

Title

SECONDARY HIGHWAY TO COLLECTOR / ABBOT KINNEY BLVD.

Subject

Motion – Abbot Kinney Boulevard between Washington Boulevard and Palms Boulevard is currently designated as a secondary highway with 90 foot right-of-way and 70 foot roadway width, however, the existing average 50 foot roadway width and 10 foot sidewalks are more appropriate to the desired future use, including pedestrian and traffic patterns. Furthermore, the area of Abbot Kinney between Palms Boulevard and Main Street has already been redesignated Modified Secondary Highway with 50 foot roadway and 70 foot right-of-way. The entire Abbot Kinney Boulevard has remained narrower because the surrounding land uses have been built around it. There is now a third generation of buildings lining both sides of Abbot Kinney Boulevard, which was designated for neighborhood uses, such as small retail stores with housing or businesses on the second floor. Any increase in street width would reduce or eliminate the sidewalks, thereby affecting the viability of the businesses along Abbot Kinney Boulevard. If Abbot Kinney Boulevard between Washington Boulevard and Main Street is redesignated to a Modified Secondary Highway, the existing narrow street pattern, with one-way traffic on each side, will allow opportunities to add center islands, bike lanes and more pedestrian crossings. This will provide greater cohesion with the surrounding land uses and a greater sense of community for the residents and businesses.

THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Planning Department, in coordination with the Department of Transportation and Bureau of Engineering, to prepare and present the necessary documents and plan amendments to the "Streets and Highways Designation Map" of the Transportation Element of the General Plan and to any affected community plan, to redesignate Abbot Kinney Boulevard between Washington Boulevard and Palms Blvd from a Secondary Highway to a Modified Secondary Highway with 50 foot roadway within a 70 foot right-of-way.