CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT



Meeting Date: September 4, 2025

From: Commander Mario Garcia

Subject: Complete Streets Safety Committee Halloween Street Closures

Recommendation

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Staff recommends that the City Council review and consider the Complete Streets Safety Committee's (CSSC) recommendation to implement full street closures in the downtown area on the evening of Halloween, October 31, 2025.

Background

At the August 6, 2025 monthly meeting of the CSSC, community members presented a proposal to close specific streets in the lower downtown area on Halloween to improve safety for families and children participating in Halloween activities. Halloween in Brisbane is a popular annual event that attracts a significant number of residents and visitors to the City of Brisbane. Community members expressed concern about vehicle traffic and the need to create a safer environment, and the plan as offered provides enhanced pedestrian safety during trick-ortreating activities.

The proposal included a map and requested the closure of Mariposa Street from Visitacion Avenue to Alvarado Street, Monterey Avenue from Visitacion Avenue to Alvarado Street, and Mendocino Street from Visitacion Avenue to Alvarado Street. These closures would also result in the closure of San Bruno Avenue between Mariposa Street and Mendocino Street. Further, the request includes closure of San Francisco Avenue from San Bruno Avenue to Mariposa Street and San Bruno Avenue from San Francisco Avenue to Mariposa Street to facilitate an event for younger children at the community park. The requested closure hours are from 5PM to 9 PM on Halloween.

Discussion

During the discussion, community members initially proposed a "soft closure" to allow limited vehicle ingress and egress. The CSSC did not support a soft closure at each entry point but instead suggested a compromise of providing controlled access at two points, with entry allowed at San Bruno Avenue and Mariposa Street and exiting at San Bruno Avenue and Mendocino Street. While staff initially expressed support for this compromise, upon further review, it was determined that even limited vehicle movement during the event would compromise pedestrian safety. Staff therefore recommends a full hard closure of the proposed streets with no vehicle ingress or egress during the event hours, except in the case of an emergency.

Community members acknowledged that each road closure point would require monitoring and recognized that the Police Department and Public Works do not have adequate staffing to fully manage the event. They offered to provide community volunteers to assist with monitoring the closure points. The City's volunteer waivers will be provided to all volunteers.

The CSSC also discussed parking impacts for both displaced resident vehicles and visitors. To address this, the CSSC recommended using the City Hall parking lot and also making the former Bank of America building parking lot available for public use without the need for monitoring.

The CSSC recommends that the City Council approve a full hard closure of Mariposa, Monterey, and Mendocino Streets, which would also close San Bruno Avenue between San Francisco Avenue and Mendocino Streets as well as San Francisco Avenue from San Bruno Avenue to Mariposa Street, from 5PM to 9 PM on Halloween. The CSSC further recommends that no community surveys or voting be required before implementation and that immediate and robust public messaging be initiated to notify residents and visitors well in advance. Then Deputy Director of Public Works Karen Kinser acknowledged the recommendation and stated that staff may provide additional input for City Council consideration.

If the City Council does not approve the proposed street closures, an alternative plan would be to close San Francisco Avenue only and host a City of Brisbane Parks and Recreation Halloween event at the community park. After discussion, the CSSC agreed to add this site and associated closures to their recommendation so that the City Council could consider both proposals, allowing trick-or treating in the lower neighborhood and an event for very young children in the park. The Council may wish to also discuss a children's event at the park in either proposal.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact will depend on the direction of the City Council. If the street closures are approved, costs would be tied to City staff time to stage and later remove Type III barricades before and after the event. In addition, the City would need to utilize an Electronic Message Board to provide a warning to vehicular traffic regarding the street closures. Other potential costs include signage and limited staff support during the event. Community volunteers have indicated they are willing to assist with monitoring, which may help reduce staffing expenses. The alternative plan of hosting a City-sponsored Halloween event at the community park would involve costs associated with event preparation and operations. Detailed cost estimates will be provided following City Council direction.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – road closure map

Chief Lisa Macias (for)

Mario Garcia, Police Commander

Jeremy Dennis, City Manager

Attachment 1

