



City of San Dimas
Public Works Department
Traffic Safety Committee

Meeting Minutes
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2009, at 9:30 A.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Committee Members Present: Krishna Patel (Public Works Director Traffic Safety Committee Chair), Shari Garwick (Senior Engineer, Public Works Department), Gary Bishop (Street Maintenance Supervisor, Public Works Dept.), Lisa Monreal (Traffic Safety Committee Secretary/Environmental Services Coordinator, Public Works Dept.), Warren Siecke (Traffic Engineer), and Deputy John Rodriguez (San Dimas Sheriff's Dept.), Cheryl Seifert (Director of Transportation, Bonita Unified School District).

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Meeting called to order at 9:41

TSC Introductions. Audience members include Claudia Mudd Waldschmidt and Dave Waldschmidt and Laura Alvarado. Items 04-09-01 and 06-09-04 discussed first.

06-09-01 BONITA AVENUE

REQUEST FROM LEE ANN LALLATHIN, RESIDENT: Consider posting a "No Bicycling on Sidewalk" or similar sign on south side of Bonita Avenue between Walnut and Iglesia. Cyclists may endanger Farmer's Market patrons during event.

DISCUSSION: Chair Patel noted that Bonita Ave is used for family oriented events where children are often using the sidewalk to ride tricycles and small bicycles. One incident, although a concern, does not necessarily signify a problem. Deputy Rodriguez noted that the current City ordinance is a misdemeanor, and not a citation offense.

Senior Engineer (SE) Garwick asked if reckless driving of a bicycle is worthy of a citation?

Deputy Rodriguez said no, unless the cyclist is under the influence.

Chair Patel noted that signs on Bonita between Cataract and San Dimas Avenue have been posted for several months prohibiting biking on the boardwalk.

Deputy Rodriguez noted no ticket issuance or warnings have occurred.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Request Farmer's Market to inform their security personnel to increase monitoring of cyclists on sidewalk, and request them to walk their bikes upon entering the event.
2. Request Sheriff Dept to increase patrol of boardwalk bicycling violations on Bonita.

06-09-02 PUENTE AND AVENITA MONTE VISTA

REQUEST FROM DOUG OLSON, RESIDENT: Add marker showing on Ave Monte Vista 1600 Block street sign to keep cars and heavy trucks looking for the 1900 or 2000 block from wearing out street.

DISCUSSION: Street numbering is misleading, with 1900 block of Ave Monte Vista south of Puente, and the 1600-1800 blocks to the north.

RECOMMENDATION:

Place "1600-1800" & an arrow for westbound traffic on the Ave Monte Vista sign going up the hill (north).

06-09-03 VIA VAQUERO- NO PARKING SIGNS

REQUEST FROM STAFF: Recommendation to use Municipal Code references Section 104 in lieu of Ord. 650 on "No Parking" signs. Have "parking in designated spaces only" sign with a reference to "permit required" below on the entrance sign.

DISCUSSION: SE Garwick noted that residents are getting tickets for overnight parking, but sign at entrance to the neighborhood notes only "No Parking on Via Vaquero except in designated spaces." Although the no overnight parking restriction is City wide, the sign leads to confusion.

Chair Patel noted a similar problem will occur on San Dimas Ave when the Fox development is completed. A sign should be placed at each development entrance (when newly installed or signs are replaced) "Overnight parking permit necessary"

Code Compliance Officer Hartung, stated, "If I'm a driver and read the entrance sign, it says parking on Via Vaquero in designated spaces. On median, appears I can park. So if we add "permit required", they look like parking spaces, not part of the street."

Officer Hartung clarified that the reasoning for referencing the Municipal Code vs. the Ordinance is so residents can more easily find the reference online, where the Municipal Code is available for viewing.

RECCOMENDATION:

1. Add "Overnight Parking Permit Required" and Reference "MC 10.24.104" at Via Vaquero entrance.
2. Send HOA copy of TSC minutes and encourage HOA to notify residents via newsletter
3. Notify HOA when changes are made to sign.

06-09-04 BONITA AVE-SAN DIMAS SHERIFF'S BOOSTER CLUB CAR SHOW AND CRUISE

REQUEST FROM SYLVIA CHAPMAN, PRESIDENT: Review Traffic Control Plan for 16th Annual San Dimas Sheriff's Booster Club Car Show and Cruise, to be held July 26th, 2009. Located downtown San Dimas on Bonita Avenue, with lot behind Bank of America and lot at Rhodes Park to be used for overflow.

DISCUSSION: Event Chairperson Laura Alvarado was asked to join the TSC at the table to discuss the event. Chair Patel noted this is an established City event pursuing approval for the 16th year. The event typically uses Rhodes Park for parking and the Municipal Lot behind Bank of America for vendor and patron parking, as well as serving a breakfast. Changes to review include accommodation of the new tenant at the Walker House, ensuring parking is available for downtown merchants in the Municipal Parking Lot behind Bank of America, and review the site plan for adequate traffic safety measures.

Ms. Alvarado stated the use of the B of A parking lot varies, and depends on where the breakfast is located. The plan is to have the breakfast set up close to Exchange Place by the Water Company, bathrooms in the alley, with the lot used as overflow parking. Ms. Alvarado confirmed the closure on Bonita is from Cataract Ave to San Dimas Ave. Vendors will be present on Bonita, as well as cars.

Chair Patel noted the plan needs to show all proposed barricades and signage for open businesses on Monte Vista. Traffic Engineer (TE) Siecke will review and revise plan as necessary.

SE Garwick noted to be careful to stay out of the right-of-way and allow access to open businesses.

Chair Patel suggested designating the east side of the B of A parking lot "Business Parking Only, No Event Parking." In regards to previous years use of a "chalk gun" and the cleaning involved, use of duct tape and name cards was suggested to delineate participant spaces. Regarding canopies, Ms. Alvarado noted the event uses three, and many vendors bring their own 10x10 structures. Ms. Alvarado noted she was aware of developing ordinance restrictions prohibiting multiple structures placed in succession, as well as the need to weigh down or secure the structures.

Chair Patel noted the permit conditions will include provisions for membrane structures, and the coordinators should notify registrants that they will be responsible to properly anchor the membrane structures according to manufacturer's guidelines. Typically sandbags or bricks are adequate. No drilling in the street is allowed.

Chair Patel suggested noting on their site plan where structures will be placed, with approximate estimate of registrant's canopies and their placement.

TE Siecke confirmed details of access on Monte Vista and use of Train Depot parking lot.

Ms Alvarado stated it is used for displays and/or vehicles, no public parking. All vehicles in the entire closed area will be stationary following the police escorted "cruise" which occurs at approximately 8:30 am. Food vendors are limited to allow local food vendors to benefit from the event.

Chair Patel confirmed the event will need to obtain a Temporary Use Permit and that the TSC would prepare conditions of approval to forward the event to Council for approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. TE to revise plans to show locations of all barricades, signage for traffic at Exchange and Monte Vista and alley west of exchange. Signage to designate east side of municipal lot behind B of A for "Business Parking Only, No Event parking".
2. Prepare Conditions of Approval and forward to Council for approval.

06-09-05 CATARACT AVENUE AND ARROW HIGHWAY

REQUEST FROM GABRIELLA KELLY, RESIDENT: Consider increasing the time to cross Arrow Highway at Cataract. Consider adding a Walk signal with sound as existing signs are not visible and busy street causes a dangerous situation for kids. Consider placing speed bumps on Cataract as cars drive too fast.

DISCUSSION: TSC Secretary Monreal read Ms. Kelly's email correspondence with Street Superintendent Campbell, which explains that the pedestrian times for Arrow and Cataract are operating as programmed, with the timing for "walk" being 7 seconds, plus 16 seconds of "don't walk". Ms. Kelly stated she saw a senior needing to use the center raised median in the middle of crossing Arrow Highway to wait for the next green.

TE Siecke answered SE Garwick's question of what the default walk time is if one were not to press the "Walk" button. The green time would be 4 seconds, plus 4 seconds of yellow, and one of red, for a total of 9. The raised center median provides a safer mid street location for pedestrians who do not press the "Walk" button. When the "Walk" button is pressed, there is 7 seconds of "walking man", 16 seconds of "flashing red hand", 4 seconds of yellow, plus 1 second of all red, for a total safe walking time of 28 seconds. The average measure of a walker is approximately 4 feet per second. The street is 84 feet wide from curb to curb, which means if a pedestrian were to enter the street any time during the 7 seconds of "Walk" time, they should be able to safely cross the street.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. TE to review timing in cooperation with County's signal synchronization effort.
2. Sheriff's Department to include Cataract north of Arrow on traffic cop schedule

06-09-06 DERBY ROAD

REQUEST FROM MAVIS HOOKS, RESIDENT: Request for additional signage in Derby Road neighborhood to slow traffic.

DISCUSSION: The configuration of the streets does not appear to allow for significant speeding due to the short streets and turns. Placement of a 25 mph speed limit sign at the Covina Blvd and Lone Hill entrances should provide an effective measure to deter residents and visitors from speeding. TSC noted several illegal signs posted on the Edison pole located at the entrance of the Pear Tree development on Covina.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Send letter to Edison notifying of unauthorized drilling in the light pole.
2. Send letter to HOA regarding improper sign placement, notification of placement of 25 mph signs at Covina Blvd and Lone Hill entrances to development, and notification in newsletter for traffic safety within the neighborhood.
3. Place 25 mph signs at Covina Blvd and Lone Hill entrances. Remove unauthorized signs in public right of way.

06-09-07 MESARICA @ PUENTE

REQUEST FROM STAFF: Review of the stop sign located at westbound Mesarica at Puente. The sign is obscured due to curvature in the road, and vegetation growth on the hill.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Post sign west of mailbox at 20711 Mesarica "Stop Ahead" MUTCD W3-1*.
2. Increase Stop sign from 30" to 36",
3. Clear brush
4. Restripe Stop Bar and legend

CONTINUED ITEMS

05-09-06 UPDATE OF TRAFFIC LOG

REPORT FROM STAFF: Quarterly update to committee regarding status of approved items. TSC Secretary provided recap of items since January. Majority of recommendations were completed within two to four weeks. Chair Patel requested TE Siecke observe timing at San Dimas Avenue/CVS Shopping Center to provide additional update following timing change in Feb.

RECOMMENDATION: **01-09-06** Observe afternoon peak hour traffic at San Dimas Avenue/CVS Shopping Center and provide update at next (July) TSC meeting.

04-09-01 SAN DIMAS CANYON ROAD AND JUANITA AVENUE

REPORT FROM SHERIFF on accident records for past three years. REPORT FROM TRAFFIC ENGINEER providing review of past traffic counts and accident records to determine if new counts are warranted.

DISCUSSION: The Waldschmidt's were present to hear the update for this item. This item was reviewed a few months ago, and TSC asked for accident records and a traffic report. Deputy Rodriguez noted of the 4 reported collisions in the past three years, three occurred on the La Verne or County side of the intersection. Only one was actually in San Dimas. All accidents were a result from westbound or eastbound traffic on Juanita getting "T-boned" by motorists on San Dimas Canyon Rd.

TE Siecke noted the traffic count data was from 2006 and included San Dimas Canyon Rd only, not Juanita. TE Siecke noted that new counts were warranted, and that contact has been made with the County to determine if an updated count has been completed by them. As of the meeting date, no response to the City's request for information has occurred. SE Garwick noted that the City did provide the County with the available intersection information.

The jurisdictional boundary was shown on the projected screen, San Dimas limits only include the southwest and northwest corners of the intersection, with La Verne and the County having jurisdiction of the other two.

Chair Patel stated the City will continue to monitor and hopefully a joint solution can be achieved with coordination between La Verne, San Dimas, and Los Angeles County. Stated the TSC would keep the residents informed of further developments.

Deputy Rodriguez noted he has asked the traffic cops to monitor and radar speeds on San DC Rd. Will continue to monitor, and hopefully County and La Verne will come through for a joint solution.

Mr. Waldschmidt asked what they could do to help, and Chair Patel asked where they lived. The Waldschmidt's live in LA County jurisdiction, but addressed the TSC because of the TSC's willingness to look at the issue and move forward.

Chair Patel encouraged the residents to continue contacting the County, and noted that the TSC would continue to work from this end to achieve a solution. Although the City has initiated the process, the County is a much larger and therefore slower entity and it may not be addressed in the very near future.

RECOMMENDATION: Continue to monitor and work with County and La Verne.

Meeting adjourned: 10:54