



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Jason Simpson, City Manager

Prepared by: Johnathan Oliver Skinner, Director Of Community Services

Date: April 22, 2025

Subject: 2025 Taco Fest and Car Show Street Closures

Recommendation

Approve Temporary Street Closures for Taco Fest and Car Show on Saturday, May 3, 2025

Background

The Taco Fest event, now in its fourth year, has grown significantly in popularity and scope. Two years ago, the event expanded to include a car show, which not only increased community interest but also attracted a larger crowd, bringing approximately 6,000 attendees. Originally held at Launch Pointe in the parking lot, the success of the car show and growing participation led to the decision to move Taco Fest back to the Historic Downtown Main Street location. This move offers a unique opportunity to showcase the charm and history of Downtown while accommodating the larger crowd. Given the increased popularity and the success of the expanded event, staff recommend continuing this new location for the Taco Fest, as it will provide ample space for attendees to enjoy the festivities, including the car show, food, music, and other activities, while maintaining the event's community-driven spirit.

Discussion

The annual Taco Fest is planned to take place in Gediman Square with the car show extending along Main Street in Downtown Lake Elsinore from 5:00 to 9:00 pm. Given the event's growing popularity, with over 6,000 people in attendance at last year's festival, staff anticipates a similar or larger turnout for this year. The Community Services Department, Public Works Department, and Sheriff's Department will coordinate resources to ensure public safety and smooth event operations.

Taco Fest and Car Show

To accommodate the increased attendance and activities, staff recommends street closures on Main Street between Heald Avenue and Limited, as detailed in Attachment 1. These closures are essential to ensure the safety of attendees and facilitate the event's success. It is recommended that the closures be in effect from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., providing ample time for setup and breakdown. The closures will be enforced by Law Enforcement personnel to maintain public order and safety.

Fiscal Impact

Costs for City personnel staffing will be accommodated via the Community Services fiscal budget.

Attachments

Attachment 1- Street Closures Map

Attachment 2 - Flyer

Services