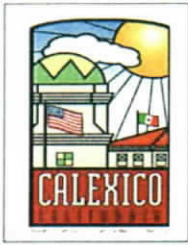


**AGENDA
ITEM**

1



AGENDA STAFF REPORT

DATE: November 22, 2022

TO: Mayor and City Council

APPROVED BY: Esperanza Colio Warren, City Manager *Esperanza Colio Warren*

REVIEWED BY: Sandra L. Fonseca, Interim Finance Director *SF*

PREPARED BY: Lilliana Falomir, Public Works Manager – Administrative *Lilliana Falomir*

SUBJECT: Discussion and/or Potential Action Regarding the Closure of Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street.

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Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Council approve one (1) of the following options:

1. Keep Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street open and reimburse all costs associated with said \$250,000 grant to Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and \$25,000 Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Initiative Program. The City has incurred expenses for said project; therefore the City will need to absorb any related cost and return the funding to appropriate agencies.
2. Close Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street only on weekends. City will need to discuss this option with SCAG and Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Initiative Program due to change in scope of work.
3. Continue with the closure of Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street (this option will include one-lane for traffic for loading and unloading).
4. Continue with the closure of Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street for a period of six (6) months.

Background:

Back in 2018, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) issued a call for grant application under their Sustainable Communities Program – Quick Build Demonstration Project. One (1) of the grant requirements is that SCAG would be the lead applicant and the City of



Calexico would be the co-applicant. In addition, the City would need to procure a construction contractor to perform the work. The City went ahead and submitted a grant application for Rockwood Avenue (Downtown) Promenade between 1st Street and 2nd Street. The project will consist of implementation of a Quick Build to test out temporary improvements along Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street to make it safer and more enjoyable to walk. Improvements will include improved crosswalks and a promenade to increase space for pedestrians on the corridor.

In 2021, SCAG awarded an architectural and engineering consultant agreement to KOA Corporation for our Rockwood Roll-Out Project. Since Dec. 2021 to present the following items have been completed:

- Formation of Community and Technical Advisory Committee
- Data collection and existing condition analysis
- Three (3) out of seven (7) community touch points
- Monthly meeting with KOA, City, Bloomberg and Calexico Arts Council, Inc.
- 100% of the plans for Rockwood Roll-Out Project

Discussion & Analysis:

On November 17, 2022, during public comments several downtown business owners and merchants requested that the City Council reconsider the closure of Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street. City staff is recommending that the City Council approve one (1) of the following options:

1. Keep Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street open and reimburse all costs associated with said \$250,000 grant to Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and \$25,000 Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Initiative Program. The City has incurred expenses for said project; therefore the City will need to absorb any related cost and return the funding to appropriate agencies. In this case, SCAG and Bloomberg Philanthropies.
2. Close Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street only on weekends. City will need to discuss this option with SCAG and Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Initiative Program due to change in scope of work.
3. Continue with the closure of Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street (this option will include one-lane for traffic for loading and uploading).
4. Continue with the closure of Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street for a period of six (6) months.

In Attachment No. 1, City Council will find the list of milestones and upcoming events for said project for reference.

Fiscal Impact:

Unknown at this time, fiscal impact will be determined once an option has been selected by City Council.

Coordinated With:

City Manager's Office.
Finance Department.
Public Works Department.

Attachment(s):

1. Milestones of Rockwood Ave Promenade Project.

ATTACHMENT #1

**CITY OF CALEXICO
ROCKWOOD AVENUE PROMENADE PROJECT**

- November 2, 2022 City Council approved the Bid Documents for SCAG Local Demonstration Initiative Project – Rockwood Avenue and Authorize the Public Works Department to Send the Project Out to Bid (Exhibit H).
- November 2, 2022 City Council authorized City Manager to Sign Agreement of Professional Services with SLA Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$51,990.00 to overlay Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street (Exhibit I).
- November 10, 2022 City staff began advertising Notice of Road Closure in English and Spanish (Exhibit J).
- November 14, 2022 SLA Paving began paving Rockwood Avenue between 1st Steet and 2nd Steet.
- November 16, 2022 SLA Paving completed the paving of Rockwood Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street.
- November 17, 2022 City Council authorized the installation of the City’s Christmas Tree at Rockwood Avenue Promenade, Schedule the Rockwood Avenue Promenade Tree Lighting/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for December 8, 2022 at 5:30p.m. and Adopt Budget Amendment Resolution for Fund No. 255 – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)(Exhibit K).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Week of November 28, 2022 Installation of primer for Asphalt Art Initiative Project and furnishings for Rockwood Promenade Project.
- December 3, 2022 Calexico Arts Council, Inc. Asphalt Art Initiative Project
- Week of December 5, 2022 Installation of Christmas tree and final furnishings for Rockwood Promenade Project
- December 8, 2022 Christmas Tree Lighting/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Rockwood Promenade Project
- December 2022 thru May 2023 Rockwood Promenade Project Quick Build