beach will negotiate ongoing maintenance costs with the City of Bellflower, which is anticipated to cost up to \$4,000 annually.



City of Long Beach Memorandum
Working Together to Serve


REQUEST TO ADD AGENDA ITEM

Date: November 26, 2014
To: Larry Herrera-Cabrera, City Clerk
From: Councilmember Rex Richardson, Ninth District
Subject: Request to Add Agenda Item to Council Agenda of Dec. 2, 2014

Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.03.070 [B], the City Councilmembers signing below request that the attached agenda item (due in the City Clerk Department by Friday, 12:00 Noon) be placed on the City Council agenda under New Business via the supplemental agenda.

The agenda title/recommendation for this item reads as follows:

Authorize the City Manager or City Manager Designee to negotiate an agreement with the City of Bellflower to undertake a traffic study at the intersection of Downey and 64th Streets in the City of Bellflower for the purpose of determining if installation of a traffic control device at that intersection is warranted. If said traffic control device is deemed appropriate at this location, authorize the expenditure of \$175,000 in 9th District Discretionary Infrastructure Funds and an additional expenditure of up to \$75,000 in general fund money for construction of the traffic control device.

Council District	Authorizing Councilmember	Signed by
8	Al Austin	
7	Roberto Ureaga	Req. by for Roberto Ureaga
9	Rex Richardson	