



# CITY OF LODI

# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Update on East Side projects

MEETING DATE: April 4, 2001

PREPARED BY: Community Development Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information Only

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Over the last several months, a number of questions have been asked regarding the activities the City has been involved with on the east side of town. More specifically, perhaps, what else should the City do relative to the decline of Lodi's east side area. I believe this question should and will continue to be asked in the future as well.

In order to give some perspective on the issues, I think it is important to revisit what has taken place most recently. By no means should this list be considered the end of our attention, but it is significant when considering the time frame and percentage of expenditure involved.

Within the past five years, a new program was initiated in the Community Development Department that focuses on enforcement of various codes on the east side. The Community Improvement Division began as a part-time position and has grown to three (3) full time inspectors, one full time clerical, and in the upcoming budget, a request for one contract inspector. The current budget for this program is \$200,000. A clear majority of the 455 active cases are property issues on the east side.

In addition to the Community Improvement functions, the City administers the Community Development Block Grant Program. This federally funded program allocates money to projects throughout Lodi with an emphasis on those that directly benefit persons of low-moderate income. In the same five-year period, the City has allocated nearly \$3,000,000 or seventy-five (75%) of the funds available to east side projects. Examples include: The Boys & Girls Club, street and alley lighting, parks and recreation improvements, Food Bank, Fair Housing, and the Loel Senior Center.

Within the Police Department program activities like the Street Crimes Unit, Gang Unit, Downtown Bike Patrol and Community oriented policing have had very positive effects on specific issues.

In Public Works, the day-to-day activities go mostly unnoticed. Within the Street Division the majority of funds for street overlays and sidewalk replacement are on the east side. Further, street tree planting and replacement is almost entirely focussed on the east side. Significant projects that have occurred or are on the current projects list include Downtown and Cherokee Lane, Stockton Street reconstruction, removal of the railroad tracks on Lodi Avenue, and the initiation of the sewer/water line replacement program which will likely run over \$20 million dollars over the next 10 years.

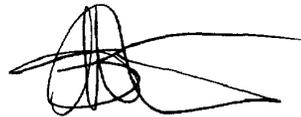
APPROVED:

H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

Last year the City initiated the Lodi Redevelopment Agency. The establishment of Project Area No. 1 is currently in process. The estimate of potential funding possible over the life of the project area is \$29 million that will be spent within the east side area.

As I mentioned, this is just a list of the most significant activities. The City recently coordinated, with many other agencies, the Central Avenue Celebration and additionally held a special City Council meeting at the Salem Methodist Church. There are also a number of individuals who volunteer their time in an effort to improve the east side area. The past and present members of the Eastside Improvement Committee should be acknowledged as a driving force in bringing issues of the east side to the City's attention. Their continued efforts along with others will have a positive impact in making Lodi's east side a more pleasant environment.

FUNDING: None required

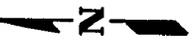
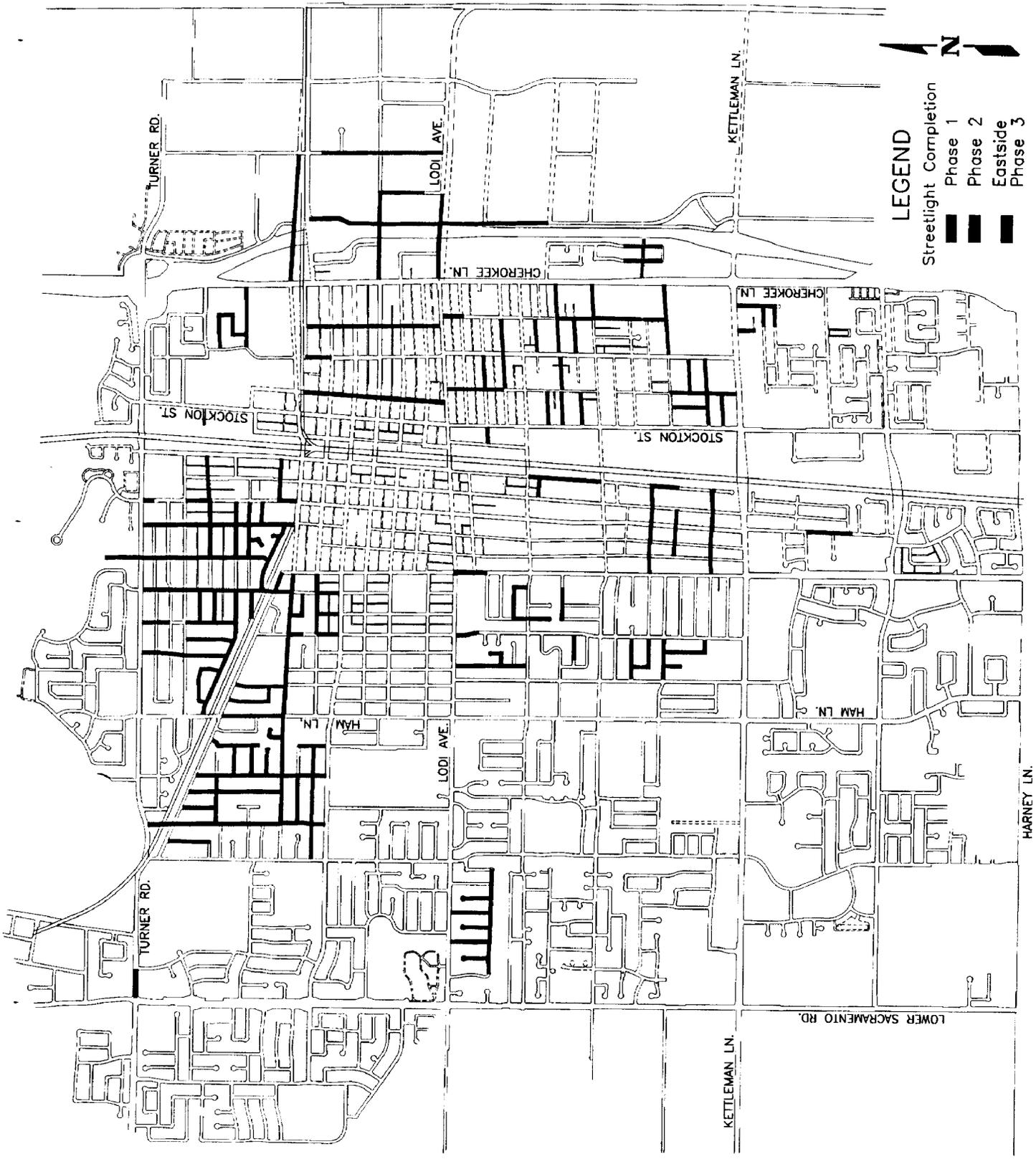
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Konradt Bartlam  
Community Development Director

Prepared by: Community Development Director

KB/lw

Attachments



**LEGEND**

Streetlight Completion

- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Eastside
- Phase 3