



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Jeff Hart, Public Works Director
DATE: May 18, 2021
SUBJECT: Direction to City Staff for the Conceptual Street Vacation of Veile Avenue Between Luis Estrada Road and Sixth Street

Background and Analysis:

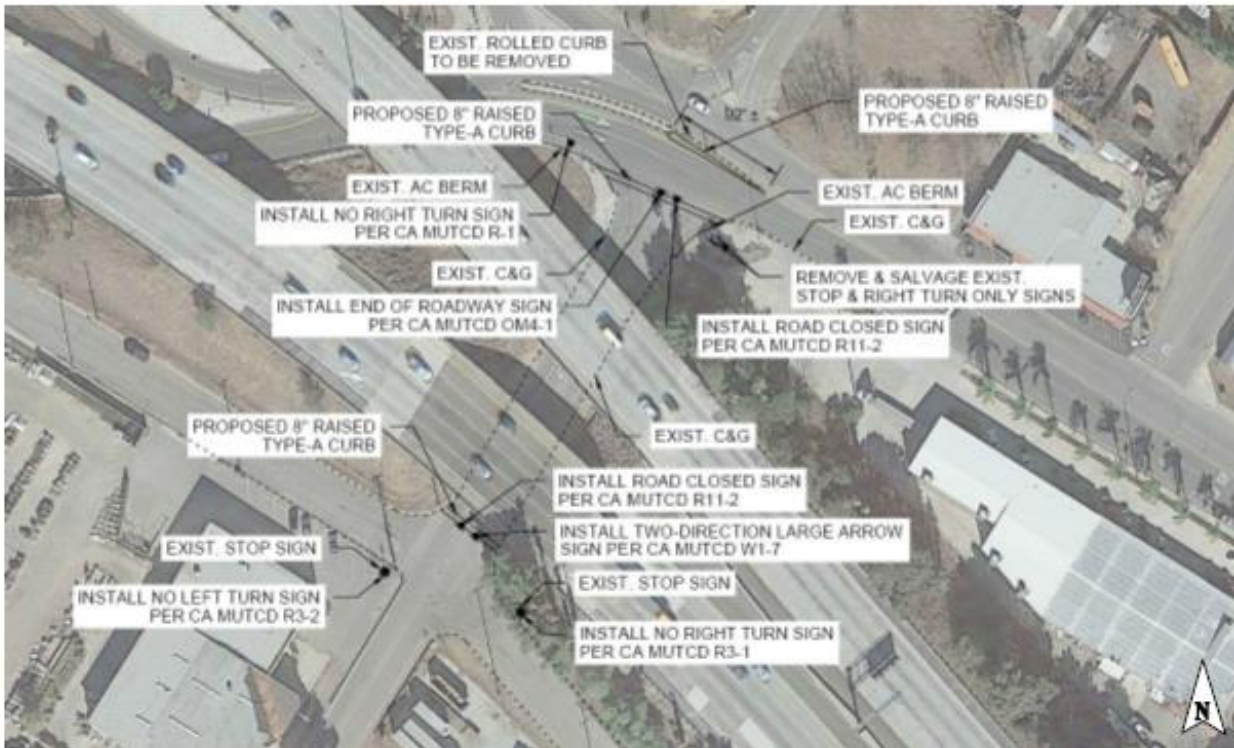
In response to traffic, safety, and public concerns regarding Veile Avenue, City staff engaged Minagar and Associates, the City's contracted traffic engineer, to conduct an analysis of existing traffic conditions (see Attachment A). The analysis was intended to study various options to alleviate concerns regarding illegal left turns from northbound Veile Avenue to westbound Sixth Street and safety impacts from truck traffic making southbound turns onto Veile from eastbound Sixth Street.

Sixth Street is the main street that connects Interstate 10 West (I-10) and State Route 60 West (SR-60) in the City of Beaumont, while Veile Avenue has only one lane which is separated by yellow striping. The traffic movements on Sixth Street are free and Veile Avenue northbound is controlled by a stop sign to enter onto Sixth Street. Sixth Street has two through lanes including a de-facto right turn lane for the westbound on ramp to I-10 at the intersection of Sixth Street and Veile Avenue.



Minagar and Associates conducted a field data collection study on September 9, 2020, and again on March 11, 2021, to determine peak hour traffic volumes. A.M. peak hour is defined as the highest one-hour volume between 7:00 – 9:00 A.M., and P.M. peak hour is defined as the highest one-hour volume between 4:00 – 6:00 P.M. The analysis also included the highest traffic volume between 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. to ensure there was no deviation to the expected peak.

Based upon the analysis, it was determined that the closure of Veile Avenue between Luis Estrada Road and Sixth Street would not yield any degradation in level of service to either intersection. Additionally, the intersections of Sixth Street and California Avenue, Fifth Street and California Avenue, Luis Estrada Road and California Avenue, and Fourth Street and California Avenue were also analyzed and would not be expected to see any degradation in level of service due to the closure of Veile Avenue. City staff has also confirmed that this segment of Veile Avenue is not on the National Highway System and is therefore within the City’s jurisdiction to determine whether the closure is warranted (Attachment B). Therefore, City staff is requesting City Council direction to close vehicular access of Veile Avenue between Luis Estrada Road and Sixth Street in accordance with the following figure.



Fiscal Impact:

The cost of preparing the staff report is estimated to be \$1,000.

Recommended Action:

Direction to City staff for the conceptual street vacation of Veile Avenue between Luis Estrada and Sixth Street.

Attachments:

- A. Feasibility study for potential closure
- B. Research of roadway classification