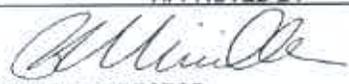


AGENDA ITEM NO.	1H
COUNCIL MEETING	12/9/08
APPROVED BY	
	
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR	
CITY MANAGER 	

December 9, 2008

Presented to City Council
 Date 12/9/08
 Disposition Approved

FROM: PATRICK N. WIEMILLER, Director 
Public Works Department

BY: SCOTT L. MOZIER, PE, City Engineer/Assistant Director 
Public Works Department, Engineering Division

SUBJECT: APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF AN EASEMENT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A TRAFFIC DETECTION LOOP ON THE WEST SIDE OF SOUTH CHESTNUT AVENUE AT EAST BALCH AVENUE FROM PROPERTY OWNER: SILVIA GUTIERREZ (COUNCIL DISTRICT 5)

KEY RESULT AREA

Customer Satisfaction

RECOMMENDATION

1. Adopt a finding of Categorical Exemption, Class I, for installation of traffic detection loop at the intersection of South Chestnut Avenue and East Balch Avenue.
2. Staff recommends that the Fresno City Council approve the acquisition of a public street easement (See Exhibit A) necessary for the signalization project from property owner: Silvia Gutierrez (APN: 461-234-18), on property located on the west side of East Chestnut Avenue at East Balch Avenue, for the appraised value of \$1,500.00 total and authorize the Public Works Director or designee to sign all documents necessary to complete the transaction.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Fresno, Department of Public Works has been awarded funding from Cycle 7 of the State Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program. The project will install a traffic signal light at the intersection of Chestnut Avenue and Balch Avenue. The project will improve the safety for students attending Olmos Elementary School within the Fresno Unified School District and increase the number of students who bike and walk to school safely. The City has been awarded \$447,000 in SR2S funds and the total project cost is estimated to be \$500,000. The program requires a 10% local match contribution that will be funded through appropriations established from Proposition 1B funds. The value of the street easement was established by a Certified General Real Estate Appraiser, employed by the City of Fresno, and negotiations to acquire the easements were initiated on June 5, 2008.

The value of the land within this street easement is \$1,500.00. The owner of the parcel has agreed to the amount of compensation (See Exhibit B) offered by the City and signed the Street Easement Agreement for Purchase and Sale and the Street Easement Deeds. With City Council approval, payment will be made to the owner and the street easements will be recorded.

KEY OBJECTIVE BALANCE

The recommendation balances the three Key Objectives of Customer Satisfaction, Employee Satisfaction, and Prudent Financial Management. Customer Satisfaction will be achieved by improving the safety for the community at and near Olmos Elementary School. Employee Satisfaction is achieved through City staff's management of projects that provides a safer environment to benefit local residents and by reducing complaints from motorists moving along this important traffic corridor. Financial Management is achieved by utilizing grant funds as the source of funding for the projects leveraging the City of Fresno's resources to the maximum extent possible and from purchasing the necessary street easement for the appraised value.

BACKGROUND

This project consists of installing of the installation of a new traffic signal at the intersection of South Chestnut Avenue at East Balch Avenue. The purpose of this project is to improve safety for students crossing at this intersection which is located in the vicinity of Olmos Elementary School. Olmos Elementary School serves a student population on both the west and east side of Chestnut Avenue, generating the need for a traffic signal to accommodate this pedestrian movement across Chestnut Avenue. On March 20, 2007, the Council adopted a resolution supporting the grant application and authorizing staff to submit the SR2S grant application.

Staff has determined that this project fits within the Class 1 Categorical Exemption as set forth in CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b) (3), because the project is a safety upgrade of an existing roadway intersection.

FISCAL IMPACT

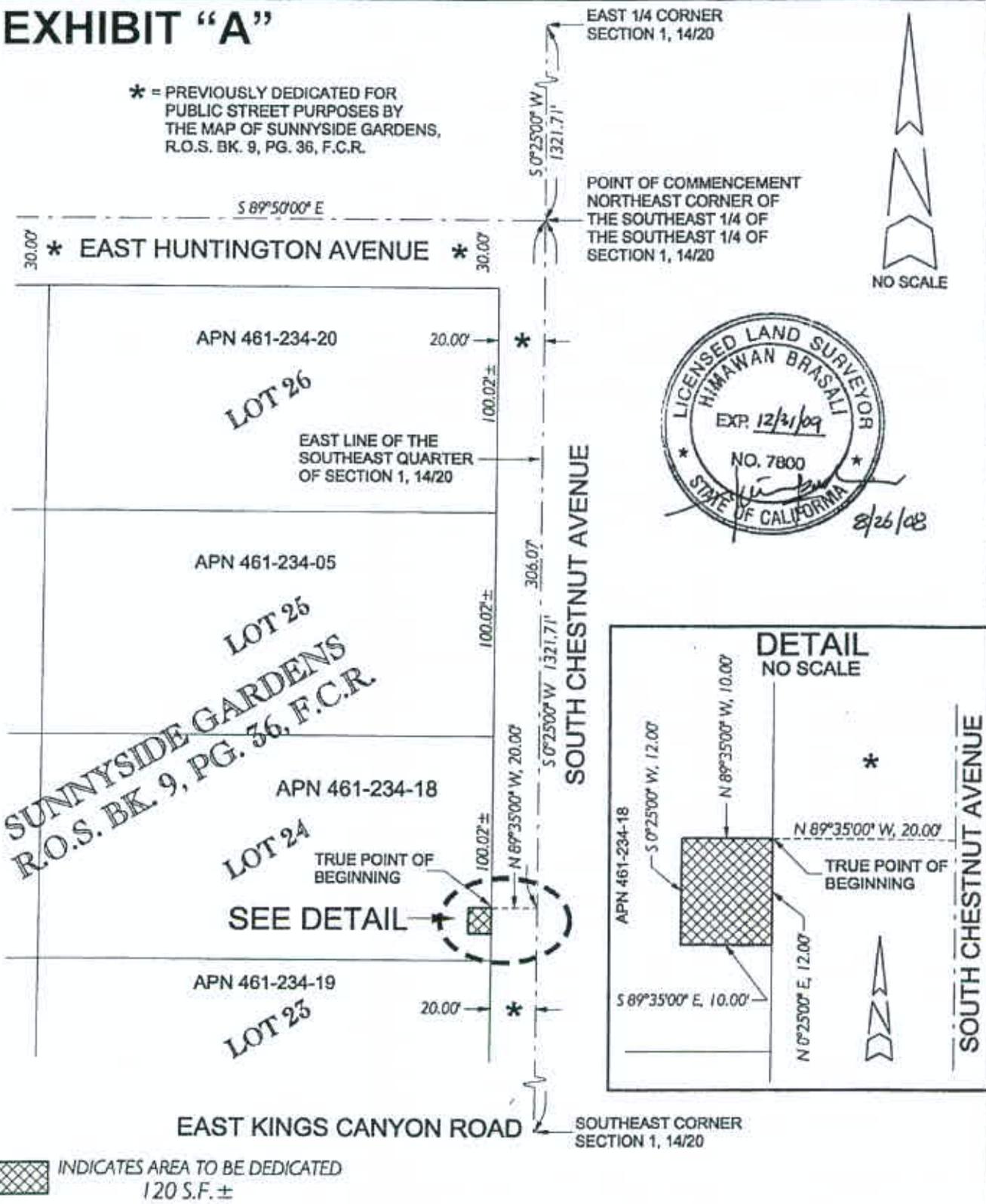
Funds for this acquisition for the Olmos School project are funded by City of Fresno Project No. PW00491, Fund 22056, ORG 189901 and KRA 0101001000.

PNW/SLMT/Jeam
Apprv Acq Str Easement at Chestnut-Balch 12-9-08

Attachments: Exhibit A and Exhibit B

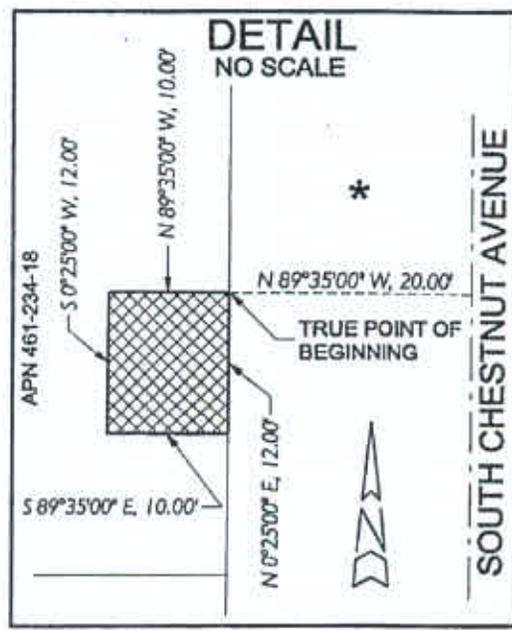
EXHIBIT "A"

* = PREVIOUSLY DEDICATED FOR PUBLIC STREET PURPOSES BY THE MAP OF SUNNYSIDE GARDENS, R.O.S. BK. 9, PG. 36, F.C.R.



EAST 1/4 CORNER SECTION 1, 14/20

POINT OF COMMENCEMENT
NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 1, 14/20



EAST KINGS CANYON ROAD

SOUTHEAST CORNER SECTION 1, 14/20

INDICATES AREA TO BE DEDICATED 120 S.F. ±

REF. & REV. 2008-120 PLAT 2661 PWF 11352	CITY OF FRESNO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	PROJ. ID. PWD00491 FUND NO. 22056 ORG. NO. 189901	JRA 101001000 RES TYPE
	PARCEL TO BE DEDICATED TO THE CITY OF FRESNO AS AN EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL FACILITY PURPOSES	DR. BY A.J. CH. BY DATE AUG. 11, 2008 SCALE NO SCALE	SHEET NO. 1 OF 1 SHEETS 15-A-8497

