



City of San Dimas
Public Works Department
Traffic Safety Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 15, 2010, at 9:30 A.M.
Temporary City Hall, Public Conference Room

Committee Members Present: Krishna Patel (Committee Chair/Public Works Director) {last portion only}, Shari Garwick (Senior Engineer, Public Works Dept.), John Campbell (Street Maintenance Superintendent, Public Works Dept.), Gary Bishop (Street Maintenance Supervisor, Public Works Dept.), Lisa Monreal (Committee Secretary/Environmental Coordinator, Public Works Dept.), Warren Siecke (Traffic Engineer), Deputy John Rodriguez (San Dimas Sheriff's Dept.)

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Meeting called to order at 9:30 AM.

09-10-01 CITY WIDE SPEED SURVEY

DISCUSSION: TE Siecke stated the radar data has been collected for the entire city, but the volume counts on Bonita Avenue need to be redone in order to calculate accident rates that may affect speed limits. Recounts have been ordered.

RECOMMENDATION: Review City Wide Speed Survey at October or November TSC.

09-10-02 GLADSTONE STREET/ AMELIA AVENUE

REQUEST FROM DONALD E. FOSTER, RESIDENT: Provide a left turn lane and stop sign westbound Gladstone at Amelia Ave.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Foster shared his concern of speeding traffic on Gladstone creating a hazard to left turning traffic onto Amelia. Northbound traffic on Amelia also moves out to make turns onto Gladstone, requiring eastbound drivers to swing out to get around the northbound traffic. He requested that for safety of the public to provide a westbound left turn lane on Gladstone and a stop sign to better control traffic on Gladstone Street. It would require widening the north side of the road, oak tree removal and power pole relocation. In 15 years he has seen two or three accidents of vehicles backing out onto Gladstone. He feels traffic flow has greatly increased with Costco and Home Depot developments and peak hour traffic is heavy eastbound in the evening.

TE Siecke concurred that although a left turn pocket is a valid idea, the City does not currently have the street right-of-way width to accommodate the necessary widening. The major cost of widening would likely be tied to development of the property on the north side of Gladstone Street.

Mr. Foster commended Public Works staff on the removal of the swale at Amelia and incorporation of storm drain improvements to the Amelia Avenue Pedestrian Walkway project.

TE Siecke stated that the Amelia project is addressing the sight distance issue so cars will not have to edge out as far onto Gladstone.

In response to Mr. Foster's re-stated support of a left-turn lane, SS Campbell stated that with future property development that it would be a good improvement for the area.

SE Garwick stated the requested improvement must be programmed as a capital improvement project- 18 months planning process with all utility coordination and design upgrades. The Amelia Avenue changes, specifically in design, will address some of the visibility issues.

TE Siecke suggested using the signalized intersection at Amelia and making a U-turn for increased safety. In response to Mr. Foster's discussion of speeding traffic, TE Siecke stated that the recently completed speed study found that the 85th percentile was 37mph, and the highest speed recorded was 41 mph. Although at other times motorists may be going faster, having someone there to catch them at the right time is sometimes difficult.

Mr. Foster said that he understands sheriffs can't be everywhere all the time. They have a workload and try to maintain their job the best of their ability. San Dimas is one of the nicest towns in LA County. One rarely hears of crimes, and credit is given to the sheriff's office. Deputy Rodriguez stated he would talk to his officers to increase speed patrol in the area.

RECOMMENDATION: No change

09-10-03 SAN DIMAS AVENUE PARKING RESTRICTIONS

REQUEST FROM STAFF: **A.** Near 210 Freeway; **B.** West side north of Allen Ave

DISCUSSION: SS Campbell stated that the striping plan for San Dimas Avenue will give staff direction to determine overall limits for parking restrictions.

A. Staff request to clarify parking restrictions under the 210 freeway, and remove parking restrictions for NB San Dimas Ave from Allen Ave to approximately 200 feet south to provide overflow street parking for residents at 772, 778, 784, and 790 N. San Dimas Avenue. Street parking can be accommodated without any striping changes or loss of travel lanes.

B. SE Garwick stated that the property at 811 N. San Dimas Ave appears to have ample parking spaces on the property. The owner's request to restripe San Dimas Ave to allow on-street parking for the residence does not make immediate sense. San Dimas Ave has always had two through lanes; the recent reconstruction just added the median. This is a heavily trafficked area and to reduce it to one lane would be a huge impact. TE Siecke stated that the San Dimas Avenue reconstruction project was funded by federal dollars as part of the stimulus bill, and it would be inappropriate to go back right away and remove a through traffic lane to provide street parking for one property.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. TE Siecke to review existing restrictions and provide recommendations for revisions to Staff.
2. Staff to revise per TE recommendation and provide update at October TSC.

09-10-04 BONITA AVENUE-HOMECOMING PARADE

REQUEST FROM TERRY CASEY, BONITA HIGH SCHOOL ASB ADVISOR: Consider approval of October 22 Homecoming Parade route.

DISCUSSION: Council approved parade. Route is same as last year. Mr. Casey will coordinate students following parade as a key complaint is communication between him and the City during the event.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff to coordinate with Mr. Casey following completion traffic control plans the first week in October.

09-10-05 JACKIE BRISTOW MEMORIAL RACE/5K ROUTE

REQUEST FROM GRANT BRISTOW: Request to hold Memorial race on January 8, 2011 utilizing same route as City 5K, and closures approved by previous Resolution.

DISCUSSION: SM Bishop stated the market at San Dimas Canyon/Bonita will be open, possibly creating additional turning conflicts with vehicles and runners.

SS Campbell stated that south of Gladstone towards Bonita is posted "No Parking" during the event. Chair Patel stated that based on similar road races and past precedence with the City 5k run that the established procedure with signage, race volunteers and sheriff coordination have proven effective. If any issues are identified with the City's 5-k run this fall, any changes can be incorporated into the conditions for the Jackie Bristow Race.

RECOMMENDATION: Review traffic control of 5k race following completion and incorporate any changes into Jackie Bristow conditions.

09-10-06 HOLLYGLEN LANE

REQUEST FROM CAROL HOBSON: Request to consider speed humps or alternative to reduce speed.

DISCUSSION: As the neighborhood does not meet the City's qualifications for speed humps, TE Siecke suggested adding a "Curve Warning" (W1-2) sign below the street name sign on the light pole at Forest Glen. An additional measure could include placing raised reflective pavement markers on the double yellow line along curve, but this could cause a noise issue.

Secretary Monreal suggested forwarding the pavement marker recommendation to the Homeowner's Association prior to installation.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Install a W1-2 sign "Curve Warning" below the street name sign on the light pole at Forest Glen.
2. Send HOA a letter requesting comment regarding raised pavement markers and re-address in Oct.

CONTINUED ITEMS

06-10-01 COVINA BLVD (NORTH SIDE) BTW KIMBERLY AVE TO VALLEY CENTER

Presentation of traffic restriction research

DISCUSSION: Secretary Monreal stated that as any changes to the site's existing parking restrictions would require modification of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the project, the Traffic Safety Committee is unable to address the issue. Based on the extensive site history and specific conditions related to parking, Christ's Church of the Valley must move forward with planning staff and go through the process to make any changes. In response to Mr. Linzay's question, Mr. Siecke stated he believed the CUP was reopened when the last changes to the site were made. Secretary Monreal stated that if the CUP was opened for parking, that all conditions would be looked at to determine site compliance.

RECOMMENDATION: No change.

07-10-05 GLADSTONE STREET (922)

Presentation of Parking Restrictions on Gladstone Street.

Secretary Monreal reviewed existing approved restrictions on Gladstone Street, which do not include the south side of the street east of Costco. As parking appears to be a concern at this location, recommend adding appropriate signage to restrict parking during daytime areas and notify residents of proposed signage prior to installation.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Notify residents at 928, 992, and 914 of proposed parking restriction.
2. Pending response from affected residents, identify signage locations at October meeting and install.

07-10-07 CYPRESS AVENUE –VALLEY CENTER TO LONE HILL

Discussion of Cypress Avenue in context of Speed Study.

DISCUSSION: Deputy Rodriguez stated that the resident had not contacted the department with requested information regarding drag racing, and asked the committee if staff had considered making eastbound one lane to restrict vehicles as was done westbound. Chair Patel stated that this has not been considered.

RECOMMENDATION: Sheriff to continue patrol on Cypress, and schedule specific patrol times if resident contacts department with information.

02-10-04 GLADSTONE STREET AND N. MONTE VISTA AVENUE

REQUEST FROM ALEX BAIEDI, RESIDENT: Request from Mr. Baiedi for speed bump on Monte Vista at Gladstone Street and a traffic investigation report.

DISCUSSION: TE Siecke stated that a consideration to provide additional turning width and safety for persons exiting vehicles on Monte Vista is to paint red curb on the west side of Monte Vista Ave, from the curb return 20 feet south. Ms. Monreal summarized that in regard to the City's speed bump policy, Monte Vista Ave. likely does not meet the specifications, nor would speed bumps force motorists to take the turn slower. Speed bumps must be located at least 150 feet from an intersection, which would make the first bump well outside of the turning zone from Gladstone to Monte Vista. Additionally, a street must have an average daily volume of 500 cars.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Notify Mr. Baiedi of TSC recommendation to paint red curb 20 feet southerly from curb return on the west side of Monte Vista Street south of Gladstone.
2. Pending resident response, install red curb after October TSC meeting.

OFF AGENDA

09-10-07 BONITA AVENUE – WESTERN DAYS OCTOBER 2-3

DISCUSSION: Chair Patel stated the change in traffic control plans is to allow Albertson's shoppers access to the parking lot from the easterly Bonita ingress/egress point. SS Campbell stated that staff is aware of the plan changes and has made necessary changes to the plan.

RECOMMENDATION: Modify Traffic Control Plan accordingly.

09-10-08 LONE HILL/CIENEGA

DISCUSSION: In response to a resident concern, Chair Patel requested the timing be checked at this intersection to determine if signal is changing too fast. Deputy Rodriguez stated the operation appears to be correct, and that the majority of accidents are vehicles making left turns. Sixteen of the 17 accidents in the last 5 years were from 9/2005 to 11/2008. No accidents occurred between 11/2008 and 8/2010. A total of 11 injuries have occurred, and no fatalities.

RECOMMENDATION: SS Campbell and TE Siecke to investigate signal timing and recommend changes if necessary.

06-10-03 FOURTH STREET AT EUCLA

DISCUSSION: Donald Foster submitted a Traffic Investigation Request for a stop sign at this intersection but since the issue was discussed and resolved in the June and July TSC meetings, staff had provided Mr. Foster information on the recent improvements (red curb on 4th St) in lieu of placing the item on the agenda. Mr. Foster requested that the red curb be painted further and restated his wish for a 4-way stop because people don't stop even with the dip. Secretary Monreal stated that following the June request for a 4-way stop, and when the intersection was determined not to meet the warrants, in July, the existing red curb length was installed to increase visibility with consideration of the immediate senior resident's need to access their property via the front curb.

TE Siecke stated that in residential areas staff is always trying to balance immediate resident's need for parking with safety. This intersection has not had any reported accidents. Mr. Foster stated that traffic is light on 4th St. Mr. Siecke stated that likely users know of the intersection condition and the need for caution. Sometimes those situations in traffic engineering that look the most dangerous actually have the best safety record. If people think its safe speeding through, that is when accidents happen. It is best when drivers use common sense. SE Garwick gave the example of 5th St widening, caused more speeding. While the problem of a too narrow street was solved, now there are speeding complaints.

RECOMMENDATION: No change.

Meeting adjourned at 10:43 am.