



Office of the Town Manager

Christopher E. Martino

STAFF REPORT

Warrenton Town Council

Carter Nevill, Mayor

Heather Sutphin, Ward 1

William Semple, Ward 2

Brett Hamby, Ward 3

James Hartman, Ward 4 Vice Mayor

Jay Heroux, Ward 5

David McGuire, At Large

Paul Mooney, At Large

Council Meeting Date:	February 14th, 2023
Agenda Title:	Second Street Discussion
Requested Action:	Consider a resolution to Close Second Street to Vehicular Traffic
Department / Agency Lead:	Public Works
Staff Lead:	Tommy Cureton

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of the RollOutWarrenton! program update presented to the Town Council at the November 2022 meeting Second St. was discussed as an option to either remain closed or to open to vehicular traffic. Staff at that time recommended closure of Second street. Council requested to keep Second St. closed until discussion at the December 2022 Council meeting.

During the December 2022 meeting, staff provided an update regarding the Second St. closure; Council directed staff to open Second St. with the understanding closing Second St. would be a part of the discussion for a permanent program. Experience Old Town Warrenton as well as the Businesses along Second St. requested the Closure of Second St.

On January 23, 2023, Tommy Cureton met with representatives of the EOTW Board, Casey Ward and Jenn Robinson, to discuss the permanent closure of Second Street. During the meeting, they requested that the Town evaluate the opportunity to close Second St permanently and presented a proposal to permanently close the street and design permanent seating for the area.

BACKGROUND

Second St. was closed in 2020 as part of the initial RollOutWarrenton! program. This closure allowed for the use of the space between the buildings for parklets and by the businesses located along Second St. At the November 2022 Town Council meeting, staff suggested reopening Second St. to Vehicle Traffic due to the removal of the Jersey barricades and the safety of pedestrians in the area. The Town Council asked to keep Second St. closed until the December meeting where the decision was made to reopen Second St. Since the reopening, Vendors along Second St. and Experience Old Town Warrenton have expressed a desire to close the street to vehicular traffic and utilize Second St. for parklets and other community centric opportunities.

The challenge with Second St. is the grade and the location of new businesses on Second St. Any permanent redesign of Second St. will need to incorporate changing the grade to more useable space(s), incorporating ADA standards, drainage, and safety. Regardless, staff recommends, if we are directed to have Second St. closed during the program period, any use of this space must comply with all the provisions set forth above with special consideration to safety of leveling the tables; stabilizing furniture or other improvements; providing a "hardened" barrier for safety; and ensuring ADA accessibility. If the space is not part of a business agreement for use, the space can be designated as open space for pedestrian access and additional community space. Staff will engage in a collaborative process to find best uses if directed to do

so. Staff researched the cost of Bollards and other equipment to ensure pedestrian safety if the street were to be closed again.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Consider a resolution to Close Second St. permanently to Vehicular Traffic.

Fiscal Impact

Permeant Bollards will need to be acquired at the cost of \$5,500 for the effective safe closure of Second Street.

Legal Impact

The Town Council has the ability to close Second Street by legislative action.

ATTACHMENTS

1. A RESOLUTION DIRECTING STAFF TO CLOSE SECOND STREET VEHICLE TRAFFIC