

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: July 19, 2010

Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Temporary Street Closure on Key Route and Dartmouth for Albany Streets Events

REPORT BY: Penelope Leach, Recreation and Community Services Director

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve street closures for Albany Streets Events for:

- (1) a two-block area of Key Route Boulevard between Solano Avenue and Portland Avenue from 11 AM –2 PM on Sunday, August 22, 2010; and
- (2) a six-block area of Dartmouth between Masonic and San Pablo from 11 AM – 2 PM on Saturday, October 9, 2010.

BACKGROUND

The Albany Master Fee Schedule requires an Encroachment Permit for any work or activity that occurs within the public-right-of-way. A specific reference in the Master fee Schedule states that, “*Group permits for special activities in the City r-o-w, (Solano Stroll, etc). Note: Permit requires Council approval.*”

Albany Streets is modeled after the popular San Francisco event called Sunday Streets. The purpose of Albany Streets is to create a safe, fun, car-free place for people to get out and get active in Albany. Residents are encouraged to walk, skate, bike, jog, hop scotch, yoga, picnic and people watch. Residents are also encouraged to bring a game, host an activity or just come out and play in the street.

DISCUSSION

Due to the proposed closure of Key Route between Solano and Portland Avenue, through traffic may detour on Pomona, Masonic, and/or Spokane. Due to the proposed closure of Dartmouth between Masonic and San Pablo, through traffic may detour on Marin.

“Street Closed Ahead” signs will be placed on key intersections giving drivers plenty of notice that the streets are closed.

Residents on the affected streets will receive a notice regarding the closure at least a week in advance of the event. Staff will be posting the area for “No Parking” four to five days in advance of the event. Police official and Fire officials have been notified of the street closure.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

Albany Streets enhances the recreational opportunities for residents and encourages them partake in physical activities as well as meet their neighbors. Additionally, residents are more likely to stay in town which decreases the number of people using their cars to go elsewhere for weekend activities.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Since this is a city-sponsored event, staff recommends waiving the \$26.00 Encroachment Permit Fee.