



## Staff Report

**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Robert Vestal, Director of Public Works  
**DATE:** June 3, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** Highland Springs Avenue Painted Median Adjustment

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**Description** Adjust the painted median along Highland Springs Avenue, south of Sixth Street, to eliminate left turn ingress and egress from commercial center.

### **Background and Analysis:**

Highland Springs Avenue is a key corridor that experiences significant traffic volumes. The commercial center's current left-turn access contributes to congestion and safety concerns, leading to delays, near-misses, and potential collisions. City staff has reviewed traffic patterns and accident reports, and findings suggest that restricting left turns will streamline movement and mitigate risks.

Eliminating the left turn ingress and egress will improve safety, enhance traffic flow, and provide some economic benefits.

### Improved Safety

- Reducing left-turn movements minimizes conflict points, lowering the likelihood of collisions.
- Preventing abrupt stops from vehicles attempting to turn left reduces rear-end crashes.
- Enhancing visibility and predictability for drivers leads to smoother traffic operations.

### Enhanced Traffic Flow

- Eliminating left turns will optimize adjacent signal timing and alleviate bottlenecks.
- Increase left turn pocket length on the northbound Highland Springs Ave and Sixth Street Intersection.
- Increase left turn pocket length on the southbound Highland Springs Ave and Joshua Palmer Way Intersection.

- Drivers will utilize existing signalized intersections or alternate routes, distributing traffic more efficiently.
- Continuous movement along Highland Springs Avenue will reduce congestion during peak hours.

### Economic Benefits

- Smoother traffic flow encourages more customers to access the commercial center via safer, alternative entry points.
- A reduction in accident-related delays improves accessibility, benefiting local businesses.
- Streamlined routes can enhance the area's overall appeal, supporting economic growth.

On May 6, 2025, Beaumont City staff engaged in discussions with the City of Banning's Public Works Director and City Engineer regarding the proposed median adjustment. The City of Banning's Public Works Director and City Engineer expressed their agreement and support for the plan, recognizing its potential to improve regional traffic flow and minimize congestion-related risks.

City staff recommends authorizing the adjustment of the painted median along Highland Springs Avenue to eliminate left-turn ingress and egress at the commercial center intersection. Proper signage and public outreach should accompany implementation to ensure a smooth transition for motorists.



Figure 1 - Existing Highland Springs Avenue Median

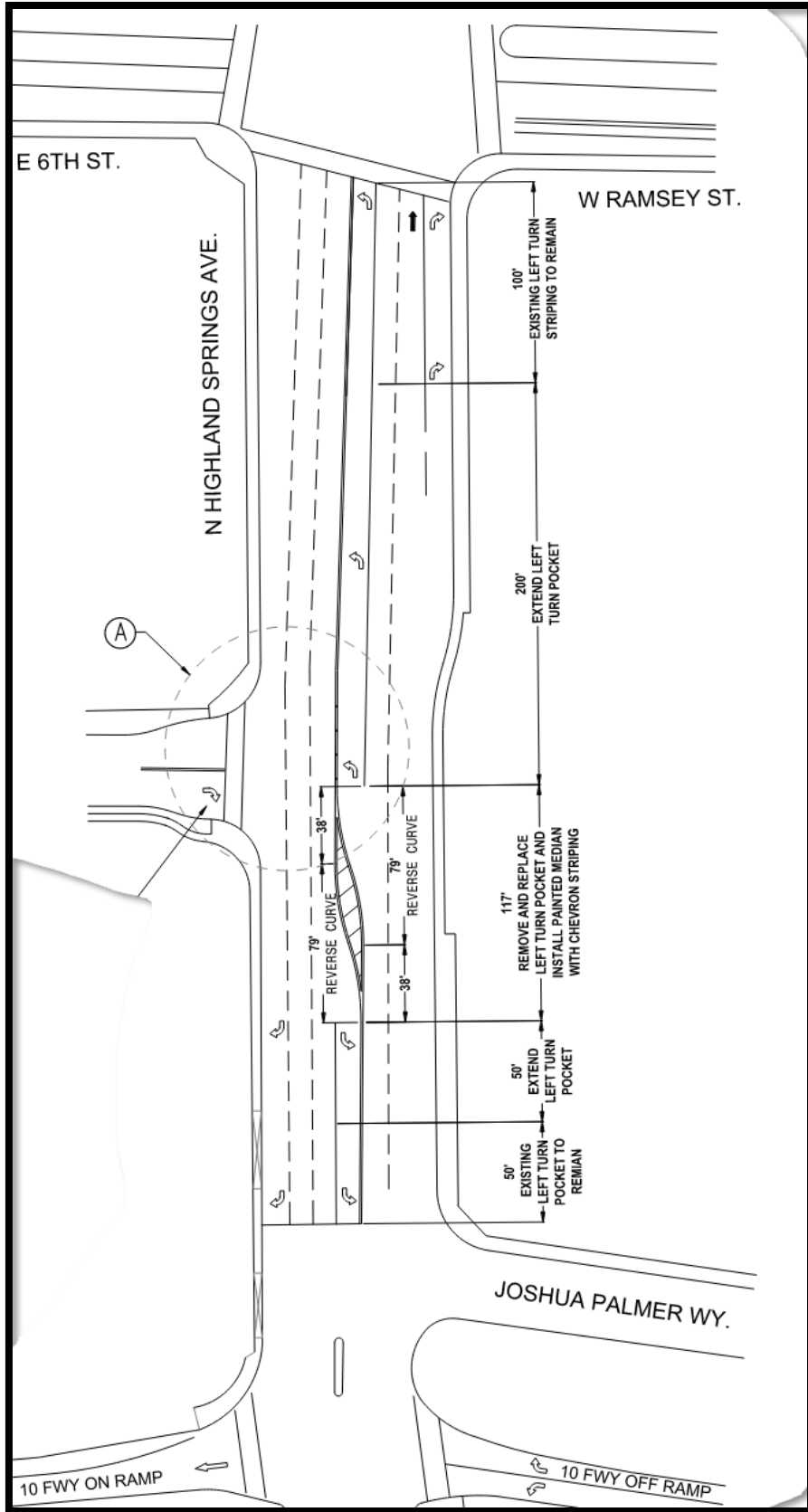


Figure 2- Proposed Highland Springs Avenue Median Adjustments

**Fiscal Impact:**

The estimated cost to prepare this staff report is \$700.

All cost associated with revising the painted median is estimated to be \$5,000 and will be paid from the Public Works operations budget.

**Recommended Action:**

Authorize City staff to adjust the painted median along Highland Springs Avenue, south of Sixth Street, to eliminate left turn ingress and egress from the commercial center intersection.

**Attachments:**

- A. Improvement Plan