



# Staff Report

Agenda Item No. F-1

**To:** Traffic Commission

**From:** Othon Mora, Community Development Director

**Date:** October 20, 2023

**Subject:** Removal of Pedestrian Crosswalk on North Imperial Avenue Between Barioni Boulevard and 9<sup>th</sup> Street

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## **Background:**

An evaluation of the crosswalk on North Imperial Avenue between Barioni Boulevard and 9<sup>th</sup> Street has been requested to formulate possible mitigation measures regarding the rising safety concerns for pedestrians using the designated crosswalk. The ideal mitigation, is the removal of the existing crosswalk in its entirety.

The existing pedestrian crosswalk presents many safety apprehensions. The placement of the pedestrian crosswalk presents visibility concerns. There is a major blind spot when vehicles are in the parking spots directly in front of Key's Bargain, on the West side of Imperial Ave. For drivers moving Southbound, the pedestrian is not visible in the crosswalk until they are in close proximity of the pedestrian (approximately twenty feet).

## **Analysis:**

The Development Review Committee has assessed the area in regards to the crosswalk on North Imperial Avenue between Barioni Boulevard and 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Based on the concerns expressed, the removal of the crosswalk on North Imperial Avenue between Barioni Boulevard and 9<sup>th</sup> Street may provide and fulfill the sought-after traffic safety mitigation. Please refer to **Exhibit A** for additional feedback from the surrounding businesses. The Development Review Committee (DRC) has based the recommendation on the following guidelines from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) as follows:

Section 3B.18, Crosswalk Markings, of the MUTCD states the following:

***3B.18.01: Crosswalk markings provide guidance for pedestrians who are crossing roadways by defining and delineating paths on approaches to and within signalized intersections, and on approaches to other intersections where traffic stops.***

**3B.18.02:** *In conjunction with signs and other measures, crosswalk markings help to alert road users of a designated pedestrian crossing point across roadways at locations that are not controlled by traffic control signals or STOP or YIELD signs.*

**3B.18.03:** *At non-intersection locations, crosswalk markings legally establish the crosswalk.*

**3B.18.11:** *Because non-intersection pedestrian crossings are generally unexpected by the road user, warning signs (see Section 2C.50) should be installed for all marked crosswalks at non-intersection locations and adequate visibility should be provided by parking prohibitions.*

Staff's findings are as follows:

- The MUTCD defines crosswalk markings provide guidance for pedestrians who are crossing roadways by defining and delineating paths on approaches to and within signalized intersections, and on approaches to other intersections where traffic stops.
- Based on field observations, there are definite safety and visibility concerns at the pedestrian crosswalk on North Imperial Avenue between Barioni Boulevard and 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Mitigation Measures Options and Cost:**

1. Removal of existing stripping: \$1,000.00
2. Area Improvements:
  - No Parking Signs /50' Red Curb and removal of three (3) parking spaces: \$2,141.00
  - RRPf (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons) Pedestrian Crosswalk Systems: \$17,732
  - Two ADA Ramps: \$13,000

**Staff Recommendation:**

Based on these findings, staff recommends removal of the crosswalk on North Imperial Avenue between Barioni Boulevard and 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Location Map and Site Photos:**



**East View**



**West View**



## Exhibit A

### Feedback from Surrounding Businesses

#### **The Sushi Spot**

115 N Imperial Ave

Fabiola Granados, Property Owner

Feedback: No comments at this time.

#### **Rocket**

115 E Barioni Blvd

Patricia Ramirez, Store Personnel

Feedback: No comments at this time.

#### **Faith & Wellness Fit Camp**

115 N Imperial Ave, Ste A

Nicole Elmore, Gym Owner

Feedback: No comments at this time.

#### **Johnny's Burritos of Imperial**

105 S Imperial Ave

Lupita Sera, Shift Manager

Feedback: No comments at this time.

#### **The Beauty Mark**

125 N Imperial Ave

Stephanie Manuel, Salon Owner

Feedback: Expressed safety and visibility concerns for pedestrians using the crosswalk, but was more troubled about possible removal of parking spots.

#### **Keys Bargain**

115 N Imperial Ave

Heesook Kwon, Store Owner

Feedback: Expressed safety and visibility concerns for pedestrians using the crosswalk, but was more troubled about possible removal of parking spots.

#### **3:16 Café**

123 N Imperial Ave

Tony Camacho

Feedback: Expressed safety and visibility concerns for pedestrians using the crosswalk. He did mention that possible removal of parking spots would be inconvenient, but overall the safety and visibility held more weight.

**Controlled Thermal Resources**

105 N Imperial Ave

Sergio Cabanas, Director EHS Laboratories

Feedback: Expressed safety and visibility concerns for pedestrians using the crosswalk. He even mentioned several potential accidents he personally experienced himself. Recommends the crosswalk remain, but with added safety features. Suggested signage be placed maybe a block before to get the attention of drivers moving South bound and crosswalk beacons. His reason for the need of the crosswalk is because of lack of parking. Staff from his offices park across the street to accommodate for other vehicles. Eliminating the crosswalk would be a major inconvenience.