CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: January 24, 2012

To: Honorable Mayor & City Council

From: Aaron Kunz, Deputy Director of Transportation

Subject: Sunset Boulevard Intersections

Attachments:
1. Alternative A
2. Sign and Striping Concept

INTRODUCTION

This report provides a proposed implementation plan for Sunset Boulevard Intersection Improvements.

DISCUSSION

The City Council reviewed alternatives to improve the Sunset Boulevard intersections at Roxbury, Bedford and Camden Drives at the December 6, 2011 City Council meeting. The City Council concurred with the majority of the Traffic & Parking Commission that "Alternative A," median improvements, was the best option to improve these intersections. As an interim step, the City Council asked staff to develop a striping and signage plan to preclude through movements across Sunset Boulevard and left turns from the north/south streets.

For the interim step, staff plans to place right-turn only signs at both approaches of Roxbury, Bedford and Camden Drives and striping within the roadway to clearly designate the turn restrictions. The restrictions would be in place at all times in order to stripe the roadway. Striping could not be placed if the restriction were only in place for certain hours.

During the public review process, the Traffic & Parking Commission considered peak-hour restrictions (signage only) but eliminated that option based on review of the accident data and concerns that the signs would not sufficiently address the issue of broadside accidents throughout the day.

In reviewing the City Council's direction at the December 6, 2011 meeting, staff determined that compliance with a 24-hour turn restriction achieved through both signs

and striping will achieve the same result as Alternative A at a much lower cost of modifying the intersections. Staff's implementation plan would place the signs and striping by the end of March 2012. Notices would be sent to residents in the area informing them of the upcoming restriction. Staff would then return to the City Council in Fall 2012 (unless issues arise requiring an earlier review) with an evaluation and proposed next steps. The next steps could include maintaining the signs and striping as placed for the interim step, providing additional measures such as delineators to further achieve compliance with the right-turn only restriction, extending the left turn pocket at Sunset/Whittier Drive, and/or proceeding with Alternative A as originally planned.

The Community Development Department has reviewed the proposed median improvements and has determined that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (f) which provides an exemption for the:

> "Addition of safety or health protection devices for use during construction or in conjunction with existing structures, facilities or mechanical equipment or topographical features including navigational devices."

The proposed median improvement is the addition of traffic safety protection devices for use in conjunction with existing facilities (roadways), and thus qualifies as exempt from CEQA. Further, while there may be a certain amount of change in driving patterns as a result of the safety devices, such changes are not an unusual result of installing traffic safety improvements.

At the conclusion of the evaluation period discussed above, the improvements may be made permanent. Whether ultimately permanent or just temporary, the installation of the safety improvements is exempt from CEQA for the reasons discussed above.

The proposed improvement plans have been reviewed and recommended by the City's Traffic Engineer, Bijan Vaziri.

FISCAL IMPACT

Costs of the signs and striping will cost less than $1,000.

RECOMMENDATION

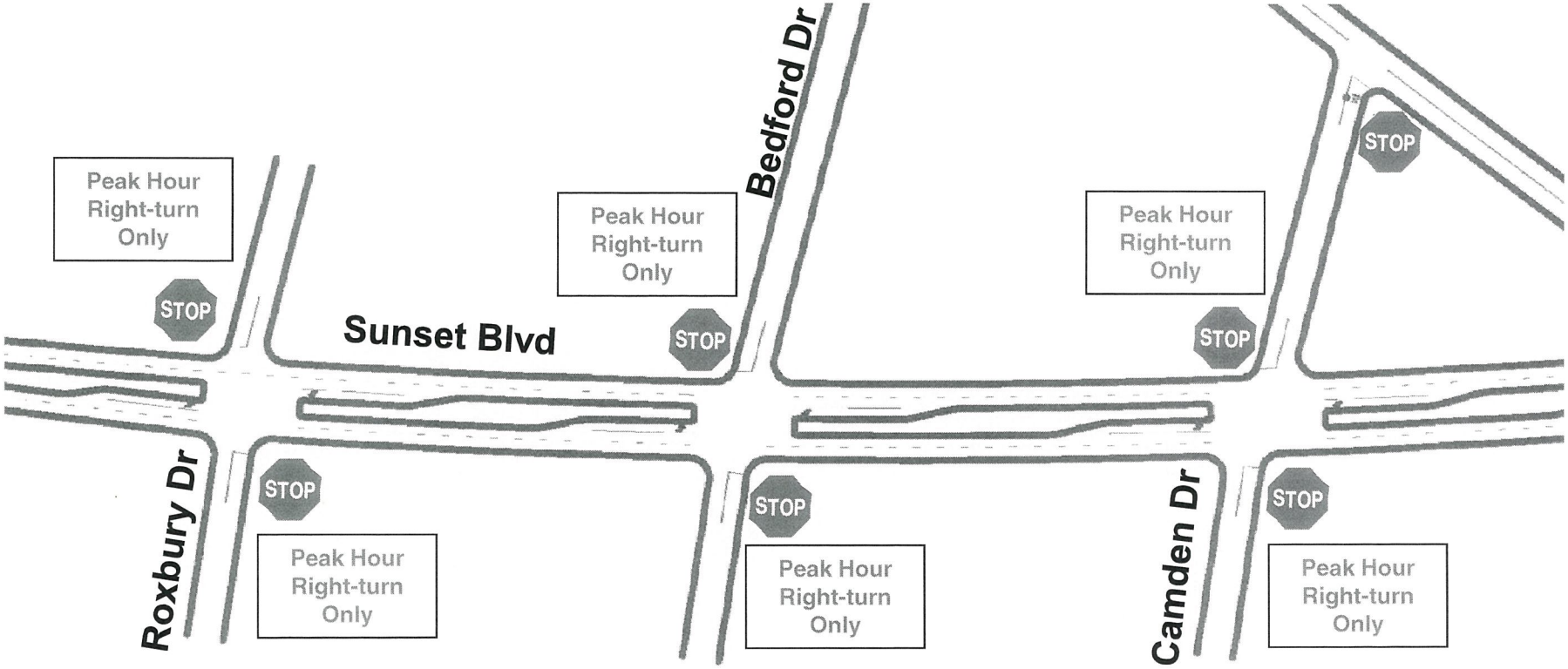
This report is for informational purposes.

DG David Gustavson
Approved By

Attachment 1

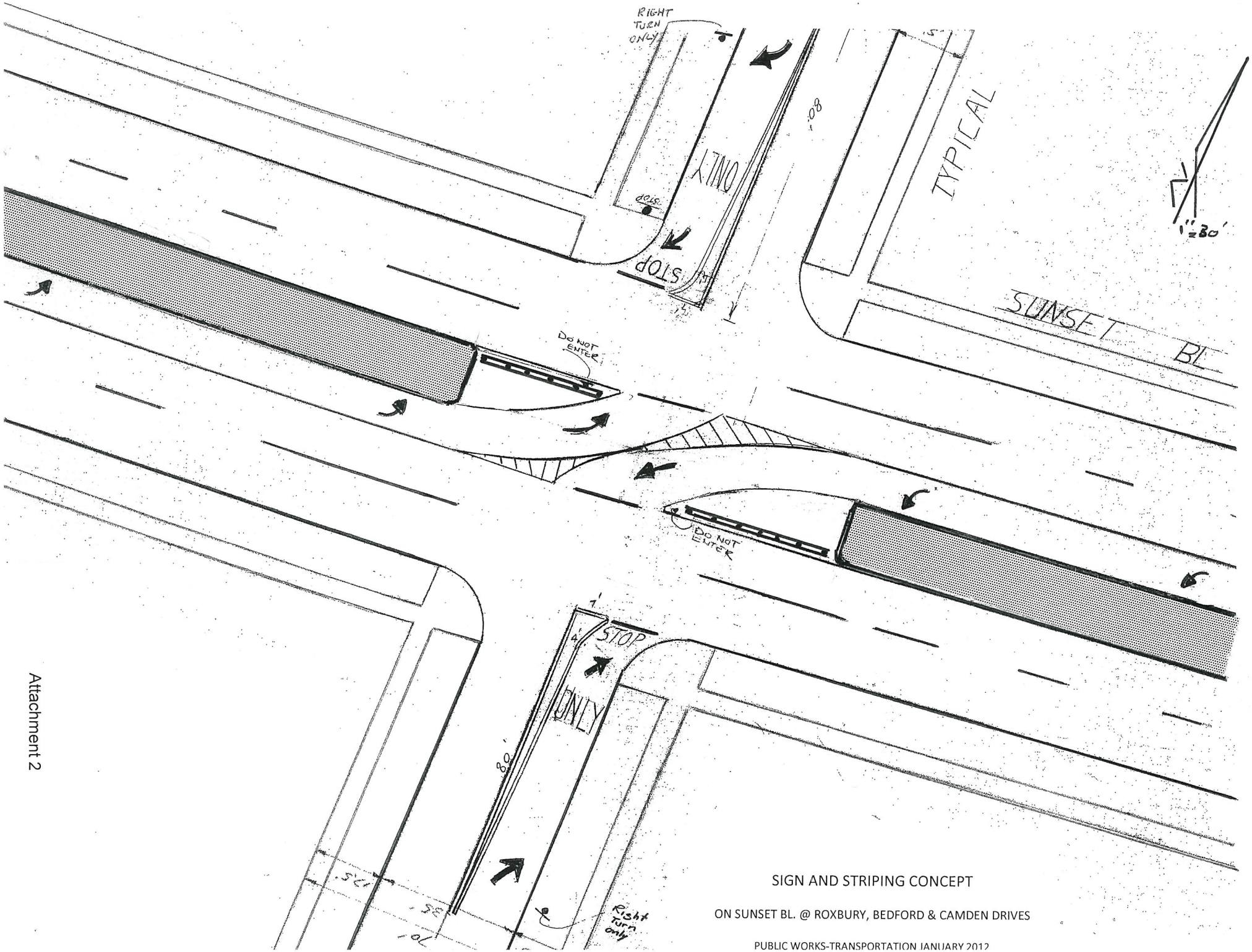
Alternative A

Peak Period Turn Restrictions



Attachment 1

Attachment 2



Attachment 2

SIGN AND STRIPING CONCEPT

ON SUNSET BL. @ ROXBURY, BEDFORD & CAMDEN DRIVES

PUBLIC WORKS-TRANSPORTATION JANUARY 2012