



City Council Meeting Staff Report

Meeting Date: July 8, 2025

Subject: 2025 Traffic Management Plan for Bishop's Pumpkin Farm Event

Prepared By: Bill Zenoni, City Manager
Dane Schilling, City Engineer

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Wheatland City Council receive the draft report entitled *Traffic Management Plan for the 2025 Bishop's Pumpkin Farm Event* prepared by the City Engineer.

Discussion: Since 2015, Wheatland has been implementing traffic management plans during each season that the Bishop's Pumpkin Farm 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.

On March 25, 2025, the City Council received an overview of City activities related to the Bishop's Pumpkin Farm for the 2024 season. The Bishop's Pumpkin Farm 2024 Season was in operation from Saturday September 7th to Monday November 11th. For 2024, the City again utilized electronic sign boards on SR 65 and traffic barrels on Main Street to help manage the flow of traffic entering and exiting the Bishop's Pumpkin Farm. The second entrance to Bishop's Pumpkin Farm, adjacent to Wheatland High School, was opened on Saturdays and Sundays beginning September 28, 2024. In addition to providing visible law enforcement presence, the traffic signal at Main Street and SR65 was adjusted to expedite the flow of traffic on Friday evenings. Traffic barrels were again utilized on Main Street. However, this year, the traffic barrels were weighted to reduce the possibility of movement by drivers. The flow of traffic into and out of the Bishop's Pumpkin Farm was managed well last year with no major issues.

2025 Traffic Management Plan

The Bishop's Pumpkin Farm will open for the 2025 season on Saturday September 6th and will close on Sunday November 9th. Each year prior to the upcoming season, City staff meets to plan for the upcoming pumpkin farm event and formulates a traffic management plan.

The 2025 Traffic Management Plan is essentially the same as the 2024 plan. The City will continue to provide visible law enforcement presence. Caltrans will be requested to again implement alternative signal timing at the Main Street and First Street traffic signals to expedite the flow of traffic. The barrels placed on Main Street have worked well and will be utilized again this year.

Staff will review the details of the proposed 2025 Traffic Plan with the City Council at the July 8, 2025 meeting.

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

Attachment:

1. Traffic Management Plan for the 2025 Bishop's Pumpkin Farm Event