



AGENDA ITEM COMMENTARY

MEETING NAME:	City Council
MEETING DATE:	October 20, 2025
ITEM TITLE:	Consider and take appropriate action on request to limit vehicular traffic in Frenship Mesa on Halloween night
STAFF INITIATOR:	Patrick Austin, Police Chief

BACKGROUND:

Several residents in the Frenship Mesa neighborhood have, over the years, hosted Halloween night festivities that have drawn an increasingly larger number of visitors. Last year, those residents reached out to request that vehicular traffic in the neighborhood be limited to just residents during the hours in which their neighborhood is the busiest due to the number of pedestrians participating in the Halloween festivities.

That request was approved by City Council and vehicular traffic was limited on Halloween. The limited traffic control was reduced by having City Staff man a command post at the event and all the points of ingress/egress to the neighborhood. The plan prohibited non-resident vehicular traffic within the neighborhood. We did not limit the movement of residents within the community but asked that they entered and exited from a specific location that was manned by a uniformed police officer. Residents that wished to come and go during the evening were provided with a vehicle pass so that officers manning the entry/exit points knew that they were residents. Limiting vehicle traffic in the neighborhood was successful and traffic flow in the neighborhood was greatly reduced. That resulted in increased pedestrian safety for approximately 3,500 visitors.

Frenship Mesa residents have requested the City's assistance with reducing vehicular traffic again this year. The event will require the need for unbudgeted overtime expenses associated with the extra staff needed to work the event. The required staff is estimated to be between 6 and 8 employees. Due to the limited number of available employees and other commitments, this will necessitate that some law enforcement personnel be brought in from outside agencies. With that, I would propose funding off duty/event time, for law enforcement officers covering this event.

The residents that we met with have begun communicating this plan with their neighbors and, if approved, we will share the plan through social media and our web site.

EXHIBITS:

Google Maps print out depicting proposed closures

COUNCIL ACTION/STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests approval to proceed with the plan as presented.