

**CITY OF OAKLAND
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

TO: Office of the City Manager
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Public Works Agency
DATE: October 28, 2003

**RE: AN INFORMATIONAL REPORT PREPARED BY STAFF ON
ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
ON JUNE 7, 2003 RELATED TO PEDESTRIAN FATALITIES IN
MAY AND JUNE 2003 ON INTERSTATE 880 NEAR 16TH AVENUE**

SUMMARY

Two people walking on Interstate-880 near 16th Avenue were killed on separate dates, May 11 and June 7 in 2003. At the June 24, 2003 Public Safety Committee meeting, staff was asked to prepare a report addressing the circumstances of the apparent accidents.

This is an informational report that requires no action by the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACTS

This is an informational report with no fiscal impact.

BACKGROUND

In 2003 there have been four pedestrian fatalities on Interstate-880 in Oakland through September. Two occurred on the south side of I-880 near 16th Avenue: one on May 11th and one on June 7th. Staff investigated the area near 16th Avenue and did not find any unsafe conditions, nor any features that would make this location attractive to pedestrians. Sidewalk abuts the on-ramp area and pedestrians determined to access the clearly marked on-ramp area can do so.

Caltrans maintains a gated entrance to landscaping that is locked, fences fronting the freeway are in good repair, and standard freeway on-ramp and off-ramp signs are in place.

Since the fatalities occurred on the freeway, Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) have jurisdiction. CHP reports that the victims in the four 2003 fatality cases had "positive" alcohol levels in their system. The CHP reports do not indicate any other factors or circumstances that contributed to the fatalities. In addition, the CHP cannot determine where the victims entered the freeway.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Pedestrians have access to the freeway at various points including on-ramps, off-ramps and from their vehicles broken-down on the freeway. The State, which has jurisdiction over California's interstate system, provides regulations and standardized signage to help protect the public while on its property. Two fatal collisions on I-880 near 16th Avenue appear to be isolated, random occurrences.

Since a hazard caused by the City does not exist, the City should not take further action.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

None.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

This report does not suggest projects or programs that impact disability and senior citizen access.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that City Council accept this report.

Respectfully submitted,



CLAUDETTE R. FORD
Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:
Raul Godinez II, P.E.
Assistant Director, Public Works Agency

Prepared by:
Wladimir Wlassowsky
Transportation Services Manager

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Item #: 5
Public Safety Committee
October 28, 2003