



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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March 4, 2003

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **MP-0**
A452

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: James A. Noyes
Director of Public Works

REPORT ON RENAMING AVENUE M TO COLUMBIA WAY BOARD MOTION OF FEBRUARY 4, 2003, SYNOPSIS 72

On February 4, 2003, your Board approved a motion by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Synopsis 72 (copy attached), directing the Director of Public Works to coordinate with the Cities of Palmdale and Lancaster a feasibility study of developing and implementing a plan to permanently rename Avenue "M" as "Columbia Way" in the center of the Antelope Valley.

We have met with the Public Works Directors of the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale, and with a local representative of Caltrans, and have reached the following conclusions:

- The renaming is desirable and should be done in a way that will not require a permanent address change for residents or businesses on Avenue M. This can be accomplished in a manner similar to the renaming of 10th Street East to Challenger Way several years ago. The street will be given a dual name, and replacement street signs will reflect the new name and retain the former name in a parenthetical manner. This eliminates the need for businesses and residents to incur costs and for various other agencies such as UPS, the County Assessor, the Registrar of Voters, PacBell Emergency 911 Service, and others to have to make large-scale database changes.
- The proposed limits of the street renaming are from 50th Street East to 90th Street West.
- The Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale will conduct public hearings and adopt appropriate resolutions ordering the street name modification.

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- Caltrans has raised concerns relative to costs and implementation schedule installation of new freeway signs along the Antelope Valley Freeway. Freeway signs along the Antelope Valley Freeway are considered desirable by the two Cities and Public Works; however, the installation of these signs will need to be deferred to a later date when all issues are resolved.

Because the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale are still in the process of researching the cost and implementation timetable of this street name change, I am recommending that we prepare a final report to be submitted for your review by April 3, 2003.

JEA:mrb
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Attach.

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel
Executive Office