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# County of Santa Cruz

423

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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**AGENDA:** MAY 25, 1999

**May 13, 1999**

### SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, California 95060

**SUBJECT: ENGINEERING REVIEW GROUP PLAN LINE PROPOSAL FOR  
BROMMER STREET BETWEEN SEVENTH AVENUE AND  
SEVENTEENTH AVENUE**

Members of the Board:

This letter describes and recommends approval of a plan line proposal for Brommer Street from Seventh Avenue to Seventeenth Avenue in the Live Oak planning area. Aerial photographs indicating the proposed plan line have been forwarded to the Clerk of the Board for your review. Attachment 1 is the location map indicating the roadway segment being considered for plan line recommendations. The proposed street cross-sections for the plan line are shown on the aerial photographs.

### BACKGROUND

Brommer Street is designated as an arterial street in the County's General Plan, and has a traffic volume of approximately 13,000 vehicles per day. Brommer Street currently has a minimum 50-foot wide right-of-way, and is striped for two travel lanes and bike lanes. Sidewalks and on-street parking exist in limited areas along the street. A route concept was previously approved for Brommer Street with a 4 1'-foot width, parking on the north side, two travel lanes and two bike lanes.

The plan line presented for your approval has been initiated by numerous proposed developments on this segment of Brommer Street, including two residential minor land divisions and two commercial developments.

A community meeting was held on March 25, 1999 to solicit residents' concerns about the plan line proposal and the related traffic issues which are described below, and the potential impacts on both traffic and local residents. Based on comments received at that meeting, some minor changes were made to the plan line. The proposed plan line is consistent with comments received from the residents and with the approved route concept.

42  
42

## PROPOSED BROMMER STREET PLAN LINE

The plan line for the segment of Brommer Street between Seventh Avenue and Seventeenth Avenue includes a typical cross section of two 11.5-foot travel lanes, a 12-foot combined parking/bike lane on one side, a five-foot bike lane on the other side, and sidewalk on both sides, separated where possible. Where topographic constraints make it impractical to include parking, a five-foot bike lane will be provided on both sides. Total curb-to-curb width will be 40 feet for most of the segment. Additional right-of-way is indicated on the plan line where necessary to construct these improvements.

Additional turn lanes are required at the intersections of Brommer Street with Seventh Avenue and Seventeenth Avenue. At Seventh Avenue, the westbound approach will include a combined through/left turn lane and a dedicated right turn lane. This intersection is identified in the Capital Improvement Plan as a future signalized intersection. At Seventeenth Avenue, which is currently signalized, the eastbound approach will include a through lane, a dedicated left turn lane, and a dedicated right turn lane. Parking will not be allowed in the vicinity of the two signalized intersections. Additional right-of-way is indicated on the plan line where necessary to construct these improvements.

Brommer Street is one of the primary streets included in the County's Urban Forestry Master Plan. Although no County project is scheduled at the present time, tree planting will be included in any future County construction projects and will be required of any private developments which are constructed. Bus turnouts and shelters are shown to replace existing bus stops, at locations agreed upon with the Transit District.

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Brommer Street between Seventh Avenue and Seventeenth Avenue provides access to two elementary schools, a middle school, a swim center/community center, and several park sites. This segment of Brommer Street is also an important link between the existing bike lanes on Seventh Avenue and Seventeenth Avenue. At the community meeting, strong support for the construction of these improvements was expressed by those present.

Because of limited right-of-way and topographic constraints, construction of a full arterial standard, with separated sidewalks on both sides, is not possible. Based on community input and parking surveys done by staff, the proposed plan line includes parking and/or separated sidewalk where feasible. Where parking occurs and separated sidewalks are not possible, planters will be provided within the parking shoulder where appropriate. Sidewalks, either contiguous or separated, are included on both sides for the entire length of the segment.

Construction of the plan line improvements may necessitate the removal of several trees in the vicinity of Seventh Avenue. These trees are Monterey pines which are near the edge of the existing road. Because of their susceptibility to pitch canker and the fact that no construction is planned in this area in the near future, the plan line includes a note to evaluate these trees at the time of final design and to preserve them where possible if they are healthy. When construction of a County project occurs, street trees will be planted which will be maintained by County Service Area 9E.

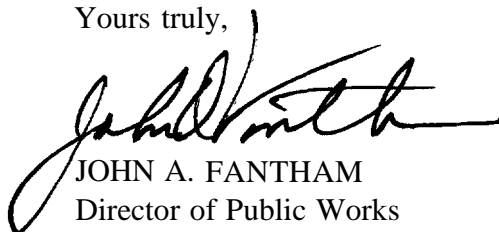
There are several parcels along the north side of the street between the riparian area and El Dorado Avenue where existing driveways may be impacted by the construction of the plan line improvements. These driveways are already very steep, and the widening to provide parking and separated sidewalk as shown on the plan line may create access problems. When the design of the improvements is formalized, staff will work with the affected property owners to minimize these impacts, perhaps by eliminating either parking or separated sidewalks in limited areas as necessary.

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors take the following action:

1. Approve the proposed plan line for Brommer Street between Seventh Avenue and Seventeenth Avenue.
2. Direct Public Works staff to include the plan line for Brommer Street in the Master Plan Line file.

Yours truly,

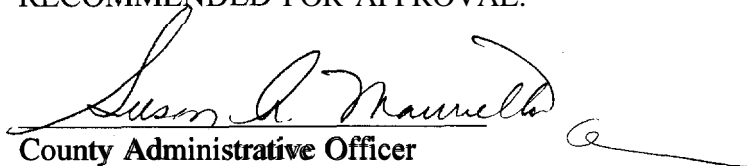


JOHN A. FANTHAM  
Director of Public Works

CDR:cdr

Attachments

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:



County Administrative Officer

copy to:      Redevelopment Department  
                 Public Works Department  
                 Planning Department



**BROMMER STREET**

SEVENTH AVENUE TO SEVENTEENTH AVENUE