



CITY COUNCIL MEETING STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: July 14, 2026

SUBJECT: 2026 Traffic Management Plan for Bishop's Pumpkin Farm Event

PREPARED BY: Bill Zenoni, City Manager and Dane Schilling, City Engineer

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the report entitled Traffic Management Plan for the 2026 Bishop's Pumpkin Farm Event prepared by the City Engineer

DISCUSSION:

Since 2015, the City of Wheatland has been implementing traffic management plans during each season that the Bishop's Pumpkin Farm (BPF) is open to the public. The signs and traffic controls are placed prior to the beginning of the event, modified as needed, monitored throughout the event and removed at the end of the event.

The Bishop's Pumpkin Farm will open for the 2026 season on Friday, August 28th and will conclude on Sunday November 15th. Each year prior to the upcoming season, City staff meets to plan for the upcoming pumpkin farm event and formulates a traffic management plan based on last year's performance and any recommended adjustments. This 2026 traffic management plan is the result of City Staff's experience and recommendations.

The 2026 Traffic Management Plan is essentially the same as the 2025 plan with minor adjustments based on input gathered during the 2025 event. The City will continue to provide visible law enforcement presence on Main Street. Last year, the Friday evening exiting was expedited by having Police Officers control the intersection of Main Street and SR-65 to clear exiting traffic quickly. This worked well and will be done again this year. Caltrans will also be requested to implement alternative signal timing at the Main Street and First Street traffic signals. The barrels placed on Main Street (which replaced traffic cones that were used in prior years) have worked well and will be utilized again this year. There were several instances where the barrels were displaced by drivers in 2026 and additional weights will be added to make barrels more secure this year. This year's plan also include provisions for a speed hump to be deployed on Main Street to slow exiting traffic.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City's costs related to the management of traffic due to the Bishop Pumpkin Farm event traffic are tracked and reimbursed through the Pumpkin Farm Joint Admissions Fund established by agreement between the Pumpkin Farm and City.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Traffic Management Plan for the 2026 Bishop Pumpkin Farm Event