

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION
JANUARY 21, 2014 AGENDA**

Subject:	Action Required:	Approved By:
<p>Amending the Master Street Plan to change the classification of 6th Street, from Bond Avenue to 9th Street, to a Collector from a Minor Arterial with special design standards. (MSP13-01)</p> <p>Submitted By:</p> <p>Planning & Development Department</p>	<p>√ Ordinance Resolution Approval Information Report</p>	<p>Bruce T. Moore City Manager</p>
SYNOPSIS	<p>A Master Street Plan Amendment to change the classification of 6th Street, from Bond Avenue to 9th Street, to a Collector from a Minor Arterial with special design standards.</p>	
FISCAL IMPACT	<p>None</p>	
RECOMMENDATION	<p>Staff recommends approval. The Little Rock Planning Commission voted to recommend the change on December 12, 2013, by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent and 1 open position.</p>	
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION	<p>Notices were sent to property owners along this segment of 6th Street and the East Little Rock Neighborhood Association. A public hearing was held before the Little Rock Planning Commission on December 12, 2013.</p>	

BACKGROUND

During a case review, staff questioned the need for East 6th Street to continue to be designated a Minor Arterial. This was due to the recent completion of the 9th Street extension as a four (4)-lane divided roadway. When this road was constructed it was added to the Master Street Plan as an Arterial. The through movement for areas to the east is now along the new road and on to the freeway and points west. The segment of East 6th Street no longer functions as the primary conduit from the east to the freeway and points west.

This portion of East 6th Street, while a Minor Arterial on the Plan, has a reduced design standard of seventy (70)-foot right-of-way with four (4)-lanes and additional at major intersections. A Collector design standard is sixty (60)-foot right-of-way with thirty-six (36) feet of pavement for three (3) lanes or two (2)-lanes and parking. Currently 6th Street has a sixty (60) foot-right-of-way with thirty (30) feet of pavement from Bond Avenue to Fletcher Street and thirty-six (36) feet of pavement from Fletcher Street to 9th Street. This segment of 6th Street is built with curb and gutter in place.

The zoning along this section is primarily R-4, Two-Family, residential (duplex) with a Land Use Plan designation of Residential Medium Density. There is a small portion of I-2, Light Industrial, zoning on the east and west ends south of 6th Street and two (2) small areas of C-3, General Commercial, Zoning. On the north side of 6th Street midway is a park with PR, Park, zoning. In addition, there is an elementary school at the east and on the north side of 6th Street and a Little Rock School District distribution facility adjacent to the park north of 6th Street.

The major east-west movement is no longer along 6th Street since the construction of the 9th Street extension. 6th Street functions as a connection to 9th Street and to Downtown to the west; this is more in the character of a Collector. With the elementary school and local park along the north of 6th Street, it would be more desirable to not encourage large volumes of heavy traffic, including trucks, on this segment of 6th Street. The street should serve the neighborhood and as an access to the arterial system of roadways serving the City and region.