

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

DEPARTMENT: Department of Transportation

AGENDA DATE: September 10, 2013

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Ted Marquez P.E., (915)621-6757,
marqueztx@elpasotexas.gov

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: Districts 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8

SUBJECT:

Discussion and action on staff recommendation to not exercise the option to buy the Mills Street parking lot located adjacent to City Hall. This option is conditioned upon the closure of 9 railroad crossings from a list of 31 crossings (Exhibit G) and other terms and conditions to be negotiated.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Section 7(c) of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City and Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP), dated April 9, 2013, provides the City an option to purchase the Mills Street parking lot at \$11.10 per square foot conditioned on the closing of nine railroad crossings to be selected from the crossing listed in Exhibit G. Staff has reviewed Exhibit G and cannot identify 9 at-grade railroad crossings as good candidates for closure, so staff is recommending to City Council to make a determination to not exercise the option. Additional closures will impact circulation patterns for traffic, schools, fire, police and buses.

Further, there does not exist community support for further grade crossing closures (except for Maple and Delta Drive). Staff has received a request from the Ysleta Independent School District to extend the UMC quiet zone by installing quad gates at Rosedale and Lafayette. City staff is currently negotiating an agreement with UP for the City to provide the materials and UP to provide the labor for installing the quad gates at Rosedale and Lafayette.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

April 9, 2013 MOA

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

No funding requirements for the option.

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

N/A

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

Ted Marquez, Director
Department of Transportation

Information copy to Jane Shang, Deputy City Manager

EXHIBIT G

List of Crossings

Carrizozo Subdivision

1. East Missouri Avenue
2. East Yandell Drive
3. Montana Avenue
4. Rosewood Street
5. Piedras Street
6. Maple Street

International Industrial Lead

1. Delta Drive
2. Olive
3. Magoffin Avenue
4. Bassett Avenue
5. Myrtle Avenue
6. Texas Avenue (Highway 20)
7. East Mills Avenue

Valentine Subdivision

1. North San Marcial Street
2. Grama Street
3. Copia Street
4. Concepcion Street
5. Chelsea Drive
6. Glenwood Drive
7. FM 1505 / Clark Road
8. Lafayette Street
9. Smith Road
10. New Haven Drive
11. Pendale Road
12. Zaragoza Road
13. CR / Inglewood
14. CR / Nevarez Road
15. CR / Moon Road
16. CR Rio Vista
17. Bufford Street
18. CR Bauman Road

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2013, the City of El Paso ("City") entered into a Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") with Union Pacific Railroad Company ("Union Pacific") which allowed for the conveyance of identified parcels of real property between the parties;

WHEREAS, the MOA also included a post closing commitment in which Union Pacific agreed to give the City a three (3) year option to purchase property on Mills Street which is currently being leased by the City from Union Pacific for parking purposes, conditioned upon the closure of nine (9) railroad crossings to be selected from an identified list of railroad crossings attached to the MOA; and

WHEREAS, after a review of the railroad crossings identified on the list, City staff is recommending that the City not close nine (9) railroad crossings because the closings will impact vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the neighborhoods adjacent to the nine (9) railroad crossings, as well as, circulation patterns for the travelling public, school buses, emergency response vehicles, and public transportation,

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

THAT the City Manager be authorized to notify Union Pacific Railroad Company that the City of El Paso will not close nine (9) railroad crossings based upon staff's review of the list of railroad crossings identified in the April 9, 2013 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of El Paso and Union Pacific Railroad Company, and thus will not exercise an option to purchase the property on Mills Street, which the City is leasing from Union Pacific Railroad Company.

Dated this ____ day of September 2013.

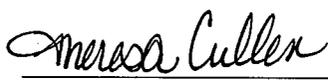
CITY OF EL PASO

Oscar Leeser, Mayor

ATTEST:

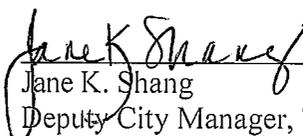
Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Theresa Cullen
Deputy City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Jane K. Shang
Deputy City Manager, Transportation and Public Works