



CITY OF HEMET
Traffic and Parking Commission Minutes
Wednesday, May 9, 2007
8:00 AM

City Council Chambers
450 E. Latham Avenue
Hemet, CA 92543

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairperson Modica.

ROLL CALL: Commissioner Anne Marc- Aurele; Commissioner Michael Asher; Commissioner Don Berry; Chairperson Gareth Modica; Commissioner David Oltman; City Council Liaison Eric McBride.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Planning Commission Liaison.

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Gow, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Patricia Castillo, Traffic Engineer; Megan Caines, Office Specialist; Dan Reinbolt, Traffic Corporal; Joseph Nevarez, Traffic Sergeant; Richard Broos, Streets Superintendent.

FLAG SALUTE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE: Chairperson Gareth Modica

1. Approval of Minutes of April 11, 2006

Commissioner David Oltman moved to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Anne Marc-Aurele seconded, and motion passed 5-0.

2. Report of Council Action on April 11, 2006 meeting:

Informational. Traffic Engineer Patricia Castillo reported on the status of the items submitted to the City Council by the Traffic Commission.

3. Request for a Midblock Crosswalk on Kirby Street Between Acacia and Florida (Ms. Hillie Princiotta, 2200 W. Acacia Ave.)

Castillo presented the request to the Commission. Staff recommends against the installation of an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing. Given that the warrants for a stop sign were not met, staff recommends to deny the request.

Commissioner Donald Berry moved to accept staff recommendation and deny the request for a midblock pedestrian crossing. Commissioner Oltman seconded, and motion passed 5-0.

Castillo requested that discussion be moved to item 5.

5. West Valley High School Traffic Issues

Castillo informed the Commission of the existing conditions on the streets adjacent to West Valley High School (WVHS). Castillo presented statistics regarding traffic flow and presented an exhibit showing the installation of a fence along Mustang Way. Castillo also discussed how the fence would impact traffic patterns. In addition to the installation of a fence, Castillo discussed the importance of creating a controlled pedestrian crossing point as a method of channeling the pedestrian traffic. The cost for both improvements was estimated by Castillo to exceed \$170,000.

City Council Liaison Eric McBride asked if the Hemet Unified School District (HUSD) has been included in these discussions and if HUSD would be willing to bear the costs. Tina Koontz, a representative of the HUSD, responded that the district has been involved in discussions, but that any cost sharing arrangements would have to be made through the HUSD school board.

The Commission discussed possible funding options, including grants and Gas Tax funds. The Commission directed staff to confer with HUSD staff and bring a recommendation to the Commission at a future meeting date.

Castillo requested that items 4 and 6 be discussed in tandem.

4. Florida Promenade Traffic Circulation Recommendations & 6. Transportation Overview

Informational. Castillo discussed the fundamentals of traffic studies with the Commission, using the Florida Promenade project as a case study. Castillo informed the Commission that it is not the size of a project that determines the impact on a community, but rather the number of trips a location will generate. The purpose of a traffic study, Castillo further explained, is to determine the impacts a project will have on traffic and outline a plan to mitigate those impacts.

Castillo described to the Commission the proposed project Florida Promenade, including the requests made by the developers. Additionally, Castillo reported that the mitigation measures that will be required of the developer will include, but not be limited to: widening Florida Avenue to its Ultimate Right-of-Way, installing medians in Florida Ave., installing a new traffic signal and providing Royal Holiday mobile home park access to the signal, the realignment of Acacia Ave to the newly proposed traffic signal, and paying fair share costs for impacts outside the immediate project area.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Mike Gow informed the Commission that procedures are being compiled in order to standardize the guidelines for improvements to City streets. Gow reviewed the proposed timeline for mitigation measures, possible funding options, and construction procedures.

8. Action Item List

Informational. Castillo reported on the status of items previously brought before the Commission.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Carrie Avery
2360 San Arturo

Ms. Avery requested that a stop sign be installed at the intersection of Kirby St. and Oakland Ave.

Mr. Sal Latino
2344 San Arturo

Mr. Latino voiced his concern about speeders on Oakland Ave. He also requested a stop sign be installed at the intersection of Kirby and Oakland.

Traffic Sergeant Joseph Nevarez informed the Commission that they have stationed additional officers along that route to educate the public.

Ms. Fekete
1831 W. Oakland Ave.

Ms. Fekete requested that truck tonnage be restricted along Oakland Ave. Ms. Fekete referenced signage, such as in Sierra Dawn, as a possible suggestion, as the noise is quite bothersome.

Mr. Melvin Kennet
390 Santa Clarita Cir.

Mr. Kennet requested that enforcement of violations of fire lanes be increased and suggested the possibility of Police volunteers be authorized to issue citations to any offenders.

Sgt. Nevarez informed the Commission that research into the legality of that suggestion would be required, but that he would look into the matter.

Traffic Commissioner Gareth Modica tendered his resignation to the Traffic Commission. He extended his thanks and gratitude to both his fellow commissioners, as well as to City staff.

10. Future Agenda Items: None.

ADJOURNMENT: *Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 am.*

Next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for 8:00 AM, Wednesday, June 13, 2007, at 450 E. Latham Avenue, City Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Caines
Office Specialist II
Public Works, Engineering Dept.