



**Cultural Heritage Board - Certificate of Appropriateness (CR)
Supplemental Staff Report**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 1

WARD: 3

MEETING DATE: January 18, 2012

PLANNING CASE P11-0616: Proposal by the City of Riverside to consider a certificate of appropriateness to create a memorial orange grove by closing the dedicated free right turn lane from Myrtle Avenue to Victoria Avenue, situated on the westerly side of Victoria Avenue between Myrtle Avenue and Rumsey Drive, in Ward 3. **Contact Planner:** Kyle Smith (951) 826-5220 kjsmith@riversideca.gov

BACKGROUND

At the October 19, 2011 meeting, the Cultural Heritage Board heard public testimony and deliberated over the proposed Memorial Orange Grove project at Victoria Avenue and Myrtle Avenue, which is described in great detail in the October 19, 2011 CHB Staff Report (attached as Exhibit B). At the meeting, there was extensive discussion regarding the closure of the dedicated free right turn lane from Myrtle Avenue to Victoria Avenue and the potential traffic impacts in the neighborhood. This proposal was continued to the November 16, 2011 CHB meeting and staff requested a continuance off-calendar to appropriately address the residents' concerns.

Since the public meeting of October 19, 2011, City Staff conducted two neighborhood meetings – on November 3, 2011 and December 15, 2011. Approximately 25 residents attended the November 3 meeting where the majority of comments were focused on traffic impacts. Given the comments and concerns from the community, Public Works staff conducted a second traffic study consisting of the temporary closure of the free right turn lane between November 29, 2011 and December 1, 2011.

On December 15, 2011, City Staff conducted a follow-up neighborhood meeting, where approximately 35 residents attended. At the meeting, Public Works staff presented the results of the traffic study. The traffic study concluded that pedestrian safety would be greatly improved by the closure of the free right turn lane. Additionally, area neighbors presented a compromised solution whereby the free right turn lane would remain open, the proposed kiosk would be located inside the gated portion of the memorial grove, and the Roosevelt Palm would be relocated (Please refer to Exhibit D for the handout prepared by area neighbors, and Exhibit E for the minutes of the December 15, 2011 neighborhood meeting). The project has been modified to eliminate parking directly on Victoria Avenue as a result of neighborhood input.

As a matter of information, all email correspondences received by Planning Staff as of this writing are included in Exhibit F.

REVISED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project's site design has been modified to ensure the proposal would not result in impacts to the City's cultural resources and in response to public comments. Modifications since the CHB last reviewed the project include the removal of the two previously proposed parallel parking spaces along Victoria Avenue and addition of the proposed Ragged Robin Roses throughout the curb adjacent parkway from the kiosk area to Rumsey Drive to the south. Please refer to Exhibit A for the revised site plan. Except for the modifications stated above, the project details remain as described in the Staff Report dated October 19, 2011 (Exhibit B). As a matter of clarity, this project does not involve modifications to the existing citrus groves or a majority of existing landscaping or existing fencing along the Victoria Avenue frontage near the project site. Instead the project consists only of constructing a new decorative wrought iron fence, decomposed granite pathways, interpretative signs and kiosks, decorative street furniture such as benches and a trellis, and additional landscaping in the context of the existing historic plantings on Victoria Avenue.

For clarification purposes, a Certificate of Appropriateness is required for this project to ensure improvements will not result in detrimental impacts to historic resources. This analysis will consider potential impacts to:

- Victoria Avenue itself, which is a City Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- The Roosevelt Palm tree in the existing divider median,
- The existing historic rock wall adjacent to the memorial grove site, and

Thus, the Cultural Heritage Board is charged with determining the project's compliance with Title 20 of the Municipal Code, the Secretary of the Interiors' Standards for Rehabilitation and the *Citywide Residential Historic District Design Guidelines*. The Board does not have the purview to consider traffic design modifications.

ANALYSIS

This section is intended to supplement and expand upon the analysis, presented in the October 19, 2011 CHB Staff Report (Exhibit B); as well as to address the major concerns presented by the residents of the area at the two neighborhood meetings and/or through numerous phone calls and emails, as summarized below:

Victoria Avenue impacts

The proposed removal of the two parallel parking spaces on Victoria Avenue will further the intent of General Plan Policy LU -13.4, which seeks to ensure that Victoria Avenue remains friendly to "pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrian users, in addition to automobiles". The project design will accommodate and encourage pedestrian, bicyclists, and equestrian users by creating a "trailhead" setting with bike racks and access to the existing sidewalk network on both sides of Victoria Avenue. Further, the establishment of parallel parking spaces on Victoria Ave. in this fashion is not consistent with the historic context of the avenue and could be negatively precedent setting. Therefore, Staff supports the removal of the parallel parking spaces from the plans. Staff further notes that the new landscaping proposed in conjunction with the memorial grove is compatible with the plant palate found historically on Victoria Avenue.

Roosevelt Palm

General Plan Policy LU-13.3 calls for the protection of Victoria Avenue’s signature landscaping by retaining appropriate plant species and the mature palm trees. Additionally, Section 10.5 of the *Citywide Residential Historic District Design Guidelines* states: “If historic plantings do exist, they should be preserved in their original locations”. Therefore, Staff supports the proposal to retain the Roosevelt Palm in its current location with the plaque commemorating the tree being relocated to a more visible and prominent location adjacent to the memorial grove.

Rock Wall

A rock curb, which the neighborhood has stated was constructed by an Italian stone mason in the early 1900s, exists along the frontage of the residence at 5175 Myrtle Avenue and curves around toward Victoria Avenue. This wall would be protected in place as part of this project. Staff acknowledges the unique character these rock curb bring to the neighborhood, and supports its preservation in the project.

As a matter of information:

Traffic and parking impacts

Public Works has stated that visibility from the existing dedicated free right turn lane to the main travel lanes of Victoria Avenue is challenging and hazardous due to the geometry of the divider island and its large shrubs and trees. While this project proposes to remove the dedicated free right turn lane along Myrtle Avenue, both right and left turning movements would still be possible from Myrtle Avenue onto Victoria Avenue via the existing primary travel lane. Therefore, there would be no modification to traffic pattern movements – only a revised design. The reconfigured turning lane will allow safer turning maneuvers and will have no impact on traffic flow or volume on Victoria Avenue. Data collected by the Public Works Department confirms that the closure of the free right turn lane will not present a traffic hazard or result in substantial traffic congestion. While Staff acknowledges the numerous comments regarding traffic raised by area neighbors, the objective of this report is to analyze the potential impacts the project may have on Victoria Avenue, which has been designated a City of Riverside Cultural Heritage Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Site security and safety

Also, as a matter of information, this site is along a major pedestrian route to nearby Poly High School and will serve as a “trailhead” for Victoria Avenue. To address the concern for loitering within the citrus groves, the grove will be fenced off by a six foot high wrought iron fence with a gate to be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on weekends and closed on holidays. These hours have been specifically selected as to not coincide with the peak school traffic hours in the morning and afternoon.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE MUNICIPAL CODE

To supplement the Compliance Analysis Section contained in the October 19, 2011 CHB Staff Report (Exhibit B), the following Facts for Findings are provided to show the proposed project is consistent

with Title 20 of the Municipal Code, the Secretary of the Interiors' Standards for Rehabilitation and the *Citywide Residential Historic District Design Guidelines*. Staff supports the landscape improvements, construction of the interpretative area and inclusion of the existing orange groves for public benefit. The improvements are compatible with the surrounding neighborhood and are minor in nature but still allow Victoria Avenue to convey its significance.

FACTS FOR FINDINGS: (From Section 20.25.050 of the Riverside Municipal Code)

FINDING: The application proposal is consistent or compatible with the architectural period and the character-defining elements of this landmark avenue.

FACTS: The proposed landscaping contemplated under this project is consistent with the Victoria Avenue's period of significance and its existing plant palette. Further, it is complementary to the proposed design of the Memorial Orange Grove and interpretative area. Lastly, the proposed Memorial Orange Grove and interpretative area will create an opportunity to enhance the character-defining elements of the Victoria Avenue heritage.

FINDING: The application proposal is compatible with existing adjacent or nearby Cultural Resources and their character-defining elements.

FACTS: The proposed project is compatible with the existing adjacent properties and nearby historic landmarks. The design includes the protection of the historic Roosevelt Palm and the relocation and/or planting of new plants which are consistent with the original character defining elements of the original Victoria Avenue landscape master plan. Additionally, the proposed Memorial Orange Grove and interpretative area will create an opportunity to enhance and make publically accessible the character-defining elements of Victoria Avenue.

FINDING: The colors, textures, materials, fenestration, decorative features, details, height, scale, massing and methods of construction proposed are consistent with the period and/or compatible with adjacent Cultural Resources.

FACTS: The colors, textures, height, scale and massing of plant materials contemplated under this project will be consistent with the landscaping of Victoria Avenue's period of significance, the existing plant palette, and the proposed design of the Memorial Orange Grove and interpretative area. Overall, the improvements complement the historic plant resources along Victoria Avenue.

FINDING: The proposed change does not adversely affect the context considering the following factors: grading; site development; orientation of buildings; off-street parking; landscaping; signs; street furniture; public areas; relationship of the project to its surroundings.

FACTS: The proposed improvements do not detract from the existing character of the historic Avenue as the proposed plantings consists of keeping existing landscaping in place, relocation of existing palm trees, or planting of new species which are consistent with, or identical to, the character defining plant palate of Victoria Avenue.

FINDING: The proposed change does not destroy or adversely affect an important architectural, historical, cultural or archaeological feature or features.

FACTS: The proposed improvements do not detract from the existing character of the historic Avenue as the proposed plantings consists of keeping existing landscaping in place and the existing palm tree or planting of new species are consistent with, or identical to, the character defining plant palate of Victoria Avenue.

FINDING: The proposed improvements are compliant with the *Citywide Residential Historic District Design Guidelines* and the separate guidelines for each Historic District.

FACTS: The proposed memorial grove and interpretative area will create a new opportunity for the citrus heritage of Riverside to be displayed in a manner compatible with the goals and policies set forth for Victoria Avenue.

FINDING: The Principles of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

FACTS: The proposed project is compliant with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and is compatible with the historic resources described herein. Thus, this proposal will not adversely affect the character defining elements of Victoria Avenue.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposal consists of a Minor addition and alteration to a historic resource and is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per Section 15331 of the CEQA Guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Cultural Heritage Board **APPROVE** Planning Case P11-0616, thereby issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness for the project, with the attached conditions.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Revised Project Plans
- B. Cultural Heritage Board Staff Report dated, October 19, 2011
- C. Cultural Heritage Board Minutes, October 19, 2011
- D. Handout prepared by area neighbors distributed at December 15, 2011 neighborhood meeting
- E. Neighborhood Meeting Minutes, December 15, 2011
- F. Email correspondences received by Planning Staff

RECOMMENDED REVISED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Case Number: P11-0616

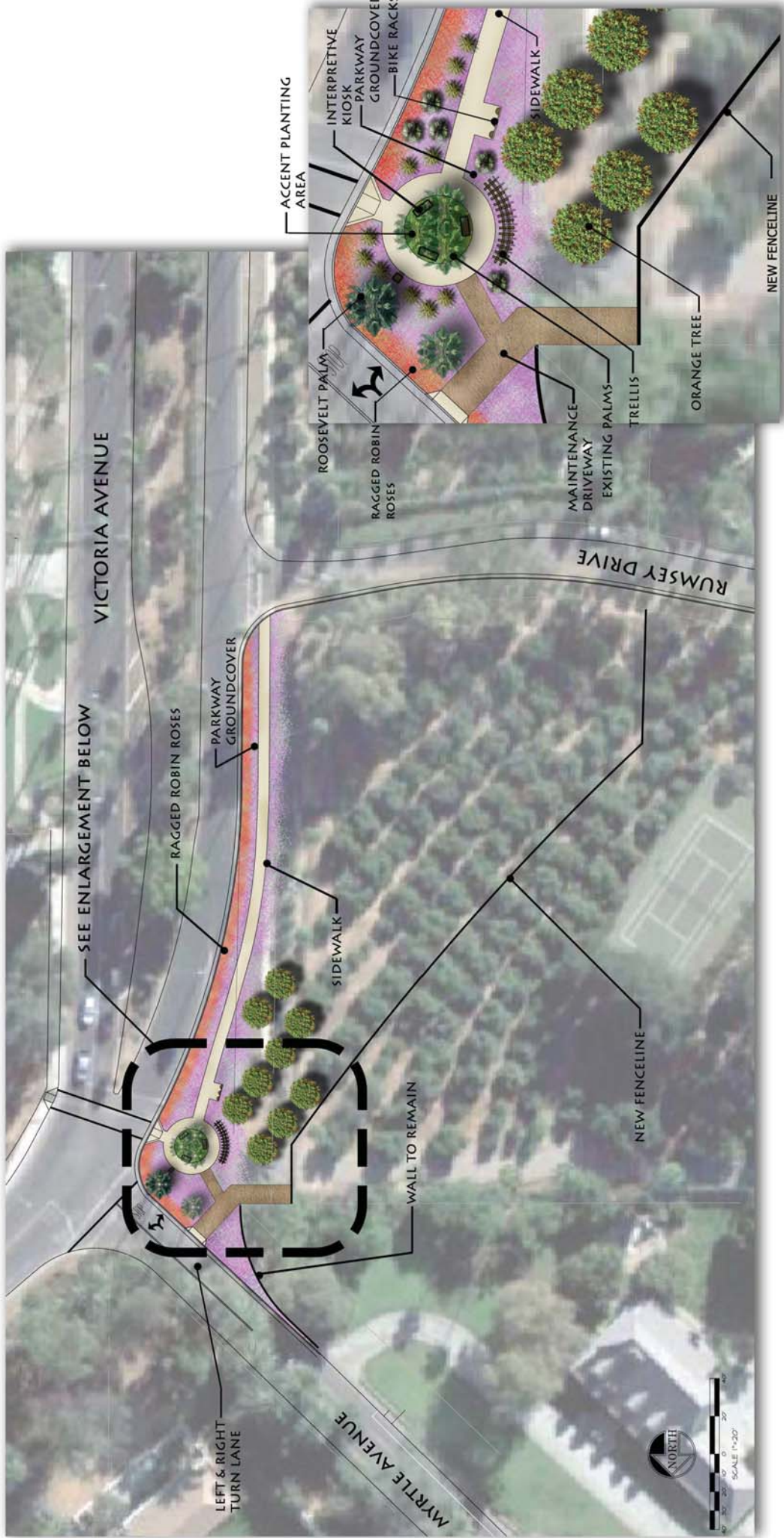
Meeting Date: January 18, 2012

General Conditions

1. The project must be complete per the Cultural Heritage Board's approval, including all conditions listed below. Any subsequent changes to the project must be approved by the Cultural Heritage Board or the Cultural Heritage Board staff. Upon completion of the project, a Cultural Heritage Board staff inspection must be requested to ensure that the approved plans have been executed and that all conditions have been implemented before **OCCUPANCY** hold can be released.
2. There is a ten day appeal period that will lapse at 5:00 p.m. on January 30, 2012. Appeals of the Board's action will not be accepted after this time. The appeal fee is \$1,531.20. Appeal processing information may be obtained from the Community Development Department, Planning Division, Public Information Section, 3rd Floor, City Hall.
3. This approval will expire in one year on January 18, 2013.

Specific Conditions of Approval

4. The Roosevelt Palm shall be protected in place.
5. The existing rock curb along the front of the residence at 5175 Myrtle Avenue shall be protected in place and extended as necessary to gradually transition to the proposed standard curb and gutter.
6. Modifications to the right turn lane shall be constructed pursuant to Public Works standards.
7. The new gate allowing access to the orange groves shall consist of black wrought iron and not exceed six feet in height, subject to Staff review.
8. Public access to the orange grove shall be limited to 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on weekends.
9. The kiosks, trellis and street furniture shall be subject to Cultural Heritage Board Staff review and approval.



P11-0616, Exhibit A - Revised Project Plans

VICTORIA/MYRTLE AVENUE GARDEN WITH EXISTING PALM LOCATION



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AGENDA ITEM NO.: 2

WARD: 3

MEETING DATE: October 19, 2011

PLANNING CASE P11-0616: Proposal by the City of Riverside to consider a certificate of appropriateness to create a memorial orange grove by closing the dedicated free right turn lane from Myrtle Avenue to Victoria Avenue, situated on the westerly side of Victoria Avenue between Myrtle Avenue and Rumsey Drive, in Ward 3. **Contact Planner:** Kyle Smith (951) 826-5220 kjsmith@riversideca.gov

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Victoria Avenue is a historic parkway lined with many species of trees and has long been recognized as an important local and regional scenic resource due to its significance dating back to Riverside's citrus era. Ever since Victoria Avenue was deeded to the City as a public right-of-way in June 1902, the land uses in the Arlington Heights, Hawarden Hills and Victoria neighborhoods have become more residential. As citrus groves began to disappear, citizens became concerned about preserving this unique Avenue as a showcase historic parkway while balancing the needs of the residential neighborhood. Consequently, several actions were taken. In 1990, the organization Victoria Avenue Forever was formed to create a medium through which citizens could directly participate in the protection, maintenance, and preservation of Victoria Avenue. On June 11, 1969, Victoria Avenue was declared City of Riverside Cultural Heritage Landmark #8. In October 2000, Victoria Avenue was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

The project site is approximately one acre and consists of a raised divider island at the southwest intersection of Myrtle and Victoria Avenues which separates the main travel lanes of Myrtle Avenue, an existing dedicated free right turn lane and 0.7 acres of a citrus grove. The raised divider island consists of Rosa shrub species and several mature palm trees. One of the palm trees in the median is known as the "Roosevelt Palm" as it was planted by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1903. A plaque to commemorate the Roosevelt Palm was installed in 1965 by the Native Daughters of the Golden West and exists on edge of the median adjacent to the roadway. The 0.7 acres of citrus grove is situated immediately to the west of the subject portion of Victoria Avenue and easterly of the residence located at 2720 Rumsey Drive. The citrus grove has been owned by the Hays family for many years, but in an effort to further the preservation efforts of Victoria Avenue the Hays family has agreed to donate it to the City for a "Memorial Orange Grove". The project has the support and cooperation of the adjacent property owners at 5175 Myrtle Avenue, to the northwest of the subject site and 2720 Rumsey Drive, to the west of the subject site.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed "Memorial Orange Grove" would integrate the existing public right of way, consisting of the existing dedicated free right turn lane from Myrtle Avenue to Victoria Avenue and raised divider

island with the 0.7 acres of citrus grove, donated by the Hays family. The transition at the northwesterly end will occur at the southerly side of the residential driveway located at 5175 Myrtle Avenue. On the southerly end, the proposal will gradually transition from the proposed memorial to the existing citrus grove fronting onto Victoria Avenue and Rumsey Drive.

The proposal would include an interpretative area depicting Riverside's citrus heritage and a memorial plaque commemorating the life of Helen Hays, at the southwest corner of Victoria and Myrtle Avenues. Specifically, the interpretative area would consist of decomposed granite pathways leading to a centrally located sitting area and an interpretative kiosk where information related to Helen Hays, the Roosevelt Palm, and Riverside's citrus heritage would be displayed. Bike racks will also be provided at this location. The orange grove to the west of the interpretative area would be accessible to the public via a proposed driveway off of Myrtle Avenue. The grove will be gated and open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on weekends and closed on holidays.

An existing rock curb along the frontage of the residence at 5175 Myrtle Avenue would be protected in place and extended in kind as necessary to gradually transition to the proposed standard curb and gutter. A standard curb and gutter would be installed around the remaining perimeter of the site. Finally, two parallel parking spaces along the Victoria Avenue frontage are proposed to accommodate visitors. The parking spaces will be limited to 20 minute parking only.

ANALYSIS:

- **Compliance with the General Plan and Title 19 (Zoning Code)**

The project would retain the character of Victoria Avenue while allowing for interpretative features to benefit the community. The project would also fulfill General Plan Policy LU-13.3 related to the protection of Victoria Avenue's signature landscaping by retaining appropriate plant species and the mature palm trees. As Section 10.5 of the *Citywide Residential Historic District Design Guidelines* states, "If historic plantings do exist, they should be preserved in their original locations," Staff would recommend a condition that the plaque commemorating the Roosevelt Palm be relocated to a more visible and prominent location.

Further, Policy LU -13.4 of the General Plan seeks to ensure that Victoria Avenue remains friendly to "pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrian users, in addition to automobiles". While this project proposes to remove the dedicated free right turn lane along Myrtle Avenue, both right and left turning movements would still be possible from Myrtle Avenue onto Victoria Avenue via the existing primary travel lane. Therefore, there would be no modification to traffic pattern movements – only a revised design. Visibility from the existing dedicated free right turn lane to the main travel lanes of Victoria Avenue is challenging and hazardous due to the geometry of the divider island and its large shrubs and trees. The reconfigured turning lane will allow safer turning maneuvers and will have no impact on traffic flow or volume on Victoria Avenue. The project will also further the General Plan policy as it would accommodate and encourage pedestrian, bicyclists, and equestrian users by creating a "trailhead" setting with bike racks and access to the existing sidewalk network on both sides of Victoria Avenue.

- **Compliance with section 20.25.030 of the City of Riverside Municipal Code**

As detailed below in the Facts for Findings, the proposed project is consistent with Title 20 of the Municipal Code, the Secretary of the Interiors' Standards for Rehabilitation and the *Citywide Residential Historic District Design Guidelines*. Staff supports the landscape improvements, construction of the interpretative area and inclusion of the existing orange groves for public benefit. The improvements are

compatible with the surrounding neighborhood and are minor in nature but still allow Victoria Avenue to convey its significance.

FACTS FOR FINDINGS: (From Section 20.25.050 of the Riverside Municipal Code)

FINDING: The proposed undertaking is consistent or compatible with the architectural period and the character-defining elements of this landmark avenue.

FACTS: The proposed landscaping contemplated under this project is consistent with the Victoria Avenue's period of significance and its existing plant palette. Further, it is complementary to the proposed design of the Memorial Orange Grove and interpretative area. Lastly, the proposed Memorial Orange Grove and interpretative area will create an opportunity to enhance the character-defining elements of the Victoria Avenue heritage.

FINDING: The proposed undertaking is compatible with existing adjacent or nearby landmark structures and preservation district structures and their character-defining elements.

FACTS: The proposed project is compatible with the existing adjacent properties and nearby historic landmarks. The design includes the protection of the historic Roosevelt Palm and the relocation and/or planting of new plants which are consistent with the original character defining elements of the original Victoria Avenue landscape master plan. Additionally, the proposed Memorial Orange Grove and interpretative area will create an opportunity to enhance and make publically accessible the character-defining elements of Victoria Avenue.

FINDING: The colors, textures, materials, fenestration, decorative features and details, height, scale, massing and methods of landscape construction proposed are consistent with the period and/or compatible with adjacent structures.

FACTS: The colors, textures, height, scale and massing of plant materials contemplated under this project will be consistent with the landscaping of Victoria Avenue's period of significance, the existing plant palette, and the proposed design of the Memorial Orange Grove and interpretative area. Overall, the improvements complement the historic plant resources along Victoria Avenue.

FINDING: The proposed change does not destroy or adversely affect an important architectural, historical, cultural or archaeological feature or features.

FACTS: The proposed improvements do not detract from the existing character of the historic Avenue as the proposed plantings consists of keeping existing landscaping in place, relocation of existing palm trees, or planting of new species which are consistent with, or identical to, the character defining plant palate of Victoria Avenue. The proposed memorial grove and interpretative area will create a new opportunity for the citrus heritage of Riverside to be displayed in a manner compatible with the goals and policies set forth for Victoria Avenue.

FINDING: Such other standards as are adopted by resolution of the Cultural Heritage Board or the City Council.

FACTS: All applicable City codes and standards will be followed.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposal consists of a Minor addition and alteration to a historic resource and is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per Section 15331 of the CEQA Guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Cultural Heritage Board **APPROVE** Planning Case P11-0616, thereby issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness for the project, with the attached conditions.

EXHIBITS:

1. Location Map
2. Aerial Map
3. Project Plans
4. Existing Photographs

RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Case Number: P11-0616

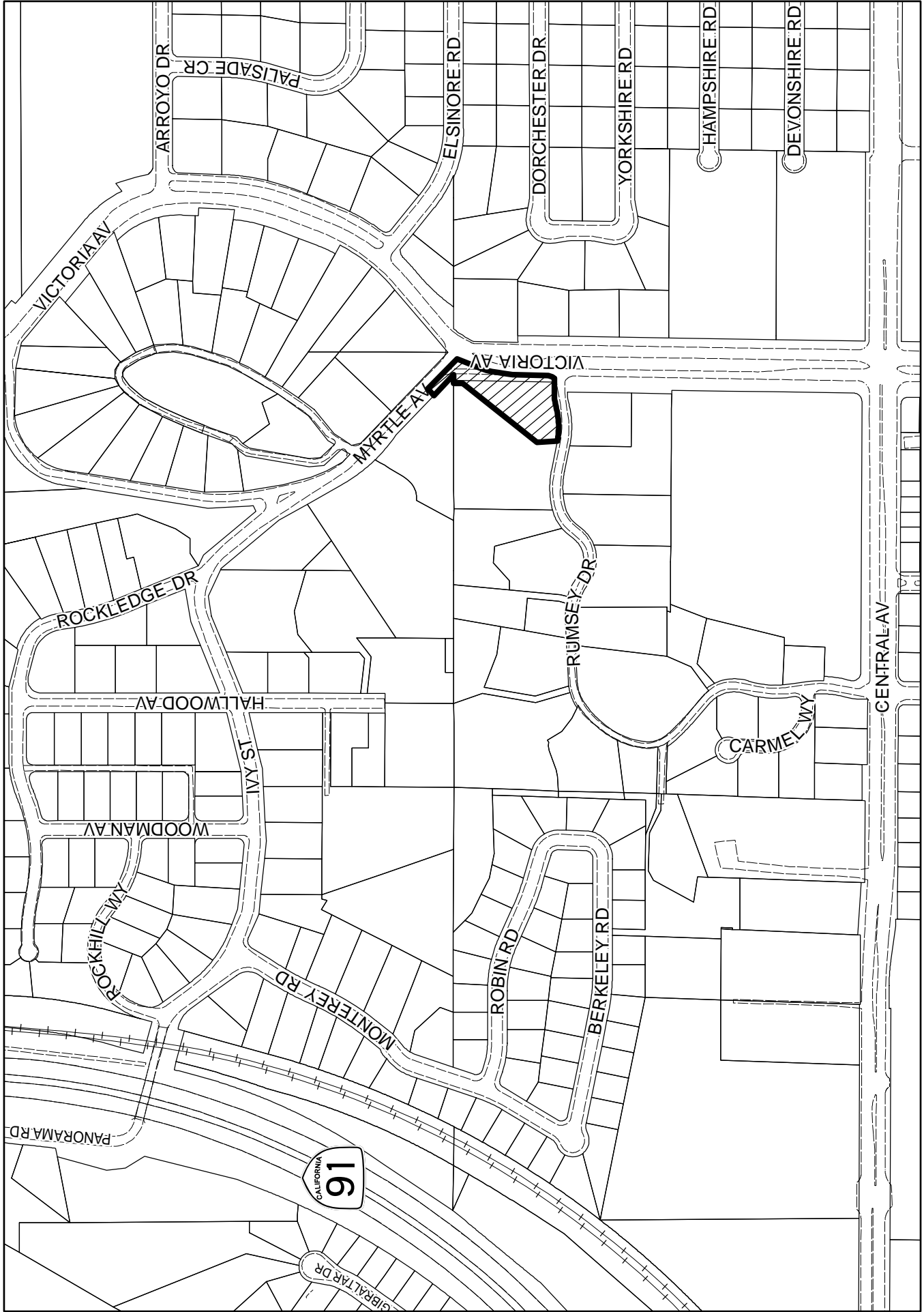
Meeting Date: October 19, 2011

General Conditions

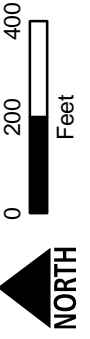
1. The project must be complete per the Cultural Heritage Board's approval, including all conditions listed below. Any subsequent changes to the project must be approved by the Cultural Heritage Board or the Cultural Heritage Board staff. Upon completion of the project, a Cultural Heritage Board staff inspection must be requested to ensure that the approved plans have been executed and that all conditions have been implemented before **OCCUPANCY** hold can be released.
2. There is a ten day appeal period that will lapse at 5:00 p.m. on October 29, 2011. Appeals of the Board's action will not be accepted after this time.
3. This approval will expire in one year on October 19, 2012

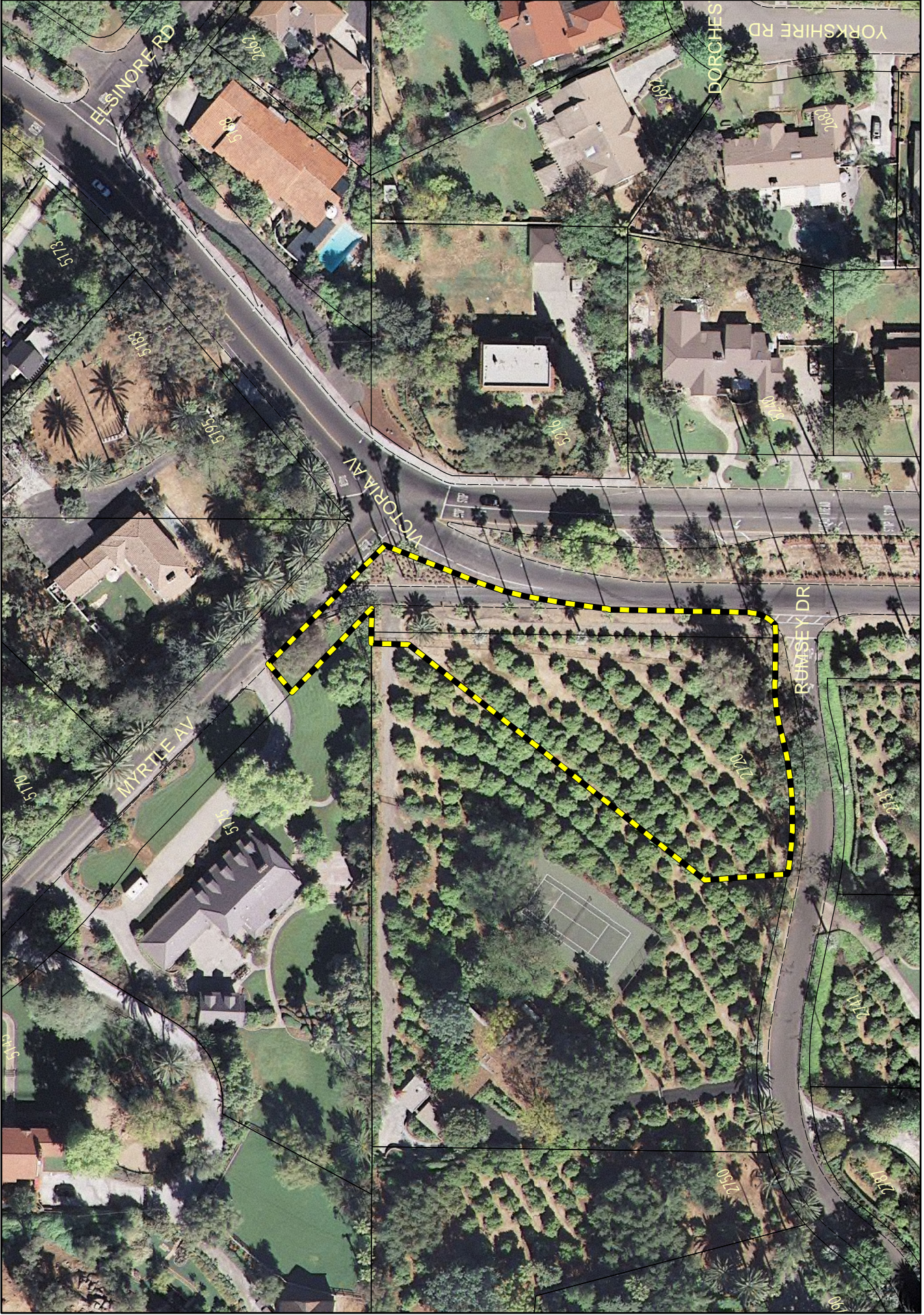
Specific Conditions of Approval

4. The Roosevelt Palm shall be protected in place.
5. The existing rock curb along the front of the residence at 5175 Myrtle Avenue shall be protected in place and extended as necessary to gradually transition to the proposed standard curb and gutter.
6. Parallel parking shall be installed pursuant to the standards set forth in Section 19.580 (Parking and Loading) of the Zoning Code.
7. Parking shall be limited to a maximum of 20 minutes.
8. Modifications to the right turn lane shall be pursuant to Public Works standards.
9. The new gate allowing access to the orange groves shall consist of black wrought iron and not exceed six feet in height, subject to Staff review.
10. Public access to the orange grove shall be limited to 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on weekends.



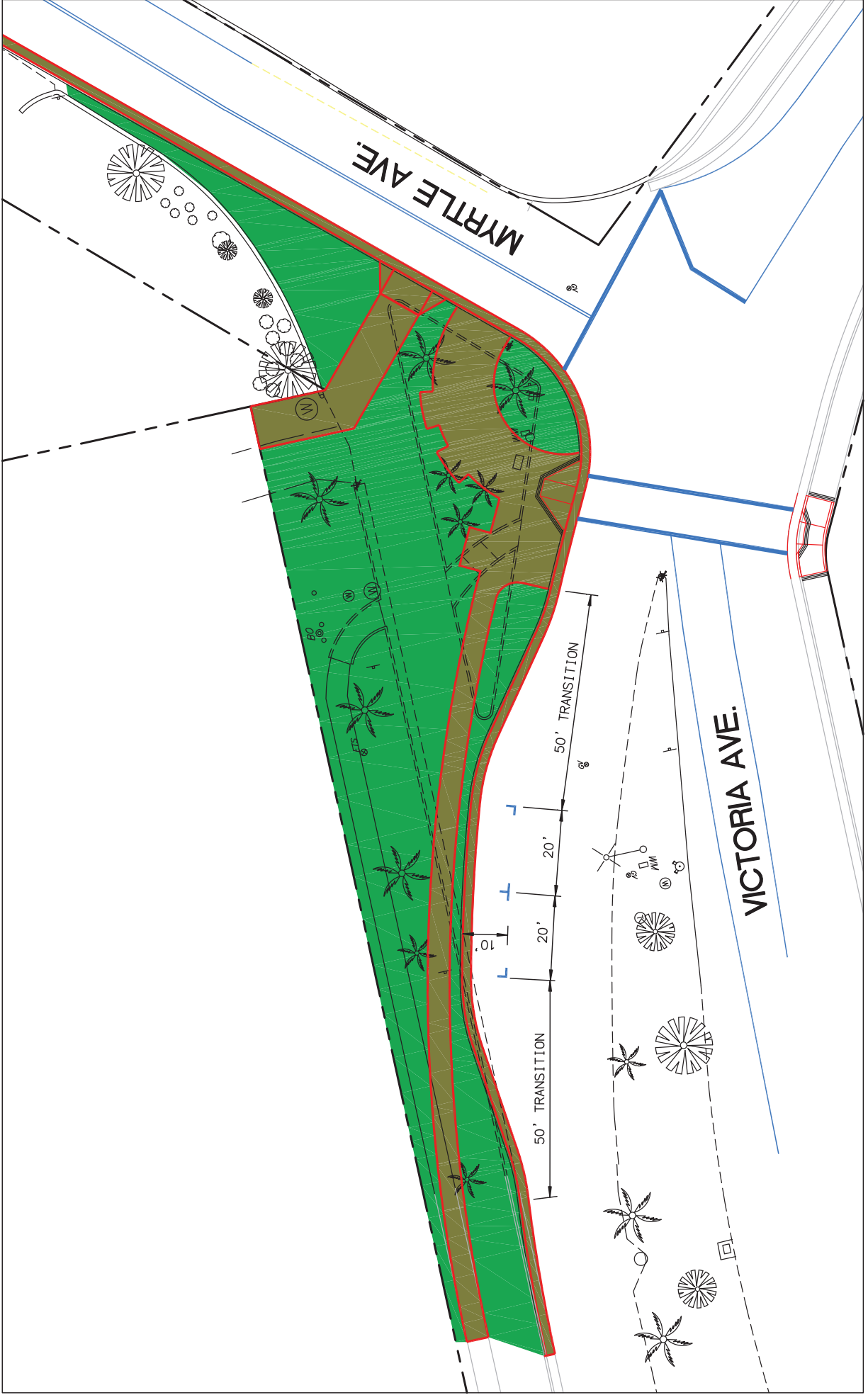
P11-0616, Exhibit 1 - Location Map





P11-0616, Exhibit 2 - 2008 Aerial Photo





P11-0616, Exhibit 3 - Project Plans



Dedicated turn lane from Myrtle Avenue



Existing driveway to private grove at 2720 Rumsey Drive

P11-0616, Exhibit 4
Site Photos



Existing gate to private grove at 2720 Rumsey Drive



Existing low rock wall



Existing median



Existing Victoria Avenue frontage



Existing Victoria Avenue frontage



Existing Victoria Avenue frontage



Looking southerly down Victoria Avenue



Roosevelt Palm plaque

2. **PLANNING CASE P11-0616**: Proposal by the City of Riverside to consider a certificate of appropriateness to create a memorial orange grove by closing the dedicated free right turn lane from Myrtle Avenue to Victoria Avenue, situated on the westerly side of Victoria Avenue between Myrtle Avenue and Rumsey Drive, in Ward 3.

Kyle Smith, Associate Planner, presented the staff report. A copy of a plan that was not included in the staff report was distributed to the Board. He also announced that extra copies were available for those in the audience that were interested in this project.

Board Member Leach asked where the gates were?

Mr. Smith showed the location on the exhibit.

Board Member Field noted that the dedicated right turn has been there for a long time. He was worried about somebody plowing through this and actually hitting the Roosevelt palm. He asked if there was going to be anything such as a guard rail, bollards, boulders or something to protect the palm?

Board Member Murrieta arrived at this time.

Ms. Gettis noted that in the preliminary plans, it looks like the palm will actually have a larger berm between the curb than it has at the present. She noted that the space between the palm and the curb would have a couple more feet to it.

Mr. Smith added that staff has looked at the feasibility of moving the tree but it wasn't deemed to be appropriate. Unfortunately, it is in a vulnerable location but with these improvements, it should help.

Board Member Field stated that he hoped staff would look into putting something attractive there to protect the tree so that it doesn't get hit.

Board Member Leach inquired if this case was going through another approval process or whether the CHB review was it?

Mr. Smith replied that the Cultural Heritage Board decision was final.

Board Member Leach pointed out that she didn't see anything about vacation or dedication in the staff report. She inquired if staff needed to do anything with that because it is a public right-of-way?

Mr. Smith explained that this is not a traffic pattern modification. The right turn movement can still take place just in a different fashion.

Board Member Leach stated that the project is taking away dedicated roadway.

Mr. Smith explained that this was not taking away the traffic pattern per se. There is a process for traffic pattern modification that requires a public hearing before the Planning Commission. This is not a traffic pattern modification, it is just a modification of the design. You can still do

both turns from Myrtle onto Victoria. He stated that it was his understanding that it would remain in the public right-of-way, the entirety of the project.

Board Member Leach noted that it would have gates?

Mr. Smith pointed out the gated portion.

Board Member Leach was curious in that if she brought forward this case, she would have been asked to vacate it.

Mr. Smith explained that the orange grove in question is not public right-of-way and will remain "not" public right-of-way. However, it is a parcel that will now be owned and operated by the City. The right turn lane to be removed is within the public right-of-way now and will still be within the public right-of-way but not accessible via vehicle.

Board Member Leach suggested that if this has not been surveyed, it should be. Her concern was that if it was dedicated as public vehicular ingress and egress on a map somewhere, then it needs to be vacated because it will not be public ingress and egress. It really depends on how it was create. It if was for vehicular access, you will not have vehicular access anymore. Legally, survey staff need to take a look at it and make sure everything is fine.

Ms. Gettis indicated that Cindie Perry, representing the applicant was present.

Chair Megna inquired who the applicant was? If it is the City of Riverside and who is the lead department?

Ms. Gettis stated that the lead department was Public Works.

Cindie Perry, representing the applicant, stated that technically she was not in Public Works anymore but she was representing Public Works because this project began when she was still there. She stated that the survey staff has looked at the property. She was not an engineer and was not qualified to speak to the legalities of vacating property.

Chair Megna called for any public comments.

Judy Fish, resident, stated that she lived on Ivy, the third house from the corner in question. She had a real issue with having this park there with the kids going to and from Poly. If she understood correctly, the orange grove part of it will be locked except for the hours 10-2 during the week?

Mr. Smith stated 10-2 weekdays and 8-3 on weekends.

Ms. Fish stated that if that was the case, there isn't an area for the kids to hang out when they are supposed to be in school. There have been a lot of issues about what happens across from Poly. The other really big question is the traffic backup without that right turn. People come there in the morning, there is a lot of traffic and 90% of them turn right. If they go straight down to the corner they are going to have to stop at that stop sign and it's a 3-way stop. When you have traffic coming this way, this way and down here to a 3-way stop, it's going to be a real problem in the mornings and afternoon. With the right-of-way now, people can swing that

way and get right onto Victoria and there's not so much of a problem. As a resident she really saw this as a big problem. She asked whether the fence would be enclosing the palm tree?

Mr. Smith replied that the fence it would be at the orange grove.

Board Member Leach asked if the kids hung out there now and if there was a problem now with those orange groves?

Ms. Fish answered that it was locked now and there was a fence around it. She walks along there every morning. There is a lot of trash and there was a grocery cart a couple of days ago. She stated that there would be a problem if the students could have access.

Jody Evans, 5195 Victoria Avenue, at the corner of Victoria and Myrtle, addressed the Board. She explained that to try to get out of her driveway in the morning is terrible because of the traffic going to Poly and people going to work downtown. It is almost like a freeway. There is 3-way stop, people roll through those stop signs, they do not come to a complete stop. She agreed with Ms. Fish, it is going to be a big traffic backup. People do come down Myrtle fast and swing over to Victoria full speed, maybe they need a speed bump. The students are a problem, hanging out, right now they go across the street more but they are always dumping their trash, hanging around and stuff. This looks like a good kid hangout. Locking out the orange groves is one thing but this area, it is not locked up. In all the years there, there has never been a problem with anyone hitting the Roosevelt palm. It has always been a safe thing. Where they are more likely to hit is a palm tree on Victoria or hit the corner of Myrtle and Victoria at the corner of her property. They would come barreling through that and hit the rock wall, right across the street from this project but never have they hit that palm or anything in that island. The plan looks beautiful but she could see a lot of problems with it and it needed to be looked at further.

Irene Conable, resident at Victoria Hill Drive, addressed the Board. Victoria Hill Drive is probably half a block away from the proposed park. She stated that they have had people driving up there, parking, smoking dope, throwing beer cans, and doing graffiti. It is a bit of a deserted road, a little tear drop shaped road. She felt that the last thing they needed in that neighborhood is another potential spot for people to hangout. She urged the Board to reconsider this. She felt this was an absolute nightmare. She reiterated Ms. Fish's comment about the traffic. She comes through that intersection every morning and every afternoon on her way to and from work. She didn't even want to think about the level of impatience and irritation that is going to be in those drivers seats during those times of the day. She called within the last two weeks to have some graffiti removed on Victoria Hill Drive which is half a block from this spot.

Board Member Altamirano asked staff why the City had decided to do this project now?

Ms. Perry stated that it has been the City's desire for a number of years to close that right turn because of safety reasons. When you are turning from Myrtle onto Victoria it's a little bit like jumping into a jump rope on a playground so it has been primarily for safety reasons. Staff also had an opportunity to make an entry statement for Victoria Avenue. The plans for this project also include an interpretive kiosk for the citrus industry, bicycle information, walking information, etc.

Board Member Leach inquired who would maintain this, Park and Recreation or Public Works?

Ms. Perry replied that it would be Public Works.

Ms. Conable said she took issue with the comment that coming into the right turn is like jumping onto a freeway. If you are bearing right at the intersection, the people coming from your left are at a stop sign, they stop. You have the opportunity to merge in with them without any trouble. In fact, she never merges, there are two lanes where she is going and it is not a problem. To indicate that this is like a merging situation, where there is traffic barreling along that you have to fit in with, no there is a stop sign there.

Board Member Garafalo said he was very sympathetic, as he lives by schools and understands what the residents are talking about. He inquired if it was within the Board's purview to discuss whether issues of right-of-way are appropriate here or is the Board, in fact, limited to the issues that are relevant to cultural preservation?

Chair Megna agreed with Board Member Garafalo's question. He understands why this item came to the Cultural Heritage Board, it is on Victoria Avenue. There have been concerns raised by three members of the public who all live within a very short distance of this proposal. The concerns are all engineering issues which lie outside the Board's purview. There is at least one other Board the City has, Parking, Traffic and Streets Commission, that does deal with these kind of issues. He was concerned because this Board does not have neither the experience nor expertise to judge whether or not the right-of-way change being made is appropriate or not. The idea of an enhancement to the City's citrus heritage on Victoria Avenue is a good thing. There seems to be adequate protection for an important landscape element, the Roosevelt palm. Certainly the Hays family's willingness to donate this real estate is a wonderful civic gesture. He wasn't sure that this Board was the right Board to pass on the right-of-way change that is being made here. The Board can find an agreement with respect to the issue of the City's history and culture but not to pass judgment on the right-of-way question here which is a civil engineering matter.

Board Member Leach asked if the Board had the ability to refer this to the Planning Commission. They approve right-of-way issues all the time, they approve tracts, some very huge, in regards to right-of-way. I think that would be appropriate.

Board Member Gilleece inquired whether if this were a regular corner, any other intersection, wouldn't the City just do it without going to any Board?

Mr. Smith agreed so long as there is no change in the traffic pattern.

Board Member Gilleece stated that based on that, she did not think that the right-of-way issue is before anybody. The Board is to solely pass judgment on the historical part of this proposal. She did not think it had anything to do with the traffic, if staff is correct.

Mr. Beaumon clarified that the decision before the Board has to do with the elements of whether or not to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as it relates to both the Roosevelt palm and Victoria Avenue. The right-of-way issues, are not this Board's concern but right-of-way issues as they directly impact the cultural resource are something that the Board should probably consider. Would this endanger the Roosevelt Palm? This is an example of a direct impact to a cultural resource. Would this adversely impact Victoria Avenue? But as to the wisdom of eliminating that traffic, in a vacuum, that is not this Board's purview. They residents

do have relief outside of this Board. If people are upset with the impacts it will have on traffic, they can go directly to the city department and have the City drop this application. That is a policy decision that can be made within the City, outside of this Board.

Board Member Gilleece stated that the Board is limiting their focus to whether the change in the right-of-way from traffic to pedestrian is, in effect, negatively impacting the historical surroundings.

Mr. Beaumon replied affirmatively, that is among the Board's considerations.

Board Member Altamirano pointed out that this proposal is a question of safety as put by the city official.

Mr. Beaumon stated that as he understood from city staff testimony, they desire to eliminate that right turn as a matter of safety. The City's ability to do so is dependent upon the Cultural Heritage Board's review because of Victoria Avenue and the Roosevelt palm. So no matter what the City's motivation, because it impacts two independent cultural resources they have to come before this Board for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Board Member Leach stated that if staff can say this has been reviewed by the appropriate divisions and they say it is a safer situation, then that helps.

Ms. Perry stated that they have and they, in fact, did conduct traffic studies. She did not have the results of those handy.

Board Member Garafalo commented that if the Board doesn't have the authority to hear the public, they need to get a hearing someplace. He was not comfortable if they didn't get a hearing. So, simply saying that somebody looked at it and decided that this was safer, doesn't do justice to what they are saying. The question was asked a few minutes ago, "can we refer this to somebody"? He would like to hear what somebody has to say in terms of hearing their complaints.

Board Member Field noted that what staff said was that if the Board did approve this proposal, they residents would have the ability to file some kind of an appeal.

Mr. Beaumon reiterated that if the Board did approve this, it only means that they have certified that this is appropriate from the cultural resources perspective. The residents still have their remedy, just as if there was no cultural resources there, to speak to their council member, to speak to the mayor, or to voice their complaint that they think this is a bad idea. If he understood public testimony correctly, they think this is bad idea to change this traffic pattern but that is not something that the Board is supposed pass upon and indeed, the Board does not have evidence before them. The Board can continue this case and allow the residents time to follow-up further. The Board can consider the merits of this project only as they relate to the impacts to a cultural resource. What does it do to Victoria Avenue? What does it do to the Roosevelt palm?

Chair Megna said he understood Mr. Beaumon's point. He stated he was very uncomfortable with this, for exactly the same issues Board Member Garafalo has articulated. If this is the only public setting in which the public gets an opportunity to comment on this, he thought that they needed to make it clear that any approval is very narrowly based on the cultural resources

issue. He would like to see the Board's action combined with a notice to the City Manager and Council that there were multiple members of the public who voiced concerns and that this deserves their attention.

Ms. Gettis stated that based upon the discussion, staff would request a continuance so that staff can obtain more information for the Board and members of the public. She stated that the applicant also agrees to a continuance and suggested the next meeting in November.

MOTION MADE by Board Member Leach, **SECONDED** by Board member Garafalo, **TO CONTINUE** Planning Case P11-0616 to the meeting of November 16, 2011.

MOTION CARRIED by a vote of 7 ayes to 1 noes and 0 disqualified and 0 abstentions.

AYES:	Altamirano, Field, Garafalo, Leach, Megna, Murrieta, Treen
NOES:	Gilleece
DISQUALIFIED:	None
ABSTAINED:	None
ABSENT:	Preston-Chavez

Memorial Garden Neighborhood Meeting Thursday, December 15

City Presentation of Traffic Impact Data

RESPONSE BY IMPACTED HOME OWNERS

INTRODUCTION – Martin Nelson, 5042 Woodman Ave.

- ✚ Some opening comments about the neighborhood flavor we are trying to preserve.
- ✚ Pete Peterson, Rockledge, will address the traffic flow data reported by the city, and implications of removing the right turn yield lane.
- ✚ Rick Engleuf, Myrtle, will identify some problems with the design and suggest an alternative to removing the right turn yield lane.
- ✚ Others here today will then be invited to elaborate or comment.

PRELIMINARY – Martin

- ✚ We support the Memorial Grove; we oppose the elimination of the right-turn lane.
- ✚ We are seeking a win-win solution.
- ✚ This part of town, mostly known as the Rockledge Park area is characterized by:
 - Many Historic Landmark Homes
 - 110 year old stone walls
 - No sidewalks
 - Many different kinds of palm and shade trees
 - No traffic except for Myrtle / Ivy
 - It includes the last of the Tequesquite Arroyo and a Blue Line Stream framing the restored Victoria Bridge
 - It feels like a park
- ✚ The Myrtle / Victoria intersection is the Gateway to this Historical part of town.
 - Several beautiful and historic homes with large expanses of lawn follow the historic stone wall from the intersection.
 - The stone wall built by a Italian stone mason 1n 1901 wanders around Victoria Hill and both sides of Myrtle... the lane proposed for elimination must have been built at that time as well.
 - This historic wall and lane must be preserved.

RESPONSE TO THE CITY'S TRAFFIC STUDY – Pete Peterson

- ✚ We are concerned that the way the City collected Traffic data is incomplete and does not tell the whole story.
 - Why wasn't a traffic counter laid down on the right turn yield lane from the start to collect 24-7 information?

- How did the city measure surge? As we all know whom live here traffic surge occurs after cars have been backed up by the stopped school busses on Ivy, and by railroad traffic crossing.
 - If traffic is coming to the Myrtle / Victoria in bunches won't that cause back up problems? Who looked at that?
 - Did the City evaluate student traffic in the morning and afternoon? Wouldn't they be backed into the intersection if the current crosswalk was moved there?
- 👇 Rick and I prepared 300 handouts and stood at the intersection alerting drivers to the proposed lane elimination. All were against the idea except one who wanted to not get involved.
- The implication is that there are going to be many angry drivers from the City Council Districts of Mr. Melendez and Mr. Gardner if the lane is eliminated without their input.
- 👇 There is no doubt that drivers frustrated by the delays at the intersection will drop down into the Rockledge Streets (Rockhill, Woodman, Hallwood and Rockledge) looking for ways to get around that intersection ...
- 👇 There is no doubt that drivers wanting to go left on Victoria and who are backed up behind cars waiting to turn right, will start using the one way Myrtle Drive going to the Bridge to bypass the intersection.
- This will cause many cars to divert down Myrtle and cause dangerous conditions at the Victoria intersection with the Bridge.
 - Homeowners on Myrtle have difficulty backing out their driveways now. More traffic will make backing out even more hazardous.
 - Some driveways are slanted the wrong way adding to the hazard.
- 👇 What if the City is wrong?
- There will be unintended consequences.
 - If the Traffic materializes like we think it will, there will be no going back; the historic lane will have been eliminated.
- 👇 We support the Memorial Garden but not making a traffic change that will have unintended consequences and deteriorate the quality of life in the Rockledge Neighborhood, and marginalize the neighborhood as well

RATIONALE FOR NOT MOVING THE ROOSEVELT PALM – Rick Engelhauf

- 👇 We understand the City wants to remove the right turn yield lane because (1) the Palm may be injured to move it and (2) to make it safe for memorial garden visitors to see the tree and tree plaque ... by removing the right turn yield lane visitors will have unencumbered access to the Palm.

- We believe this is the primary reason because there have been no accidents or injuries or other reasons to change the intersection as it exists now, and has existed for over 100 years.

👇 We think the Roosevelt Palm should be moved.

- If the palm stays at its current location, right-turning trucks, busses and large service vehicles will be brushing it if you eliminate the right turn yield lane.
- Visitors will wonder into the street to look up into the palm causing a hazard.

👇 The Palm CAN be moved.

- The Mexican Palm has been moved.
- We have an estimate for safely moving the palm now (handout).

PROBLEMS WITH THE PROPOSED DESIGN - Rick

- 👇 We have already talked about the unintended traffic consequences.
- 👇 Creating and leaving two parking spaces vacant along Victoria overnight invites problems. Cars will park there and people will call police.
- 👇 The proposed Information Center needs to be behind locked gates at night.
- 👇 A smaller gated footprint will be less attractive to loiterers and troublemakers.
- 👇 A 50-foot length of the historic rock wall will have to be removed.
- 👇 Students using the new cross walk will be jammed into the intersection.

BEST OPTION – Place the memorial garden, palm and information center behind the planned closed gates and leave the right turn yield lane as is.

👇 **THE MEMORIAL GARDEN AND TRAIL HEAD BEHIND THE LOCKED GATES IS A WIN-WIN.**

- Unintended traffic consequences will be averted.
- The Roosevelt Palm can be incorporated into the design and even made a central design feature there.
- The whole project will be safe behind locked gates at night.
- Unwelcome Victoria street parking will not be invited.
- The Historical wall and right yield turn will be preserved.

Victoria Myrtle - Summary of December 2011

Community Meeting Comments and Responses

Comment	Response
Introduction	Cindie Perry introduced city team: Belinda Graham, Assistant City Manager; Gilbert Hernandez, Sr. Traffic Engineer; Erin Gettis, Historic Preservation Officer; Ian Davidson of IDLA, Landscape Architect
Meeting Overview / Project History	Cindie Perry described meeting agenda, noted that written comments were also received and would be addressed at the presentation with input allowed at the end of the meeting. Mr. Martin Nelson was also introduced as the group's speaker along with Mr. Engelhauf and Mr. Peterson. The group was asked if there was any objection to these individuals speaking on behalf of the group. No one objected. A short period of time was allowed at the end for additional comments.
Project Background	Cindie briefly described the project background and identified the public safety (pedestrian safety) as the City's concern. Cindie also discussed the benefit of historic preservation of Victoria Avenue. Cindie explained that when opportunities present, Public Works closes free right turns to improve public safety. City has been working on improving Victoria Avenue since 2008 - this completes that effort by creating an entry point at that end of Victoria Avenue. Since 2010, the city has been evaluating design options with input from Victoria Avenue Forever. We met with neighbors directly adjacent to the property on June 11 as well. On October 19, we presented the concept to the Cultural Heritage Board followed by a November 3 neighborhood meeting and today's meeting.
Project Concept	Ian described the project elements
Traffic and Pedestrian Safety	Gilbert, Sr. Traffic Engineer, Public Works provided a detailed description of traffic studies, counts, speed surveys, study dates, and other factors such as school attendance. Details are provided on the presentation slides. The group asked questions during this portion of the presentation focusing on the study times and some questioned Traffic Engineering findings.
Maintenance	Cindie Perry reiterated the maintenance plan to

	address concerns about graffiti, lighting and loitering. The area is currently maintained and this would continue; all other maintenance is also occurring currently and would not change as a result of this project (just like the other community gardens on the Avenue). The grove hours were also presented and the gate is locked during non-light hours.
Mr. Martin Nelson, Mr. Engelhauf and Mr. Peterson presented their comments	The attached handout was provided at the meeting summarizing the gentlemen's comments.
City Response to their comments	Belinda Graham indicated that in response to their comments, the City would remove the parking turnout from the project. She also indicated that the meeting today was to present city findings in response to community input and whether any new evidence was presented to dispute city's findings regarding public safety. Because the city was not presented with substantive findings to dispute the public safety issue, the city's intent was to move forward with the project. (The group was also informed that the historic wall would remain intact.)
Next steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cultural Heritage Board meeting January 18 at 3:30 to present historic / cultural elements of the project; 2. Engineering described the bid process (bid released, received, award will go before the city council at a later date); 3. construction to take approximately 1-2 weeks [weather dependent]
Community comments	Additional community members provided comment: Victoria Avenue Forever expressed support for the project; several others (names not known) expressed opinions in opposition

From: Lori Yates <loriyates@att.net>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2011 11:46 AM
To: Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: RE: Victoria Avenue / Myrtle Avenue Memorial Orange Grove & Trailhead project

Kyle,
Thanks for the invitation. I'm looking forward to Thursday's meeting. There may be several members of Victoria Avenue Forever at the meeting. We are excited about this project, and our plans for this winter include restoration of the Lorraine Small Memorial Rose Garden in the Victoria median between Myrtle and Rumsey.

Regards,

Lori Yates
Member,
Victoria Avenue Forever

From: Smith, Kyle J. [mailto:KJSmith@riversideca.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2011 3:19 PM
To: Undisclosed recipients:
Subject: Victoria Avenue / Myrtle Avenue Memorial Orange Grove & Trailhead project

You are invited to attend an informational meeting to discuss the proposed Victoria Avenue / Myrtle Avenue Memorial Orange Grove & Trailhead project located on the Westerly side of Victoria Avenue between Myrtle Avenue and Rumsey Drive.

Please see the attached flyer and feel free to contact me with any questions,

Kyle

Kyle Smith, Associate Planner
City of Riverside Planning Division
3900 Main Street, Third Floor
Riverside, CA 92522
Direct (951) 826-5220 Fax (951) 826-5981
General Info (951) 826-5371
www.riversideca.gov/planning

From: gary dry <gdry01@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 10:29 AM
To: Smith, Kyle J.; Martin Nelson; dchines@sbcglobal.net; BOOKERHP@aol.com; ntaylorca1@aol.com; denny.hines@domaticusa.com; boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; emily.garabedian@gmail.com; western528@charter.net; 2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net; jan.schall@rcc.edu; mbernardy@netscape.net; dgreffe@aol.com; w6DX@amsat.ore; luciagnevarez@yahoo.com; petealdana@hotmail.com; kfalcobanda@aol.com; bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu; john.cioffi@ucr.edu
Cc: Gettis, Erin; Brenes, Patricia; Perry, Cindie
Subject: Re: City Neighborhood Meeting - are you aware of this?

How about having the meeting later in the afternoon or even in the evening. Most of the people who will be impacted by this are working and may not be able to attend until after 5pm... That is unless you may not want all concerned neighbors attending. Also why not try blocking off that section for a day or two and see what types of issues may arise.

From: "Smith, Kyle J." <KJSmith@riversideca.gov>
To: Martin Nelson <msod@aol.com>; "dchines@sbcglobal.net" <dchines@sbcglobal.net>; "BOOKERHP@aol.com" <BOOKERHP@aol.com>; "ntaylorca1@aol.com" <ntaylorca1@aol.com>; "denny.hines@domaticusa.com" <denny.hines@domaticusa.com>; "boubala@sbcglobal.net" <boubala@sbcglobal.net>; "elissemar@charter.net" <elissemar@charter.net>; "kevin.esterling@ucr.edu" <kevin.esterling@ucr.edu>; "emily.garabedian@gmail.com" <emily.garabedian@gmail.com>; "gdry01@yahoo.com" <gdry01@yahoo.com>; "western528@charter.net" <western528@charter.net>; "2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net" <2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net>; "jan.schall@rcc.edu" <jan.schall@rcc.edu>; "mbernardy@netscape.net" <mbernardy@netscape.net>; "dgreffe@aol.com" <dgreffe@aol.com>; "w6DX@amsat.ore" <w6DX@amsat.ore>; "luciagnevarez@yahoo.com" <luciagnevarez@yahoo.com>; "petealdana@hotmail.com" <petealdana@hotmail.com>; "kfalcobanda@aol.com" <kfalcobanda@aol.com>; "bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu" <bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu>; "john.cioffi@ucr.edu" <john.cioffi@ucr.edu>
Cc: "Gettis, Erin" <EGettis@riversideca.gov>; "Brenes, Patricia" <PBRENES@riversideca.gov>; "Perry, Cindie" <CPerry@riversideca.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2011 8:05 AM

Subject: RE: City Neighborhood Meeting - are you aware of this?

Good morning,

Thanks to all for your interest in this project and the meeting this afternoon at 1:30p in City Hall (7th Floor). After this project was initially discussed and considered at the October 19th Cultural Heritage Board meeting, it became clear to City Staff that additional neighborhood outreach and discussion was needed. While no action will be taken at this informational neighborhood meeting this afternoon, our Public Works team will be in attendance to discuss traffic concerns and impacts, as well as other City Staff to address issues such as loitering mitigation, historic preservation, maintenance, project design, etc.

We appreciate your passing information regarding this meeting to your neighbors and others who may be interested. While we did our best, we are not able to identify or notify absolutely everyone who may be impacted or have questions. Following this afternoon's meeting, this matter will be taken up by the Cultural Heritage Board again at the November 16th meeting, you are also welcome to attend that meeting (3:30p on Nov 16 in the Mayor's Ceremonial Room, 7th Floor).

Please contact me with any questions and we look forward to seeing you this afternoon,
Kyle

Kyle Smith, Associate Planner

City of Riverside Planning Division

3900 Main Street, Third Floor

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General Info (951) 826-5371

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P11-0616, Exhibit F
Email Correspondence received by Planning Staff

From: gary dry <gdry01@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 1:05 PM
To: Martin Nelson; Smith, Kyle J.
Cc: dchines@sbcglobal.net; BOOKERHP@aol.com; ntaylorca1@aol.com; denny.hines@dometicus.com; boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; emily.garabedian@gmail.com; western528@charter.net; 2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net; jan.schall@rcc.edu; mbernardy@netscape.net; dgrefe@aol.com; w6DX@amsat.ore; luciagnevare@yaho.com; petealdana@hotmail.com; kfalcobanda@aol.com; bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu; john.cioffi@ucr.edu
Subject: Re: Fwd: City Neighborhood Meeting - are you aware of this?

That has to be the best idea I've gead all day.

Gary

From: Martin Nelson <msod@aol.com>
To: kjsmith@riversideca.gov
Cc: dchines@sbcglobal.net; BOOKERHP@aol.com; ntaylorca1@aol.com; denny.hines@dometicus.com; boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; emily.garabedian@gmail.com; gdry01@yahoo.com; western528@charter.net; 2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net; jan.schall@rcc.edu; mbernardy@netscape.net; dgrefe@aol.com; w6DX@amsat.ore; luciagnevare@yaho.com; petealdana@hotmail.com; kfalcobanda@aol.com; bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu; john.cioffi@ucr.edu
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2011 11:32 AM
Subject: Fwd: City Neighborhood Meeting - are you aware of this?

Dear Kyle,

I hope the Planning Department will join our request that this matter be publicized better to all the residents in neighborhoods on both sides of Ivy.

We have lived here for over twenty years, and here is the impact we envision:

(1) cars wanting to turn left on Victoria from Myrtle, will take the Myrtle short cut around Victoria Hill ... a narrow one way street joining Victoria at the Bridge. This road is very dangerous for pedestrians now, and would become increasingly dangerous with heavy traffic.

(2) cars wanting to turn right will have to stop, wait for cars coming from the left on Victoria, and this will cause heavy backup in the morning and afternoon peak traffic periods ... and we would expect this heavy congestion would reduce the attractiveness of the proposed Memorial Park.

We agree that a Memorial Park in our neighborhood would be a good thing, but why not use the large vacant land at the corner of Myrtle and Ivy? This land will never be developed, sits idle producing weed and collecting debris and could be easily converted into a beautiful City Park or Garden.

Martin Nelson

-----Original Message-----

From: Kfalcobanda <kfalcobanda@aol.com>
To: msod <msod@aol.com>

P11-0616, Exhibit F
Email Correspondence received by Planning Staff

Sent: Thu, Nov 3, 2011 8:09 am
Subject: Fwd: City Neighborhood Meeting - are you aware of this?

Dear Martin,

This is the first I've heard of any of these plans for the city. I haven't received any public notice in the mail about the issue. The oldest email from Helen refers to an attachment, but there isn't one in her email.

So I gather from the chain of emails, the city wants to eliminate the right turn lane from Ivy to Victoria, using only the stop sign at the three-way intersection. This would clearly be a problem for us as residents, especially during peak hours at Poly, RCC, and downtown commuters in the morning and afternoon.

It is clear in the email from Kyle Smith, Associate Planner, that someone dropped the ball at City Hall and didn't give the residents sufficient notice of future plans for that intersection. For me, it would be nice to see the city's plan in its entirety, but on its face I would be opposed to any permanent removal of our right turn lane onto Victoria Ave.

I have an appointment this afternoon, but I can try to rearrange my schedule if you think I should attend. It sounds like you and Nancy have the basics covered for our neighborhood, most especially the lack of notice to the residents.

Thank you for sharing the information.

Kathleen Banda
5065 Rockledge Drive
951.684.0703

-----Original Message-----

From: Smith, Kyle J. <KJSmith@riversideca.gov>
To: Martin Nelson <msod@aol.com>; dchines <dchines@sbcglobal.net>; BOOKERHP <BOOKERHP@aol.com>; ntaylorca1 <ntaylorca1@aol.com>; denny.hines <denny.hines@dometricusa.com>; boubala <boubala@sbcglobal.net>; elissemar <elissemar@charter.net>; kevin.esterling <kevin.esterling@ucr.edu>; emily.garabedian <emily.garabedian@gmail.com>; gdry01 <gdry01@yahoo.com>; western528 <western528@charter.net>; 2ap1jp <2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net>; jan.schall <jan.schall@rcc.edu>; mbernardy <mbernardy@netscape.net>; dgrefe <dgrefe@aol.com>; w6DX <w6DX@amsat.ore>; luciagnevarez <luciagnevarez@yahoo.com>; petealdana <petealdana@hotmail.com>; kfalcobanda <kfalcobanda@aol.com>; bronwjn.leeabaw <bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu>; john.cioffi <john.cioffi@ucr.edu>
Cc: Gettis, Erin <EGettis@riversideca.gov>; Brenes, Patricia <PBRENES@riversideca.gov>; Perry, Cindie <CPerry@riversideca.gov>

Sent: Thu, Nov 3, 2011 1:05 am
Subject: RE: City Neighborhood Meeting - are you aware of this?

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Please contact me with any questions and we look forward to seeing you this afternoon,
Kyle

Kyle Smith, Associate Planner

P11-0616, Exhibit F
Email Correspondence received by Planning Staff

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Riverside, CA 92522
Direct (951) 826-5220 Fax (951) 826-5981
General Info (951) 826-5371
www.riversideca.gov/planning

From: Martin Nelson [<mailto:msod@aol.com>]

Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 7:31 AM

To: dchines@sbcglobal.net; BOOKERHP@aol.com; ntaylorca1@aol.com; Smith, Kyle J.; denny.hines@dometicus.com

Cc: boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; emily.garabedian@gmail.com; gdry01@yahoo.com; western528@charter.net; 2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net; jan.schall@rcc.edu; mbernardy@netscape.net; dgreffe@aol.com; w6DX@amsat.ore; luciagnevarez@yahoo.com; petealdana@hotmail.com; kfalcobanda@aol.com; bronwjin.leeabaw@ucr.edu; john.cioffi@ucr.edu

Subject: Re: City Neighborhood Meeting - are you aware of this?

Dear all,

I'm planning to attend City Hall 7th floor meeting today at 1:30. Are others?

While the idea of a Orange Memorial Park at the intersection of Myrtle and Victoria is appealing and well intended, our view is that by eliminating the right turn access to Victoria from Myrtle would cause a considerable traffic problem for those of us wanting to turn right onto Victoria. We fear that at high traffic times there might be a backup of traffic all the way back to Rockledge.

We are hearing about this plan through word-of-mouth. The City should have notified all of us in neighborhoods on both sides of Ivy as to their intention since we will be most severely impacted.

As you all know, people use Ivy as a shortcut from downtown to avoid the traffic on Central. Perhaps if they all had to stop at an arterial stop sign on Victoria they would chose another route? We see pros and cons; our point will be that there should be proper notification of all impacted persons before a decision of this magnitude is made.

Martin Nelson and Nancy Taylor
5042 Woodman Av.

-----Original Message-----

From: Carol Hines <dchines@sbcglobal.net>

To: BOOKERHP@aol.com; MSOD@aol.com; ntaylorca1@ntaylorca1@aol.com; kjsmith@riversideca.gov; denny.hines@dometicus.com

Cc: boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; emily.garabedian@gmail.com; gdry01@gdry01@yahoo.com; [western528@charter.net](mailto:western528@western528@charter.net); [2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:2ap1jp@2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net); [jan.schall@rcc.edu](mailto:jan.schall@jan.schall@rcc.edu); [mbernardy@netscape.net](mailto:mbernardy@mbernardy@netscape.net)

Sent: Thu, Nov 3, 2011 1:12 am

Subject: Re: City Neighborhood Meeting - are you aware of this?

Hi neighbors and Mr. Smith,

I can't attend the meeting today, but wanted to share my concerns about the Memorial Orange Grove.

My first fear was the loss of the Roosevelt palm. I'm pleased to see it remains in the plans.

I am concerned about the bottleneck that would result from losing the right turn lane onto Victoria. Traffic there is quite heavy at certain times of the day, and if every car has to stop and wait their turn at the stop sign, we could have cars backed up to the top of the hill or farther. Please do a detailed traffic study before you make any final decisions.

Thank you for your consideration,

Carol Hines
5029 Rockledge Drive

P11-0616, Exhibit F

Email Correspondence received by Planning Staff

----- Original Message -----

From: BOOKERHP@aol.com

To: MSOD@aol.com ; ntaylorca1@aol.com

Cc: boubala@sbcglobal.net ; elissemar@charter.net ; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu ; emily.garabedian@gmail.com ; gdry01@yahoo.com ; western528@charter.net ; 2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net ; dchines@sbcglobal.net ; jan.schall@rcc.edu ; mbernardy@netscape.net

Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2011 1:06 PM

Subject: City Neighborhood Meeting - are you aware of this?

This is Helen, your neighbor at 5044 Rockledge Dr. I just got perturbing news this morning from another neighbor that there will be a city meeting next Monday at 1:30 p.m. about the proposed plans for Myrtle/Victoria Ave. Were any of you aware of this?

Please see the attachment.

From: Martin Nelson <msod@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 3:28 PM
To: gdry01@yahoo.com; Smith, Kyle J.; dchines@sbcglobal.net; BOOKERHP@aol.com; ntaylorca1@aol.com; denny.hines@dometicus.com; boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; emily.garabedian@gmail.com; western528@charter.net; 2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net; jan.schall@rcc.edu; mbernardy@netscape.net; dgreffe@aol.com; w6DX@amsat.ore; luciagnevarez@yahoo.com; petealdana@hotmail.com; kfalcobanda@aol.com; bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu; john.cioffi@ucr.edu; Gdry01@yahoo.com; msod@aol.com
Subject: Memorial Grove Proposal - Today's Meeting

About 20 persons attended today's 1:30 p.m. meeting at City Hall. Most expressed concern that (1) there was not earlier and better communication as to what is being proposed (namely a Memorial Grove), and (2) that what is being proposed includes closing the "free right turn lane" from Myrtle onto Victoria.

The City's plan results from a gift of two acres of orange trees by the Helen Hayes family to the city, a gift put forward by Jack Yaeger, husband of deceased Helen Hayes. Mr. Davidson, the landscape architect hired by the City to complete plans for the development of this gift, originally kept the "free right turn" lane in his plan; it was subsequently removed (I believe to accommodate the two new Victoria Avenue parking places proposed for the Memorial Grove, but that's just my guess).

Attending the meeting for the City were Belinda Graham (City Manager's Office), Kyle Smith (Planning), Erwin Gettis (Planning) Patricial Brenes (Planning), Cindie Perry (Intergovernmental Relations) Tom ??? (Acting Public Works Director).

The City said the goals for the plan were: (1) Beautify the Myrtle / Victoria corner (2) Improve pedestrian and bicycle safety there, and (3) to make the Roosevelt Palm plaque more safely accessible.

The proposed plan would eliminate the "free right turn lane" joining Myrtle and Victoria going south easterly, and incorporate that removed island into the proposed Memorial Grove proper.

The Public Works director said studies showed that eliminating the "free right turn lane" would result in an acceptable delay in traffic that would have to stop at the arterial stop sign, then turn right. He reported that 80% of cars counted turned right onto Victoria. In answering questions, he reported that there have been no accidents or personal injuries involving the "free right turn" lane. Those supporting the City's Plan noted that they see continuing violations of the "yield" sign and agreed with the City that it was dangerous.

The Public Works Director could not tell us what an "acceptable delay" would be as a result of eliminating the "free right turn lane." He said it was not actually a "free right turn" because traffic has to yield to southerly Victoria traffic.

Homeowners on Myrtle expressed concern that as a result of traffic being backed up at the proposed arterial stop, many drivers would use the one way Myrtle lane to the bridge to bypass the new arterial and take their chances turning left at the bridge. Homeowners on that stretch of Myrtle worried that many drive ways point in the opposite direction because that street used to be two way; they worried that they would

not be able to get out of their driveways safely with the increased traffic. Other homeowners on Myrtle said it was NOW difficult for them to leave their driveways; that increased congestion at the Victoria / Myrtle arterial would further worsen their egress.

Some complained that the proposed Grove would attract vandals and teens hanging out; they worried about graffiti and debris.

A proposal to push the Grove entrance back into the Grove and keep the "free right turn" lane seemed to be supported by most.

In general the meeting allowed opinions and questions to be raised. Staff promised to take comments back for review. The next meeting is on November 19. Several homeowners in the group urged the city to notify all residents on both sides of Ivy about the proposal and upcoming meetings. It was also suggested the City put a public notice in the Press Enterprise since many more people other than local residents will be impacted if the "free right turn lane" is eliminated.

From: donname@charter.net
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 9:52 AM
To: Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: Future Meetings about Memorial Grove

Dear Mr. Smith

Please keep my email address and inform us of all future meetings concerning the Memorial Grove at Myrtle Ave and Victoria Ave.

Thank you,
Rick and Donna Engelauf
5021 Myrtle Ave.
Phone-951-529-1881 or 781-4689

From: Annette Piguillem <2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 8:41 AM
To: Loveridge, Ron
Cc: Smith, Kyle J.; msod@aol.com; dchines@sbcglobal.net; ntaylorca1@aol.com; denny.hines@dometricusa.com; boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; emily.garabedian@gmail.com; gdry01@yahoo.com; western528@charter.net; jan.schall@rcc.edu; mbernardy@netscape.net; dgreffe@aol.com; w6DX@amsat.ore; uciagnevarez@yahoo.com; petealdana@hotmail.com; kfalcobanda@aol.com; bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu; john.cioffi@ucr.edu; gteviz@sbcglobal.net; 4ledbellys@att.net; donname@charter.net; inlben@aol.com; BOOKERHP@aol.com
Subject: Changes to Myrtle Ave.

Mr. Loveridge,

I live at 5008 Myrtle Ave. I am very concerned to learn that the city is planning to change the intersection of Myrtle and Victoria Ave. Eliminating the right turn lane from Myrtle to Victoria will cause traffic to back up onto Ivy, and then more people will choose to take the one-way section of Myrtle as an alternate route to Victoria. **This means more people speeding past my house and pulling out onto Victoria near the bridge.** Our little one way street was not designed for this traffic pattern. My husband and I bought our home on Myrtle Ave. because it is on a QUIET street with little traffic.

I cannot believe the City is planning to make this change without first getting feedback from residents and doing a traffic study. Having 'secret' meetings to plan changes is unfair and outside of normal practices of this great city. Why have the residents been left in the dark?

I vote NO to the change.

Annette Piguillem
5008 Myrtle Ave.
Riverside, Ca. 92506

From: gary dry <gdry01@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 9:14 AM
To: Smith, Kyle J.

One of the things (though there are a lot) that bother me is that once traffic starts to back up at the stop sign of Victoria and Myrtle people will stop using Victoria as they travel East and use Myrtle. Myrtle is a one way street and drivers will begin going against traffic to get to their destination with the great possibility of an accident. Please reconsider this traffic nightmare. Why not use the area at the corner of Myrtle and Ivy it's been vacant for 100 years. Also when is the next meeting? Hopefully it's later in the afternoon so that we neighbors can attend.

Gary Drysol
5092 Myrtle ave

From: Smith, Kyle J.
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 3:59 PM
To: Perry, Cindie; Gettis, Erin; Brenes, Patricia
Cc: Hayes, Steve
Subject: RE: Victoria Myrtle
Attachments: Meeting notify list.docx; CADME Lables.pdf

Here is what I have.... Series of contacts from various meetings, groups, etc, on one document and the 300' radius plus all of Rumsey labels from CADME....

There may be redundancies in the labels, I just didn't have time to go through them all to check

I know we discussed a greater radius to notify, do we still want to do that?

Also, here are (I think all) of them email contacts I have received to date....

peggylittleworth@sbcglobal.net
donname@charter.net
msod@aol.com;
dchines@sbcglobal.net;
ntaylorca1@aol.com;
denny.hines@dometicus.com;
boubala@sbcglobal.net;
elissemar@charter.net;
kevin.esterling@ucr.edu;
emily.garabedian@gmail.com;
gdry01@yahoo.com;
western528@charter.net;
jan.schall@rcc.edu;
mbernardy@netscape.net;
dgreffe@aol.com;
w6DX@amsat.ore;
uciagnevarez@yahoo.com;
petealdana@hotmail.com;
kfalcobanda@aol.com;
bronwjn.leebaw@ucr.edu;
john.cioffi@ucr.edu;
gtewiz@sbcglobal.net;
4ledbellys@att.net;
donname@charter.net;
inlben@aol.com;
BOOKERHP@aol.com
MSOD@aol.com
2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net
Lori Yates <loriyates@att.net>

Kyle Smith, Associate Planner

City of Riverside Planning Division
3900 Main Street, Third Floor
Riverside, CA 92522
Direct (951) 826-5220 Fax (951) 826-5981
General Info (951) 826-5371
www.riversideca.gov/planning

From: Perry, Cindie
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 12:21 PM
To: Gettis, Erin; Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: Re: Victoria Myrtle

Actually all I need is a labels sheet. We can mail from up here.

From: Perry, Cindie
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 11:32 AM
To: Gettis, Erin; Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: FW: Victoria Myrtle

I am drafting a letter with some information on the closing of the free right turn and the next step Can you help me distribute to your list plus those who attended the meeting. I can .pdf it and send to you electronically???

Let me know if that will work.

From: Boyd, Tom
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 11:12 AM
To: Perry, Cindie
Subject: RE: Victoria Myrtle

Cindie, the letter is fine

Tom Boyd
Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer
951-826-5575
tboyd@riversideca.gov

From: Perry, Cindie
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 4:29 PM
To: Boyd, Tom
Cc: Lorson, Deanna; Graham, Belinda
Subject: Victoria Myrtle

Tom, can you review the attached and make sure I have used appropriate PW lingo (i.e. I don't want to call this is a study if it is an informal evaluation).

Thanks,

C-

P11-0616, Exhibit F
Email Correspondence received by Planning Staff

From: Annette Piguillem <2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2011 11:00 AM
To: peggylittleworth@sbcglobal.net; donname@charter.net; msod@aol.com; dchines@sbcglobal.net; ntaylorca1@aol.com; denny.hines@dometicus.com; boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; emily.garabedian@gmail.com; gdry01@yahoo.com; western528@charter.net; jan.schall@rcc.edu; mbernardy@netscape.net; dgreffe@aol.com; w6DX@amsat.ore; uciagnevare@yaho.com; petealdana@hotmail.com; kfalcobanda@aol.com; bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu; john.cioffi@ucr.edu; gtewiz@sbcglobal.net; 4ledbellys@att.net; inlben@aol.com; BOOKERHP@aol.com; MSOD@aol.com; loriates@att.net; Perry, Cindie
Cc: Lorson, Deanna; Boyd, Tom; Graham, Belinda; Gettis, Erin; Brenes, Patricia; Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: Re: Victoria_Myrtle letter

Will you please also monitor traffic that re-routes onto the one-way section of Myrtle to access Victoria?

Jim Piguillem
5008 Myrtle Ave.

--- On Tue, 11/15/11, Perry, Cindie <CPerry@riversideca.gov> wrote:

From: Perry, Cindie <CPerry@riversideca.gov>
Subject: Victoria_Myrtle letter
To: "peggylittleworth@sbcglobal.net" <peggylittleworth@sbcglobal.net>, "donname@charter.net" <donname@charter.net>, "msod@aol.com" <msod@aol.com>, "dchines@sbcglobal.net" <dchines@sbcglobal.net>, "ntaylorca1@aol.com" <ntaylorca1@aol.com>, "denny.hines@dometicus.com" <denny.hines@dometicus.com>, "boubala@sbcglobal.net" <boubala@sbcglobal.net>, "elissemar@charter.net" <elissemar@charter.net>, "kevin.esterling@ucr.edu" <kevin.esterling@ucr.edu>, "emily.garabedian@gmail.com" <emily.garabedian@gmail.com>, "gdry01@yahoo.com" <gdry01@yahoo.com>, "western528@charter.net" <western528@charter.net>, "jan.schall@rcc.edu" <jan.schall@rcc.edu>, "mbernardy@netscape.net" <mbernardy@netscape.net>, "dgreffe@aol.com" <dgreffe@aol.com>, "w6DX@amsat.ore" <w6DX@amsat.ore>, "uciagnevare@yaho.com" <uciagnevare@yaho.com>, "petealdana@hotmail.com" <petealdana@hotmail.com>, "kfalcobanda@aol.com" <kfalcobanda@aol.com>, "bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu" <bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu>, "john.cioffi@ucr.edu" <john.cioffi@ucr.edu>, "gtewiz@sbcglobal.net" <gtewiz@sbcglobal.net>, "4ledbellys@att.net" <4ledbellys@att.net>, "donname@charter.net" <donname@charter.net>, "inlben@aol.com" <inlben@aol.com>, "BOOKERHP@aol.com" <BOOKERHP@aol.com>, "MSOD@aol.com" <MSOD@aol.com>, "2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net" <2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net>, "loriates@att.net" <loriates@att.net>
Cc: "Lorson, Deanna" <DLorson@riversideca.gov>, "Boyd, Tom" <TBoyd@riversideca.gov>, "Graham, Belinda" <BGraham@riversideca.gov>, "Gettis, Erin" <EGettis@riversideca.gov>, "Brenes, Patricia" <PBRENES@riversideca.gov>, "Smith, Kyle J." <KJSmith@riversideca.gov>
"

Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 5:19 PM

Attached please find an update on the proposed Victoria Myrtle Memorial Grove project. If you also provided a mailing address, you will receive a hard copy.

Cindie Perry

Intergovernmental and Communications Officer

P11-0616, Exhibit F
Email Correspondence received by Planning Staff

From: Martin Nelson <msod@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2011 3:41 PM
To: 2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net; peggylittleworth@sbcglobal.net; donname@charter.net; dchines@sbcglobal.net; ntaylorca1@aol.com; denny.hines@dometicsusa.com; boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; emily.garabedian@gmail.com; gdry01@yahoo.com; western528@charter.net; jan.schall@rcc.edu; mbernardy@netscape.net; dgreffe@aol.com; w6DX@amsat.ore; uciagnevarez@yahoo.com; petealdana@hotmail.com; kfalcobanda@aol.com; bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu; john.cioffi@ucr.edu; gtewiz@sbcglobal.net; 4ledbellys@att.net; inlben@aol.com; BOOKERHP@aol.com; loriyates@att.net; Perry, Cindie
Cc: Lorson, Deanna; Boyd, Tom; Graham, Belinda; Gettis, Erin; Brenes, Patricia; Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: Re: Victoria_Myrtle letter

I'm just wondering if we could live with the City's proposal if the City prevented a left turn off Ivy into the one lane of Myrtle?

We sometimes think it might be worth losing the yield right turn onto Victoria in favor of a nice Garden Park there. Apart from the occasional inconvenience for us who live there, it might deter others from using (speeding) down Ivy to avoid the Central Avenue 5 p.m. traffic.

We also wonder if a nice City- Maintained park there be an asset?

Just some thoughts that came to us.

From: Emily Garabedian <emily.garabedian@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2011 5:06 PM
To: Martin Nelson
Cc: 2ap1jp@sbcglobal.net; peggylittleworth@sbcglobal.net; donname@charter.net; dchines@sbcglobal.net; ntaylorca1@aol.com; denny.hines@domecusa.com; boubala@sbcglobal.net; elissemar@charter.net; kevin.esterling@ucr.edu; gdry01@yahoo.com; western528@charter.net; jan.schall@rcc.edu; mbernardy@netscape.net; dgreffe@aol.com; w6DX@amsat.ore; uciagnevarez@yahoo.com; petealdana@hotmail.com; kfalcobanda@aol.com; bronwjn.leeabaw@ucr.edu; john.cioffi@ucr.edu; gteviz@sbcglobal.net; 4ledbellys@att.net; inlben@aol.com; BOOKERHP@aol.com; loriyates@att.net; Perry, Cindie; Lorson, Deanna; Boyd, Tom; Graham, Belinda; Gettis, Erin; Brenes, Patricia; Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: Re: Victoria_Myrtle letter

Preventing a left turn off of Ivy onto Myrtle would be a disaster for those of us who actually live down that way. Coming home from the west, we would have to drive several blocks out of our way to loop around and reapproach Myrtle from the east.

Since this stream of emails began, I have been watching closely and I rarely see two cars trying to turn right onto Victoria in tandem. Please keep in mind that closing the right turn lane will not necessarily mean that a right turn at this junction would be slowed very much. The city did study this once before. Personally, I take many walks in the neighborhood and I think an expanded park at that corner might be nice. I would be satisfied if the city would just do another study of the impact of closing that right turn lane, and better publicize the results.

Sincerely,
Emily Garabedian
Resident, 5022 Myrtle Ave
"

From: Perry, Cindie
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 11:45 AM
To: Boyd, Tom; Smith, Kyle J.
Cc: Brenes, Patricia; Gettis, Erin
Subject: FW: Victoria/Myrtle Garden

FYI...More comments...I am adding to my mailing list but thought you might want for yours (if not already included).

From: McKeith, Malissa [mailto:mckeith@lbbslaw.com]
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 11:18 AM
To: Lorson, Deanna; Ted Weggeland
Cc: Rusty Bailey; Perry, Cindie; Jennifer Weggeland
Subject: RE: Victoria/Myrtle Garden

Thank you Deanna:

Can you please include me on your notification list.

Malissa McKeith
2881 Rumsey Drive
Riverside, CA 92506

I think it would help if it were clear to residents on Rumsey that there will be no parking on our street and no through traffic to support the monument. Rumsey is extremely narrow. As it is, we don't even get city services like street sweeping because of clearance issues. From what I can gather, the parking is on the Myrtle side and the proposal would not impact us at all.

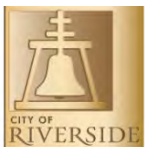
The monument sounds like a nice idea.

From: Deanna Lorson [mailto:DLorson@riversideca.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 11:12 AM
To: Ted Weggeland
Cc: Rusty Bailey; McKeith, Malissa; Cindie Perry; Jennifer Weggeland
Subject: RE: Victoria/Myrtle Garden

Ted,

The City is conducting a traffic study and will be hosting a community meeting following receipt of these results (see attached). Cindie Perry is the lead staff person on this project, I have copied her on this email and her phone number is 951-826-5975.

Deanna



City of Arts & Innovation

Deanna Lorson
Assistant City Manager
3900 Main Street, 7th Floor
Riverside, CA 92522
951.826.2520
mailto:dlorson@riversideca.gov

P11-0616, Exhibit F
Email Correspondence received by Planning Staff

From: Ted Weggeland [mailto:ted@ecg-corp.com]
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 10:43 AM
To: Lorson, Deanna
Cc: McKeith, Malissa; Jennifer Weggeland; Rusty Bailey
Subject: Victoria/Myrtle Garden

Deanna,

Will you kindly provide me the contact information for the planner for the Victoria/Myrtle Avenue Garden? I would like to arrange a meeting between the planner and the residents of Rumsey Drive well in advance of the next hearing of the matter at the Cultural Heritage Board.

Thanks,
Ted

Ted Weggeland
Senior Vice President
Entrepreneurial Corporate Group
3649 Mission Inn Ave.
2nd Floor Rotunda
Riverside, CA 92501
O: 951-328-6940
F: 951-328-6991
C: 951-440-1647
ted@ecg-corp.com

From: clhiroto@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2011 9:56 PM
To: Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: road closing

I hope that there will be more discussion on closing the merge lane going south toward Central Avenue onto Victoria from Myrtle/Ivy Streets. That lane is used by hundreds of people daily, and the closure would significantly affect the commute of each of those people. Closing it would also create a slow down and back up on Myrtle/Ivy as people have to wait longer to turn right onto Victoria.

What is the reason for the closure? This lane has been there for as long as I can remember. Who is the brainchild behind this idea? What and who would use a "park" in this area. I again hope that this will be open for discussion, and that all the people that have an interest in this closure will have a voice in this decision.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Hiroto

From: Susan Purkart <spurkart@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 5:56 PM
To: Pete Peterson; Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: Eliminating Merge Lane from Myrtle to Victoria

I am opposed to the plan to eliminate the merge lane from Myrtle to Victoria Avenue. While it is nice to hear that the huge empty lot on the corner of Victoria and Central Aves. is going to become a city park, the merge lane onto Victoria Ave. is heavily used, particularly in the morning commute hour when students are traveling to Poly High School. The intersection will become a three-way stop intersection, which will slow traffic considerably. Please keep the existing merge lane and locate parking for the park elsewhere, such as along the west border of the park on Rumsey Drive.

Susan Purkart
2978 Robin Road, Riverside 92506
spurkart@sbcglobal.net

From: D N <kaleldpn@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 04, 2011 8:36 PM
To: Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: Re: elimination of turning lane

Thank you for letting me know whom to contact.

- Doug

From: "Smith, Kyle J." <KJSmith@riversideca.gov>
To: D N <kaleldpn@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 4, 2011 8:14 PM
Subject: RE: elimination of turning lane

Please contact Cindie Perry, the City's Intergovernmental and Communications Officer at 951.826.5975 or cperry@riversideca.gov. Cindie is the primary contact at City Hall regarding this matter.

Thank You

Kyle Smith, Associate Planner

City of Riverside Planning Division
3900 Main Street, Third Floor
Riverside, CA 92522
Direct (951) 826-5220 Fax (951) 826-5981
General Info (951) 826-5371
www.riversideca.gov/planning

From: D N [kaleldpn@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, December 03, 2011 7:51 PM
To: Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: elimination of turning lane

It has come to my attention that the closure of the merge lane that feeds into Victoria going south is to be eliminated. This is the first that I have heard of this. I live on Monterey Rd. and use that lane everyday to go to work and my church. It seems that you want to quietly eliminate it without any kind of community input. Is this project endorsed by Rusty Bailey, our councilperson? Will there be plans available? Is there to be any community discussion or is the project to be forced upon us because of the special interests of a small group?

The 3 way stop will become longer and harder to navigate especially when Poly High school gets out at 3 PM and when the former Victoria Community church gets out of their services. That intersection becomes a hazard with U-turns being made by every church member who leaves the parking lot. Do you plan to outlaw u-turns to smooth out the traffic? If you follow through with without community support you run the risk of alienating residents of Riverside. In this current political climate, that could be an unwise move.

Let us have our say in a planned, public forum before you force this upon us.

- Doug Nalsuchacz

From: Bill Judge <bjudge24@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2011 11:44 AM
To: Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: Small Park

Kevin,

As a resident of the Monterey Heights neighborhood (2876 Ivy St.) west of the proposed park at Myrtle and Victoria Sts., I wish to tell you that the proposal to eliminate the southbound merge onto Victoria is misguided. As you may or may not be aware, there are a number of daily commuters that, for better or worse, use Ivy/Myrtle as a short cut and/or an alternative to Central. Closure of the merge will create daily backups at that intersection which, in turn, will create another source of pollution from idling vehicles. Moreover, after the frequent events of traffic backing up at the Panorama railroad grade crossing, the same thing will happen.

This has all the appearances of an "improvement" that the taxpayers will pay for now and, in the future when the mistake becomes manifest, will pay for again to correct. I request that the Public Works department reconsider this move.

William Judge, Architect

From: lynneetstone@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:27 PM
To: Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: PARK? !!

I don't know who came up with this idea but it is (how to put it nicely) not in our best interests. It will make it much more difficult at that intersection, increasing turn time, especially on school mornings. Also it will give 'students' a good place for drug deals and/or smoking before and after school - in fact all the time. Count us out.

Dwight and Lynne Stone

From: Karen Skorem <ksko9@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2011 2:57 PM
To: Smith, Kyle J.
Subject: elimination of merge lane

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am writing to you to express my concerns and objections to the proposed elimination of the merge lane from Myrtle Avenue to Victoria Avenue. I believe it will make that area more confusing and harder to navigate than it already is. I shudder to think that a traffic light might be put there in order to "control" the congestion.

I realize we will ultimately deal with any changes that occur out of necessity. However, it seems excessive to me to grab a small section of land for the convenience of a park proposal but not the local inhabitants. I entreat you to reconsider the proposal to sacrifice the easement and redesign the location for the specialized plantings that were to grace that area.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope you will be able to effect a different plan for the plantings so that everyone could enjoy the best outcome.

Sincerely,

Karen Skorem
Local area resident and frequent merge lane traveler

CITY OF RIVERSIDE
PLANNING

12/28/11

MR KYLE SMITH,

AFTER RECEIVING THE ATTACHED INFORMATION I
HAVE CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS
PROJECT.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD?
TRAFFIC WILL BACKUP AT VICTORIA MORE THAN
NOW, ESPECIALLY IN THE MORNING WHEN VEHICLES
ARE TRANSPORTING KIDS TO SCHOOL AND OTHERS
GOING TO WORK.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PARK?
IT ISN'T PROVIDING ANY RECREATION, MORE THAN IS
ALREADY AVAILABLE, OTHER THAN POSSIBLY A HANGOUT
WITH PARKING MADE AVAILABLE.

IF THE CITY HAS FUNDING FOR THIS AREA,
SIDEWALKS ALONG IVY AND MYRTLE FOR PEDES-
TRAINS (MOSTLY STUDENTS WALKING TO AND FROM SCHOOL)
SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE. THIS DANGEROUS
SITUATION SHOULD BE ADDRESSED, NOT WAIT FOR
SOMEONE TO BE INJURED OR WORSE BEFORE
SOMETHING IS DONE.

ALSO, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF STREETS THAT
NEED RESURFACING IN THE AREA WHERE FUNDING
COULD ALSO BE USED.

CC. FILE
RUSTY BAILEY WARD 3



Bill Cooper

Bill COOPER
5207 MONTEREY Rd.
RIVERSIDE 92506

P11-0616, Exhibit F

Email Correspondence received by Planning Staff



AGENDA

Neighborhood Meeting

Victoria Avenue / Myrtle Avenue • Memorial Orange Grove

Notice to Rockledge Park Neighborhood

It looks like the City of Riverside is going to eliminate the merge lane going south toward Central Ave. onto Victoria Ave. from Myrtle/Ivy Street. They want to put a park in with parking.

This will dramatically increase your time to turn either left or right onto Victoria Ave. with the elimination of the right merge lane, causing all traffic to negotiate the 3-way stop at Myrtle and Victoria. Please call or email the City of Riverside Associate Planner, Kyle Smith at 951-826-5220 or email him at kjsmith@riversideca.gov

If you have questions or wish to have input into this city project please contact Pete Peterson at 951-784-1786 or email him at inlben@aol.com

P11-0616, Exhibit F
Email Correspondence received by Planning Staff



From: Eliud Martinez <eliudmar@charter.net>
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2012 11:19 AM
To: Gettis, Erin; Smith, Kyle J.
Cc: Melendrez, Andy; gardner@riversideca.gov; Donna and Rick Engelhauf; Edgar "Pete" Peterson; Barber, Scott
Subject: Request for Continuance of Proposal

We are writing the Cultural Heritage Board to thank them for the invitation to attend the meeting and to speak on January 18, 2012, and to request continuance of the Proposal (Case number P11-0616) to "consider appropriateness to create a memorial orange grove by closing the dedicated free right turn lane from Myrtle Avenue [east] to Victoria Avenue [south]."

Erin, at Rick Engelhauf's request, please include this email in your packet to the Cultural Heritage Board.

We would like to request a continuance of the proposal because we believe more time is needed to look further into this proposal's unintended consequences, particularly those that concern cultural and historical factors. We are concerned about the removal of an historic intersection that has worked well for about 100 years and that shows the clear, long-term thinking of generations.

We believe too, that insufficient consideration has been given to unintended consequences of increased traffic congestion, to and from work and school, for residents of Rockledge Park (including but not limited to Myrtle Avenue, Rockledge Drive, Ivy, Panorama, and other neighboring streets), the Woods Streets, Victoria north and south, Central Avenue; plus teachers, students, and parents of students at Poly High School and Riverside City College, and people going to Temple Beth El and the Church on Victoria.

Consequently, we residents have collected a number of names on a petition to oppose the closing of the free right turn lane before the STOP sign, which we all use at Myrtle to Victoria Avenue south. We do support a memorial orange grove.

We request the continuance because countless residents were not included in talks about the proposal to eliminate the right turn before the STOP sign, especially in the entire year of 2011, until December when some of us learned inadvertently about a meeting that was held on 3 November 2011.

Since then we have learned that the Riverside City Council accepted the donation on January 11, 2011, and knew of the conditions for accepting at that time. Our councilman Rusty Bailey has been deceptive and unsupportive of his constituents.

To reiterate: Thank you for all your efforts and we will appreciate acknowledgement of this request.