



City of San Dimas
Public Works Department
Traffic Safety Committee

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016 at 9:30 A.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL
245 East Bonita Avenue, San Dimas

Committee Members Present: Krishna Patel (Director, Public Works Dept.), Shari Garwick (Senior Engineer, Public Works Dept.), John Campbell (Street Maintenance Superintendent, Public Works Dept.), Terry Gregory (Street Maintenance Supervisor, Public Works Dept.), Steven Barragan (Associate Engineer), Mark Miller (Traffic Engineer), Deputy David Timberlake (San Dimas Sheriff's Dept.), Debbie Grenier, (Principal/BUSD), Paul Thomas (BUSD), Rhonda Abangan (Administrative Secretary, Public Works Dept.)

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Chair Patel called to order at 9:36 a.m.

#03-16-01 WALNUT AVE (EKSTRAND ELEMENTARY)

REQUEST FROM BUSD/PARENT, to review and consider installation of handicap parking place in front of school on Walnut Ave.

DISCUSSION:

- Reviewed during field inspection and on GIS
- The request is from a parent and was directed to district to install a handicap parking space on Walnut Ave; BUSD Thomas received information from Ekstrand principal
- Chari Patel explained when a request type is received it is carefully analyzed and when it applies to a home, if it's feasible, it is then the owners responsibility to pay for the ADA improvements on the street. In this case, would the school district provide the funds for this request? Chair Patel added further, this area was reviewed during the field inspection and the Committee identified that a handicap passenger loading and unloading area is available on Walnut Ave located north of the bus drop off lane. This handicap loading/unloading area also has an ADA pathway leading into the school premises.
- In addition there are 2 additional handicap spaces on Juanita as well. Chair Patel observed now it is a case of making the parent(s) aware of passenger loading and unloading area and clarifying that handicap spots are not just a space rather they also have legitimate designated ADA paths of travel to Ekstrand campus.
- The requested ADA parking area would also need an ADA path of travel from the new parking space to the school facility which in itself appears to be problematic due to substantial grade differential between the street and school. Also the ADA parking space will also impact the drop-off and pick up area on Walnut which is already limited.
- BUSD Thomas stated that Ekstrand also has a request for a crossing guard for Walnut Avenue and what is the process.
- Chair Patel provided that a crossing guard study must be completed as directed by MUTCD. Technically it is the schools responsibility to fund study to confirm feasibility and is spelled out under the MUTCD. Based on past studies it's unlikely that a crossing is warranted.
- BUSD Grenier asked what if parents want to volunteer.
- Chair Patel noted who would insure and assumes the liability for the volunteers?
- SMS Campbell added it is a good time to have the school district look into the Safe Route to School and the federal guidelines the city/school districts must follow. Ideally the Safe Route to School should be completed for each school site prior to a crossing guard study.
- Chair Patel stated there are many grants out there available to fund Safe Route to School plans if funds are necessary.
- TE Miller advised not to send any volunteers out into a crosswalk with a stop sign as the school/district would incur a huge responsibility.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. BUSD to advise Ekstrand principal and parents aware of the existing handicap locations
2. No additional handicap spot will be installed on Walnut Ave as per the request

#03-16-02 W. GLADSTONE ST (between DALLAS RD AND AMELIA AVE)

REQUEST FROM RESIDENT, to review and consider installation of signage or lighting to effectively warn vehicles traveling westbound approaching residential driveways (north side Gladstone) to be cautious of ingress/egress of vehicles from the residential driveways.

DISCUSSION:

- Committee reviewed on site and on GIS/Google maps
- Resident Morehouse is primarily concerned with the near accident experiences from drivers on Gladstone. It is often times in the afternoon when the sun is in the face and the visibility is very low for the westbound driver. Further stated that he now sees eastbound traffic is backed up from San Dimas Ave. Believes drivers are having trouble to seeing the residents in time and perhaps it's the commuters not familiar with the houses. He has recorded information. He believes flashing warning lights or a signage indicating Watch Traffic coming out of the driveways could assist the driver. Something to highlight the driver who is traveling westbound at the crest of the Gladstone hill.
- Chair Patel stated a couple things come to mind in reviewing this time. Looking at the Google maps there is a lot of overgrown vegetation that needs to be cleared back. By City code nothing should be more than 42" high and this could help with the line of sight.
- TE Miller stated during the field review it was noted a Watch Downhill Speed Sign is already installed (close to 443 Gladstone). There could be additional signage to post however Gladstone is lined with driveways, how we select where to post.
- Resident Morehouse said it is these 3 houses that are in a different spot and you cannot see easily see the driveways. The other homes on Gladstone Street are street level and driveways are definitely easier to spot. It is the crest of Gladstone that impedes the line of sight.
- SMS Campbell stated the landscape is the thickest in this area if it opened up, it definitely open up the area immensely.
- Resident Morehouse is worried about the drivers driving westbound
- Chair Patel suggested that Mr. Morehouse consider entering his property thru the easterly driveway and exit out of west driveway thereby giving him more visibility for west bound vehicles.
- TE Miller we need to advise residents to clean up the frontage areas first and then maybe we can revisit the areas to evaluate the site distance for possible warning signage and ask for additional patrolling.
- Deputy Timberlake stated he would put in another request for additional patrolling today.
- Chair Patel confirmed to start progressive steps and monitoring; bring item back for review after landscape has been taken care of.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Notify residents to trim vegetation & landscape back at 443, 445 and 505 Gladstone Street
2. Revisit area at July TSC meeting – confirm if which signage (if any) can assist
3. Sheriff's Dept. to provide additional monitoring

#03-16-03 VALLEY CENTER AVE & CIENEGA AVE/COVINA BLVD

REQUEST FROM RESIDENT, to review Valley Center/Cienega Ave intersection for enhancements – lighting and/or more defined crosswalk striping and to review and consider crosswalk installation at Valley Center/Covina Blvd intersection.

DISCUSSION:

- Reviewed the intersection in the field and GIS/Google maps
- Field review determined that majority of both intersections are with the LA County jurisdiction. City's authority ends at easterly curb line.
- Advance stop signs could be beneficial on Cienega as advanced warning to the driver.
- Both intersections need to be reviewed and addressed by LA County for consistency. Staff will notify County of the traffic safety concerns for striping and lighting at these locations.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Staff to request LA County to review and examine both intersections
2. Staff to install 2 advance Stop signs on Cienega Blvd (westbound) and on Valley Center (northbound)

#03-16-04 CAMINO del CERRITOS & VIA VERDE

REQUEST FROM STAFF, to review perceived line of sight concern due to the equestrian fencing at southbound Camino del Cerritos at the request of Parks & Recreation department.

DISCUSSION:

- On site review of fencing and line of sight.
- Committee concurred installing right turn pocket will enhance this intersection rather than remove section of fencing. Dedicated right turn pocket will centralize the vehicles making right turn and opening the line of sight for vehicles exiting Camino del Cerritos. This striping plan has been successful in other locations.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Staff to install right turn pocket – standard lane (approximately 100')
2. Staff will request HOA to trim shrubs

#03-16-05 REVIEW OF TRAFFIC LOGS

REQUEST FROM STAFF, to review and update TSC logs.

DISCUSSION:

- Reviewed Traffic Safety Logs and updated

RECOMMENDATION:

Not applicable

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.