



City of San Dimas
Public Works Department
Traffic Safety Committee

Meeting Minutes
WEDNESDAY, June 18, 2008 at 9:30 A.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Committee Members Present: Shari Garwick (Acting Traffic Committee Chair, Senior Engineer, San Dimas Public Works), John Campbell (Street Maintenance Superintendent, Public Works), Gary Bishop (Street Maintenance Supervisor, Public Works), Debby Figoni (Traffic Committee Secretary), Warren Siecke (Traffic Engineer), Deputy John Rodriguez (San Dimas Sheriff's Station), Cheryl Seifert (Director of Transportation, Bonita Unified School District).

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06-08-01 GAFFNEY AVENUE AND BONITA AVENUE

REQUEST FROM MARICHU BASA, RESIDENT: Install "Not a Through Street" sign on the corner of Gaffney and Bonita Avenues.

DISCUSSION: The Committee agreed to post a "No Outlet" sign at the southwest corner of Gaffney and Bonita.

RECOMMENDATION: Post "No Outlet" (W14-2) sign at the end of the curb return in front of 542 E. Bonita Avenue.

06-08-02 ARROW HIGHWAY AND LONE HILL AVENUE

REQUEST FROM MARK H., COVINA RESIDENT: Increase the length of the left turn lanes in the median on Arrow Highway to Lone Hill Avenue so vehicles making a left turn do not stick out into through traffic.

DISCUSSION: Traffic Engineer Siecke recommended a traffic count study for Arrow Highway, both east and westbound, at Lone Hill in the fall when school starts because traffic counts are higher. John Campbell will work with Los Angeles County staff to determine the feasibility of modifying the left turn arrow timing on Arrow Highway at Lone Hill. This intersection is part of the County's program.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Conduct a traffic count study for east and westbound traffic on Arrow Highway at Lone Hill in the fall after school starts.
2. Contact Los Angeles County to determine the feasibility of modifying both east and westbound left turn arrows on Arrow Highway at Lone Hill.

06-08-03 BALTON AVENUE AND GLADSTONE STREET

REQUEST FROM JOSEPHINE DeNARDO, RESIDENT: Install median or other measure to improve visibility when turning left from Gladstone to Balton Avenue.

DISCUSSION: When the Committee reviewed the area, they determined the median was located in the City of Glendora's jurisdiction.

RECOMMENDATION: Write a letter to City of Glendora to review this request and encourage Mrs. DeNardo to do the same.

06-08-04 VIA VERDE AND SAN DIMAS AVENUE

REQUEST FROM ARLENE JACKSON, RESIDENT: Post "Detour" or other traffic signs to notify vehicles of potential traffic jams caused by special events at Bonelli Park or Raging Waters days before the event.

DISCUSSION: Arlene Jackson said she has experienced several traffic jam issues from City permitted and Raging Waters events over the years but it was the June 8th Tri-Events Triathlon that caused her to look for a solution. She also mentioned that during the back-ups she has often seen vehicles making unsafe, illegal turns to get out of the traffic.

Mrs. Jackson stated that she originally went to the Sheriff's Department to look for assistance and was told to contact Officer Ed Mackenzie for special event traffic. However, before she called Officer Mackenzie, she came to City Hall where her issue was promptly placed on the Traffic Safety Agenda. Mrs. Garwick told Mrs. Jackson the City would work with Officer Mackenzie on a 48 hour posting to notify residents of upcoming events and see if future races could stagger their start times. Mrs. Jackson interjected that she would rather see a week advanced notice.

Mrs. Garwick said City staff would work with Raging Waters staff, even though it is located in Los Angeles County, and L.A. County staff, for County permitted events, to discuss options and methods to mitigate special event traffic in the area. Mrs. Jackson suggested the City post a sign on Via Verde before San Dimas Avenue as well as signs on north and southbound San Dimas Avenue warning residents of expected traffic delays with the date and time of the event. She also suggested vehicles waiting to enter Raging Waters do so in two side by side lanes on Raging Water Road.

Resident Joe Persiri, who attended the meeting for Item 06-08-05, mentioned that he too has been stuck in traffic in this area from races with longest wait time of 27 minutes. He feels the Sheriff's let the riders go and go, causing a bigger back-up. He wondered if some races could bypass city streets by staying in the park.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Meet with Officer Ed Mackenzie to discuss a plan to keep street traffic flowing during special events, and about posting signage notifying residents of upcoming events.
2. Meet with Officer Ed Mackenzie and race event planners to discuss creating gaps in race traffic to allow cars to pass.
3. Work with Raging Waters and Los Angeles County staff to discuss methods to mitigate special event traffic back-ups.

06-08-05 SAN DIMAS AVENUE & SAN DIMAS AVENUE (LOOP)

REQUEST FROM JOSEPH & CHERI PESIRI, RESIDENTS: Post two “Stop” signs and a crosswalk at San Dimas Avenue loop where the sidewalk switches from one side of the street to the other to make crossing safer and slow down speeding vehicles.

DISCUSSION: Joseph Pesiri presented the Committee with photos of the area around the San Dimas Avenue loop north of Calle Solana. Mr. Pesiri explained that when the sidewalk ended on one side of San Dimas Avenue there was not a safe location to cross the other side of the street. Traffic Engineer Siecke explained that in order to install a crosswalk there needed to be a “Stop” sign. And, in order to install a “Stop” sign, traffic volumes, sight limitations and accidents needed to be examined. Mr. Siecke said he would do a traffic count study when school was back in session to obtain accurate counts. At the time of the traffic survey he recommended also reviewing the sight distance.

Officer John Rodriguez said he could request traffic enforcement for the area and asked Mr. Pesiri what time of day the traffic worst. Pesiri replied southbound during the evening hours.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Conduct a traffic count study for north and southbound traffic in the fall.
2. Determine sight distances at the intersection.
3. Obtain accident report around the San Dimas loop area for the past three years.
4. Sheriff to increase enforcement by the San Dimas loop during the evening commute hours.

06-08-06 SAN DIMAS SHERIFF’S BOOSTER CLUB

REQUEST FROM LAURA ALVARADO, PRESIDENT OF BOOSTER CLUB: Seeking approval for the San Dimas Sheriff’s Booster Club’s Car Show. Event to be held on West Bonita Avenue between San Dimas Avenue and Cataract Avenue. Car Show cruise (2 laps) to start at Bonita Avenue heading North on San Dimas Avenue, then East on Foothill Boulevard, then South on San Dimas Canyon Road, ending West on Bonita Avenue. Review attached maps. Event and cruise areas are the same as last two years.

DISCUSSION: It is the 15th annual Sheriff’s Booster Club’s Car Show. The traffic plans were modified last year and there were no issues with the updated plan. The event is from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. but the streets will be closed from 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There are no traffic plans necessary for the cruise area which will be supervised and escorted by Sheriff’s cars.

RECOMMENDATION: Approved event.

06-08-07 SAN DIMAS CANYON ROAD BETWEEN SYCAMORE CANYON AND ROMOLA ROADS

REQUEST FROM STAFF: Post signs to direct pedestrians to cross safely at Sycamore Canyon and Romola Roads from the overflow parking lot south of San Dimas Canyon Park.

DISCUSSION: Due to the curvature of San Dimas Canyon Road at Sycamore Canyon Road, directing pedestrians to cross the intersection of Sycamore Canyon is not feasible. In addition, the distance to cross at Romola Road is significant with the tendency of the park users crossing directly from the overflow parking lot which is in the middle of the two proposed streets. Therefore, Traffic Engineer Siecke recommended creating an opening in the fencing for pedestrian access.

There is already an opening on the park side fencing. Traffic Engineer Siecke recommended offsetting the opening of the street side fence south by approximately 8' or two fence panels to allow for safer crossing from the overflow parking or from the park.

In addition, the Committee discussed posting two pedestrian crossing signs, north and south bound, on San Dimas Canyon Road to notify traffic of potential crossing.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Install opening on the street side fencing directly across the street from the overflow parking lot's northerly street light, approximately 8' south of the existing opening.
2. Install two pedestrian crossing symbol signs (W11-2) on San Dimas Canyon Road. One for north bound and one for south bound traffic, each one 300 feet from the street side fence opening.