CITY COUNCIL AGENDA: 11/5/2024

FILE: 24-2156 ITEM: 8.1



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR

AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Mayor Matt Mahan

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW DATE: 11/05/24

APPROVED:

Matt Mohan

SUBJECT: Resolution of Intention to Establish a Pedestrian Mall on Post Street.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve staff recommendations and direct the Administration to extend the Post Street Traffic Closure Pilot Program through March 2025.

BACKGROUND

On February 1, 2005, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 72517 which requires The Post Street Traffic Closure Pilot Program has proven to be a transformative initiative for our downtown community. Businesses within the Downtown Historic District and along Post Street have seen firsthand the meaningful benefits of prioritizing pedestrian access by closing the street to automobile traffic. One Qmunity District stakeholder, Project MORE, has activated this public space by hosting vibrant festivals, vendor fairs, and community activities, creating a dynamic, inclusive environment; especially for the LGBTQ+ community. This critical space not only enhances local business vitality but also promotes accessible mobility for people of all abilities and ages. It serves as an inviting destination for San José residents to socialize, explore, and dine, making our downtown more vibrant and welcoming.

Currently, staff only has authority to extend the Post Street Closure Pilot Program through the end of this calendar year. This recommendation provides staff the authority to continue the Traffic Closure Pilot Program until the City Council makes a final decision on Post Street in February 2025. The cost to extend the closure through March 2025 is estimated at \$4,300. With extension costs, we should have approximately \$19,500 left at the end of March 2025 from the original \$50,000 that was allocated towards the closure. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support the adoption of this resolution of intent and set a public hearing to consider establishing a permanent Pedestrian Mall along Post Street.