

ALMOND STREET PROJECT

WHAT WE HEARD

RECAP SUMMARY FROM NOVEMBER 13, 2024 WORKSHOP



The City is exploring a potential Almond Street Project to address traffic circulation and create a secondary emergency evacuation route in the northwest area. This project could connect Almond Street between Carnelian Street and Via Verde Street.

Overview

The City of Rancho Cucamonga hosted an in-person community workshop for the Almond Street Project on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at Stork Elementary School. Over 30 residents and property owners attended the event, which ran from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

The evening began with a presentation outlining the project's background. Fire Chief McCliman highlighted the critical need for a secondary emergency evacuation route, and Deputy Director of Engineering Justine Garcia provided additional context and insights. Following the presentation, attendees participated in an interactive activity, sharing their ideas and concerns regarding the proposed Almond Street extension through Post-it Notes and facilitated discussions.

The project team also shared the next steps for the project and addressed audience questions, ensuring transparency and fostering dialogue. To promote the event, the City mailed notifications to community members within a 0.25-mile radius of the project area and posted details on Nextdoor and the City website, www.cityofrc.us/almondstreet.

This collaborative workshop demonstrated the City's commitment to inclusive engagement and the importance of gathering valuable community input as the conversation evolves. We will review the ideas, concerns, and questions shared during the meeting and update the project website with responses and details about upcoming engagement opportunities planned for spring 2025.



Summary of Input - Concerns

Traffic: Participants expressed significant worries about increased traffic, which they believe could lead to more noise, disturbance, and reduced quality of life and property values.

Safety: Attendees were worried about public access increasing crime and posing threats including homeless-related crimes, drunk drivers, home invasions, and reduced privacy.

Equestrian Access: Community members were keen on providing separate equestrian access from vehicular traffic, including proper fencing.

Insurance: Some attendees worried the new road might increase their home insurance premiums.

Owner Rights: Impacts on property rights and access were also highlighted including issues with easements and access to back gates.

Environmental Impact: Potential impacts on the natural environment were a point of concern including disturbance to mature lemon trees and local wildlife, increased noise and light pollution, and risks of additional flood hazards.

Future Growth: Attendees indicated the road might encourage unwanted growth and development of new housing. There were questions about alignment with the General Plan and facilitating specific expansions.

Supportive Comments: While most had reservations, some expressed support for the project and were excited to see improved road access and shared that during the “Concerns” exercise.

Summary of Input - Ideas and Priorities

Emergency Access Only: A number of attendees preferred a road limited to emergency use with gated access.

Trail Access: Ensuring horse, bike, and walking trails remain accessible and protected.

No Street Parking: Attendees advised against providing on-street parking to maintain the area’s character.

Preserving Views and Dark Skies: Attendees wanted to preserve mountain views and avoid streetlight pollution.

Increased Police Presence: Some suggested enhancing police presence for better safety including calls for regular patrols.

Alternative Ideas: Attendees proposed alternatives to extending Almond Street such as paving Turquoise Avenue or finding other routes.

We appreciate your participation and valuable input. The City of Rancho Cucamonga remains committed to engaging with the neighborhood as the Almond Street Project progresses. Please visit www.cityofrc.us/almondstreet regularly for updates, answers to your questions, and details about future engagement opportunities. A full summary of the workshop, including individual comments, is now available on the project webpage.

Thank you for helping shape the future of our community!

SCAN ME

