

**City Council
Agenda Memo**



TO: Larry D. Gilley, City Manager

**City Council
Meeting Date: 9-11-14**

FROM: Megan R. Santee, Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Written Resolution Authorizing Removal Of Roadway Connection Between East Lowden Street and State Highway 351.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The City of Abilene, as part of the Abilene Metropolitan Planning Organization has endorsed the need for an access management and roadway improvement project on State Highway 351 (SH 351) east of Interstate 20 (I-20) as major commercial development continues along this corridor. Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is currently finalizing plans for an access management and roadway improvement project on SH 351 from I-20 to the east city limits. The project will construct an urban road section with curb & gutter and a raised median to provide two traffic lanes, a bike lane in each direction and left turn lanes at the median openings. Some driveways will be consolidated and others eliminated, and the East Lowden St. connection will be removed. The project has gone through the TxDOT public involvement process.

To complete the plans, TxDOT needs the City to approve the disconnection of East Lowden St. at SH 351. The attached resolution authorizes the removal of the roadway connection between East Lowden St. and SH 351.

FUNDING/FISCAL IMPACT

Staff does not anticipate any fiscal impact to the City related to this project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the disconnection and removal of the roadway connection between East Lowden St. and SH 351.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution

Prepared by:

Name: James Condry

Title: Traffic & Transp Admin

Item No. 6.4

Disposition by City Council

- Approved Ord/Res# _____
- Denied _____
- Other _____

City Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS,
AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF THE ROADWAY CONNECTION BETWEEN
STATE HIGHWAY 351 AND EAST LOWDEN STREET**

WHEREAS, the City of Abilene (City) as part of the Abilene Metropolitan Planning Organization has endorsed the need for an access management and roadway improvement project on State Highway 351 (SH 351) east of Interstate 20 (I-20); and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has prepared plans for an access management and roadway improvement project on SH 351 from I-20 to the east city limits which includes removal of the roadway connection between East Lowden Street and SH 351 and installation of a traffic signal at SH 351 and East Lake Rd; and

WHEREAS, TxDOT has vetted the SH 351 project design through their public involvement process, including a meeting for adjacent property owners and two public meetings; and

WHEREAS, East Lowden Street, a local city street, intersects SH 351 less than 200 feet from the East Lake Road intersection, a major intersection that will be signalized either as a separate project before or in conjunction with the SH 351 project and this close spacing between the East Lowden Street intersection and the East Lake Road intersection creates an undesirable situation that will become more problematic with the installation of the signal; and

WHEREAS, the recent extension of Enterprise Dr. from SH 351 to East Lowden Street constructed by the Development Corporation of Abilene provides good access to SH 351 for properties on East Lowden Street; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the roadway connection between East Lowden Street and SH 351 is a necessary component of the access management and roadway improvement project on SH 351; and

WHEREAS, the City has the authority under Chapter 311 of the Texas Transportation Code to alter or close a public street;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS:**

Part 1: That the City Council the City of Abilene hereby authorizes the disconnection of East Lowden Street at SH 351.

Part 2: That the City Manager of the City of Abilene is hereby authorized to take the necessary steps to effect the removal of the roadway connection between East Lowden Street and SH 351.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2014.

APPROVED:

Norm Archibald, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney