



Staff Report

Agenda Item No. F-1

To: Traffic Commission

From: David Dale, PE, Public Services Director

Date: August 20, 2024

Subject: South Imperial Avenue Proposed Parking Changes in Front of City Hall
between 4th Street and 5th Street

Background

On July 3, 2024, the City Council approved the removal of the mid-block crosswalk on South Imperial Avenue. The Gas Company completed a slurry seal project on South Imperial Avenue and subsequently re-striped the angled parking without the crosswalk. This resulted in an additional two parking stalls where the crosswalk was. City staff will remove the concrete ramp and install 6-inch curb and gutter in the near future. Permanent angled parking was not striped on South Imperial Avenue between 5th Street and 6th Street due to proposed development adjacent to this area. Staff is recommending to remove the last two angled parking spaces just south of the exit driveway from City Hall to allow better field of vision for exiting traffic to see northbound traffic on S. Imperial Avenue. With the addition of two parking stalls due to the removal of the crosswalk, and the proposed reduction of two stalls for field of vision, the net result is the same number of stalls prior to the crosswalk being removed.

There have been collisions in this area. In lieu of the two parking spaces, staff is recommending the area be designated a drop-off/pick-up parking area only. This drop-off/pick-up area could be used for deliveries to City Hall and dropping off water bills in the outdoor drop box. Additionally, it is being recommended to add (3) 15 Minute Parking stalls on S. Imperial Avenue for individuals that have business with the City.

Importance of Safe Exit from the Existing Parking Lot

Vehicles parked immediately south of the exit driveway from the City Hall parking lot block the view of drivers exiting the driveway from northbound traffic on S. Imperial Avenue. There has been at least one incident where a city employee got into a collision with a northbound vehicle when exiting the driveway. When the Gas Company completed the striping for the angled parking stalls, they were instructed not to stripe the last two stalls to allow employees to experience how much more field of vision is available with the two stalls removed. If it is determined that the parking stalls shall remain, Public Services staff will stripe the stalls with thermoplastic.

Impact on Surrounding Areas

While the removal of the two angles spaces will reduce the number of parking stalls, two angled spaces were added with the removal of the crosswalk. Therefore, there it is a wash, while adding a drop-off/pickup area. Three spaces are being proposed to be designated 15 Minute Parking. The existing 15-Minute Parking will be removed from the onsite City Hall parking lot, thus allowing more spaces available in the parking lot.

Key considerations include:

1. Proposed Modifications:

- **Removal of Two Angled Parking Spots:** The angled parking spots were already removed as a part of the Gas Company slurry seal project. The spots were not striped in anticipation of this item being brought to the Traffic Commission. If it is determined that the spaces should remain, Public Services staff will stripe the spaces. If it is determined that the area should be a “Pickup and Dropoff” Parking only, Public Services will stripe it as such and install the sign. Cost is estimated to be \$300.
- **Adding (3) 15-Minute Parking Spaces:** The spaces designated for 15-Minute Parking Only will be relocated from the parking lot to S. Imperial Avenue. This will give them more visibility and use, and could be enforced. The cost to add the signage and striping is estimated to be \$500.

Development Review Committee (DRC) Feedback

As part of our assessment, we have collected feedback from the DRC. The members of the DRC agreed and had no objections to the proposed project.

Environmental Compliance

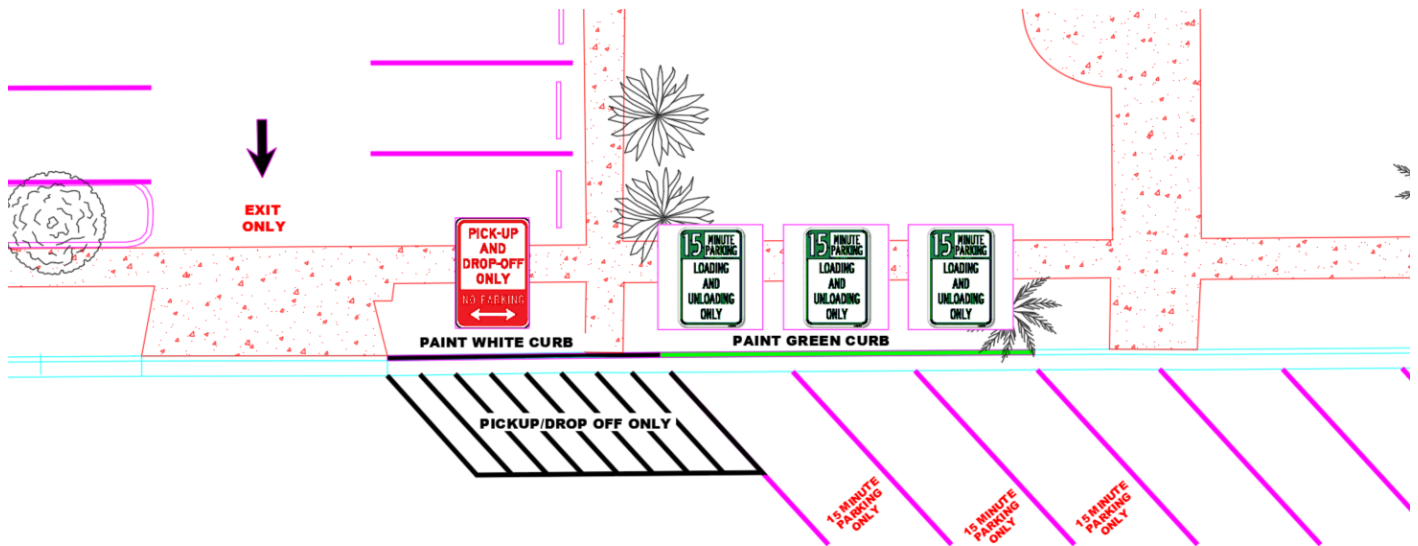
The project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15301 (Class1)-Existing Facilities. Minor alteration to the existing street to enhance safety.

Staff Recommendation

Based on these findings, staff recommends the modifications to the striping along S. Imperial Avenue in front of City Hall.



Existing Parking on S. Imperial Avenue Between 4th and 5th Streets



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Proposed Parking Changes on S. Imperial Avenue Between 4th and 5th Streets