CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD’S SUMMARY FORM

DEPARTMENT: Planning & Economic Development Department

AGENDA DATE: Introduction: February 8, 2011
Public Hearing: February 15, 2011

CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: Melissa Granado, (915) 541-4730, granadom@elpasotexas.gov

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: District 1

SUBJECT:
An Ordinance amending the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System as detailed in the Map Atlas of The Plan for El Paso and its related documents as originally approved by El Paso City Council in 1999, and as subsequently amended, to delete Southwestern Drive, Northwestern Drive, and an unnamed east-west collector arterial as collector arterials north of Redd Road, south of Helen of Troy Drive, and east of Interstate Highway 10.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:
Staff report attached.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:
N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:
N/A

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:
Development Coordinating Committee (DCC) – Unanimous Approval
Open Space Advisory Board (OSAB) – Approval Recommendation (5-0)
City Plan Commission (CPC) – Approval Recommendation (5-0)

***************************REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION***************************

LEGAL: (if required) N/A
FINANCE: (if required) N/A

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Mathew S. McElroy
Deputy Director-Planning & Economic Development

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

CITY MANAGER: ___________________________ DATE: ____________
ORDINANCE NO.________________


WHEREAS, The Plan for El Paso was formally adopted by the City Council on April 27, 1999, pursuant to the provisions of Section 213.002 of the Texas Local Government Code as the Comprehensive Plan for the City; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan serves as a general guide for the future growth and development of the City to promote public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System map is contain within The Comprehensive Plan and contemplates all proposed arterials; and

WHEREAS, a well planned transportation system, including any and all proposed arterials, is a key element for improving the quality of life, by balancing neighborhood concerns with provision of access for commerce and mobility for personal travel; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan was based on the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee following numerous public meetings and working sessions; and

WHEREAS, the Development Coordinating Committee ("DCC") has recommended a change to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System map contained within The Plan for El Paso to provide the most beneficial relationship between the uses of land and circulation of traffic throughout the City in consideration of current municipal growth patterns, and

WHEREAS, the recommendation of the DCC was submitted to the City Plan Commission for its review, and the City Plan Commission has recommended the adoption of the change to the Year 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System map as herein enumerated; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the adoption of The Plan for El Paso and its changes to the thoroughfare alignments as herein enumerated will have no negative impact upon the public health, safety, and general welfare of the City,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System, as detailed in the Map Atlas of The Plan for El Paso, is herein amended as described below and as more particularly shown in the attached and incorporated Exhibit “A”.

#61702/ Planning/ORD – MTP – 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare

ORDINANCE NO.________________
Northwest Planning Area

- Delete Southwestern Drive as a collector arterial north of Redd Road and east of Interstate Highway 10.
- Delete Northwestern Drive as a collector arterial south of Helen of Troy Drive and east of Interstate Highway 10.
- Delete an unnamed east-west collector arterial north of Redd Road, South of Helen of Troy Drive, and east of Interstate Highway 10.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _______ day of _____________________, 2011.

THE CITY OF EL PASO

____________________________________
John Cook
Mayor

ATTEST:

____________________________________
Richard Duffy Momsen, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  

____________________________________
Lupe Cuellar
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

____________________________________
Mathew McElroy
Deputy Director of Planning
Planning & Economic Development Department
Exhibit “A”

Current Major Thoroughfare Plan

Proposed Amendment
DATE: January 31, 2010

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
    Joyce A. Wilson, City Manager

FROM: Melissa Granado, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Proposed Thoroughfare amendment for Southwestern Drive, Northwestern Drive, and an unnamed east-west collector arterial.

The City Plan Commission (CPC) on January 27, 2011 voted 5-0 to recommend APPROVAL to delete Southwestern Drive, Northwestern Drive, and an unnamed east-west collector arterial from the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System.

The CPC determined that the amendment is in conformance with The Plan for El Paso. The CPC also determined that the amendment protects the best interest, health, safety and welfare of the public in general.

Attachment: Staff report
Application Type: Amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System
CPC Hearing Date: January 27, 2011
Staff Planner: Melissa Granado, 915-541-4730, granadom@elpasotexas.gov

Location: North of Redd Road, south of Helen of Troy Drive, and east of Interstate Highway 10
Representative District: 1

The Plan for El Paso
Designation: Commercial, residential

Neighborhood Associations: Save the Valley, Coronado Neighborhood Association, Upper Mesa Hills Neighborhood Association, Upper Valley Improvement Association
Representative: SLI Engineering, Inc.

APPLICATION DESCRIPTION

The applicant is requesting that the City of El Paso review and authorize an amendment to the Major Thoroughfare Plan for the area located north of Redd Road, south of Helen of Troy Drive, and east of Interstate Highway 10. Southwestern Drive, Northwestern Drive, and an unnamed east-west arterial are proposed as collector arterials. Southwestern Drive was dedicated by Three Hills Addition in 1977 and Scenic Heights in 1980. Southwestern Drive currently exists and has been developed as a 60 ft right-of-way.

Northwestern Drive is identified by Westport Unit Six, recorded in 1996, and West Hills Unit Twenty Two, recorded in 1997. Northwestern Drive currently exists and is developed and varies between a 70 and 90 ft right-of-way.

The unnamed east-west collector arterial is proposed through a drainage right-of-way which was dedicated by West Hills Unit Twenty Two in 1997. In addition, the path of the proposed collector is projected to run within a city designated arroyo, Arroyo 164.

The request to delete Southwestern Drive, Northwestern Drive, and an unnamed east-west arterial as Collector Arterials is based on existing conditions.

The Plan for El Paso defines the proposed street type as follows:
Collector Arterial: Collector arterials shall provide access to neighborhood commercial and residential land uses and shall distribute traffic from local streets to arterials. Collector arterial streets shall be designed to permit through traffic and access to multifamily and light commercial uses, as well as direct access to low density residential. The right-of-way width for collector arterial streets shall be 64 feet without bike lanes and 72 feet with bike lanes.
The Plan for El Paso – Transportation Goals:
Meet the current and future mobility needs of residents, businesses, and visitors with a safe, efficient, and multimodal transportation system.

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
The Development Coordinating Committee recommends approval.

Open Space Advisory Board (OSAB):
The Open Space Advisory Board recommends approval.

Department of Transportation:
No objections to the proposed amendment to the Major Thoroughfare Plan.

Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT):
Since none of these streets are TxDOT corridors, we do not have any comments.

El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):
MPO is not opposed to this change in the City’s MTP.

Planning & Economic Development Department:
Recommends approval of the request to delete Southwestern Drive, Northwestern Drive, and an unnamed east-west collector arterial as collector arterials based on existing conditions. Southwestern and Northwestern Drive have been developed and identified through various approved subdivisions. The unnamed east-west collector arterial is projected through what is currently platted as a drainage right-of-way and classified as an arroyo.

Attachments:
Attachment 1: Location map
Attachment 2: Aerial map
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Attachment 2: Aerial map