



**CITY OF HEMET**  
**Traffic and Parking Commission Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 11, 2004**  
**8:00 AM**

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

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 AM by Chairman Berry.

1. **ROLL CALL:** Chairman Don Berry; Chair pro tem Dan Walters; Commissioner Michael Asher; Commissioner Gareth Modica; Commissioner Roger Wellman; Planning Commissioner Jim Calkins, Council Member Roger Meadows .

**Members absent:** Roger Meadows

***Motion was made to excuse Council Member Meadows, seconded and carried 5-0.***

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mike Gow, Deputy Public Works Director; Streets Superintendent Richard Broos; Police Corporal D. Reinbolt; Building Technician Sara Retmier; Management Assistant Julee Heckermann; Commission Secretary Kris Cannon.

2. **FLAG SALUTE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Chairman Berry
3. **Approval of Minutes of July 14, 2004.**  
***Motion was made by Commissioner Walters to approve minutes, seconded by Commissioner Modica, and carried 5-0.***
4. **Report of Council Action on August 10, 2004.**  
Mike Gow reported that Council approved the Commissions recommendations. Commissioner Wellman requested a summary of the recommendations which Gow then reviewed.
5. **Request to Install “Not A Through Street” Sign on Barber Street**  
*(Leona Reid, Hemet )*  
Gow reported that staff did not have an objection to placing the requested sign, but also did not recommend it. Chairman Berry asked if Mrs. Reid was present and for any comments on her behalf. Mrs. Reid was not present. Discussion ensued about examples of the same type of request in other locations.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Wellman to approve placement of the “Not a Through Street” sign, seconded by Commissioner Modica, and carried 5-0.***

**6. Request to Change Street Name from Hyatt Street to Kali Boulevard**  
*(Patricia Herron, Herron and Rumansoff Architects, Inc)*

Gow reported that the street in question is a segment that shows on maps but has not been paved or improved. Gow Stated that Council has referred discussion of this item back to the Commission to get affirmation of Commission’s previous decision. Gow reported that requester had submitted two alternate names since the Commissions last decision, and staff was still waiting for MSG-911 and Post Office clearance on the alternates.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Wellman to place this item on a future agenda, seconded by Commissioner Walters and carried 5-0.***

***Commissioner Wellman motioned to add Suggested Routes to School to the agenda as an emergency item for discussion due start of school before next regular meeting of the Traffic and Parking Commission. Routes to Cawston Elementary and Santa Fe Middle School to be reviewed. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Modica , and carried 5-0.***

**Suggested Routes to School**

*(Sandy Packham -Hemet Unified School District)*

Gow reported new school at Cawston Street and Menlo Avenue would open in August and suggested routes to be used by school traffic and pedestrians. Gow suggested identifying different sides of street and defined locations for students to cross. Gow stated that proposal of an all way stop at Cawston Avenue and Devonshire Avenue is actually recommended by staff. Gow reported no students cross from east side of Sanderson Avenue to Cawston Avenue. Gow also reported that Hemet Unified School District (HUSD) would like to use Santa Fe Street on the Santa Fe Middle School campus as a bus drop off, but restrict public vehicle access. Identifying signage would be placed as follows: Date Street and Devonshire Avenue (south bound off Date) and at Devonshire/Santa Fe “Do Not Enter- Buses Only”; on northbound Santa Fe at Devonshire “Right Turn Only”; on westbound Devonshire at Santa Fe “Left Turn Only”.

Sandy Packham, Hemet Unified School District (HUSD), reported that Santa Fe Street improvements would be constructed as if for a city street with gates on each end.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Wellman to approve the suggested changes and commend HUSD. Commissioner Walters seconded the motion and it was carried 5-0.***

**7. Street Name Approval Tract No. 30969**

*(Sara Retmier, Building Technician, City Building Department )*

Gow reported that requested street names were adequate pending Commission approval. Commissioner Walters suggested replacing Kalpesh with alternate Bushnell. Developer spoke, requested use of Kalpesh to reflect diversity of the City. Reinbolt reported that the Police Department did not have any objection to the use of Kalpesh.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Modica to approve all street names,***

***including Kalpesh, seconded by Commissioner Wellman, and carried 4-1.***

**8. Street Name Approval Tract No. 30041 - Re-submittal of Additional Names**  
*(Sara Retmier, Building Technician, City Building Department)*

Gow reviewed concerns associated with use of long street names and restated the previous recommendation requesting that the developer demonstrate adequate letter spacing on standard sized City street signs. Per Gow, developer requested Commission approve additional street names to replace longer names in lieu of demonstrating sign spacing.

***Commissioner Walters moved to replace Fawnie with alternate Landmark; replace Kesterwood with alternate Fairhill; allow Building Department to determine the suffix of the streets; and approve the remaining street names. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Wellman, and carried 5-0.***

**9. Street Name Approval Tract No. 31146**

*(Sara Retmier, Building Technician, City Building Department)*

Commission recommendation per Commissioner Berry is to designate that Street "f" be named in continuance with Rose Road. Discussion ensued regarding changing Rose Road in its entirety, whether there was existing knowledge of a Rose family, and whether or not there are existing dwellings on Rose Road.

Sara Retmier reported changing the name of the road completely would require City coordination with Riverside County due to Rose Rd existing segment beyond City Limits.

Officer Reinhardt concurred with continued use of Rose Rd into the tract; stated he had no knowledge of a Rose family, and was only aware of one house on Rose Rd.

Gow requested that the Commission suggest an alternate street name for Rose Road in the event that it is changed so that they could be processed through MSG-911 and Post Office clearance.

Commissioner Walters suggested Celeste Rd and Skyward for Rose and remove Las Colinas.

***Commissioner Walters motioned to approve the tract names with the exception of the following: (a) Remove Las Colinas Circle (b) Remove Via Hamaca and replace with alternate Hope (c) Street "F" to continue as Rose Road or alternate Celeste or Skyward. Item to be brought back to future agenda for further discussion with regard to changing Rose Road in its entirety. Motion was seconded by Modica and carried 5-0.***

**10. Traffic Studies for Benchmark Pacific Tracts 31807 and 31808**

*(Ron Running, Planner, City Planning Department)*

Ron Running reported this tract is 657 units with approx 2/3 of the units age restricted on the eastern portion. There is a paseo system which divides between family and age restricted area. Running reviewed traffic study highlights including need for improvements at Warren Road/Stetson Avenue, traffic signal at Cawston Avenue/Mustang Way, and improvements of roads at subject site.

John Kain with Urban Crossroads reviewed table 1-1 and explained that current traffic conditions show existing signal currently warranted in study area.

Gow stated his concern that the study shows there is a need for improvements based on current conditions, prior to development. Gow affirmed that staff otherwise concurred with the improvement needs reported in the study findings, and stated some improvements have already been made. Gow clarified that the Commissions approval on this item would only be for tracts listed here and excluded the round about.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Walters to accept the traffic study, seconded by Commissioner Modica and carried 5-0.***

#### **11. Traffic Study for Tres Cerritos West Amendment of the Hemet Valley Club Estates**

*(Ron Running, Planner, City Planning Department)*

Gow defined and clarified properties boundaries up for discussion under this item.

Running explained this item is proposing ammendment to the Specific Plan. The development currently includes 710 dwelling units. Traffic study for development indicates street improvements needed to Rose Rd for ½ width from old Warren Road to new Myers, on Myers south from Rose Road to Devonshire Avenue, and on Devonshire from new Warren to old Warren.

Gow commented the area is prone to flooding and there is question as to whether ½ width will be enough in case of flooding. Gow stated the developer has responded to include additional 12 feet not currently shown on maps. Gow stated that looking at full study shows that is at adequate level of service but this did not include additional schools planned on the west side of Cawston, or impacts on other parts of the Specific Plan. Staff suggested improvements to Myers Road south to Florida Ave. Gow commented that area is a major drainage area and that major improvements are still needed.

Discussion ensued regarding increased traffic volume being placed on Myers Road and questions raised about absence of Devonshire being addressed as a through street in this traffic study. Running stated development agreement provides for approximately \$1900 fee on each dwelling unit, which will contribute to funding extension of Devonshire Avenue in that area. Estimated fee contribution is \$300,000 at the time that Devonshire will be improved.

Rudy Cabrera commented on importance of Myers and Devonshire be fully accessible to safety vehicles and due to little natural drainage, roads need improvements. Cabrera reported that traffic circulation in this area commuter traffic in morning and afternoon.

Discussion regarding timing on arterial street development, timing of Devonshire extension construction, and benefits of City work coordination with developing contractors. Gow commented that detailed engineering will include all weather access.

***Motion made by Commissioner Walters to accept study, seconded by Commissioner Asher, and carried 5-0.***

## **12. Redesign of the Southeast Corner of Latham/State**

Gow reported that this item was forwarded to the Commission from the Council who wanted Commission input. Gow stated that Edison pole undergrounding is slated for later this year. Discussion of option for dedicated right turn lane on State Street. Discussion of alternate option to leave signals and curbing, and create a dedicated sweeping lane from northbound State Street onto eastbound Latham Avenue. Gow stated this option would require right-of-way acquisition from RCTC. Discussion of yield signage and potential problems of sweeping right turn lane.

Officer Reinhardt commented that the Police Departments perspective would ask what would benefit traffic there. Reinhardt discussed speed issues related to both options including proximity of retail businesses, the intersection's pedestrian flow, and potential obstacles.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Modica to approve widening the corner by increasing the curb return radius, adding a dedicated right turn lane from north bound State Street to east bound Latham Avenue, and widening east bound Latham Avenue from State Street to Harvard Street. Motion seconded by Commissioner Walters and carried 5-0.***

## **13. Commission Process Review**

Commissioner Wellman opened discussion on potential for obtaining more information on development plans prior to offering recommendations to other commissions and Council. Wellman suggested identifying Commission's roll and responsibility relative to providing Planning Commission with traffic input. Wellman questioned whether to increase number of Traffic and Parking Commission meetings to two times per month. Gow stated staff will provide more development information to Commission with the objective to get appropriate development projects before the Commission. Gow did note that there are certain types of developments that do not go to commission or Council.

***Motion made by Commissioner Walters directing staff to work with Planning Commission to come up with a process that allows the Traffic and Parking Commission to look at issues in conjunction with Planning Commission and return item on a future agenda. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Wellman and carried 5-0.***

***Motion made by Commissioner Wellman to maintain one time per month Commission meeting, seconded by Commissioner Modica, and carried 5-0.***

## **14. Request For Discussion of Medians Along With a Description of the City's Funding Sources For Street Improvements and Traffic Issues.**

Gow reviewed what median project efforts the Commission has already reviewed and approved. Gow stated currently in early stages of process to consider placing medians on Sanderson between Acacia Avenue and Devonshire Avenue. Discussion ensued regarding focus on safety of medians and history of median installation along Florida Avenue. Gow reported that staff's perspective regarding medians is that adding them would improve safety. Gow further explained staff processes and permits necessary to get medians installed on Florida Avenue. Gow concluded with suggestion to the Commission that focus be placed on planned medians on Sanderson, south of Devonshire, as a first phase.

**15. Request to Evaluate Signal Phasing Times at Stetson and Sanderson Avenues.**  
*Motion was made by Commissioner Walters directing staff to increase left turn phasing to optimum level to move traffic from west bound Stetson on to southbound Sanderson Avenue and southbound Cawston Avenue. Motion seconded and carried 5-0.*

**16. Request For Discussion of the Process of Making State Highway 74 a City Street.**

Gow reported on the general conditions associated with Caltrans transferring a highway segment to a city. Gow commented on reasons City control of this segment of roadway would expedite the City's ability to make changes (e.g. no permits needed but additional funding would be needed for maintenance costs)

**17. Riverside County TIP update (No report)**  
*No discussion*

**18. Action Item List.**  
*No discussion*

**19. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**  
*No public comments.*

**20. Future Agenda Items.**

- 1. Request to Change street name Hyatt**  
*(Patricia Herron, Herron and Rumansoff Architects, Inc)*
- 2. Street Name Approval Tract No. 31146**  
*Discussion of Street "f" alternatives*
- 3. Commission Process Review**  
*Discuss coordination with Planning Commission*

**21. ADJOURNMENT:**

*Meeting was adjourned at 11:03 am.*

**Next meeting is scheduled for 8:00 AM, Wednesday, September 8, 2004, in City Council Chambers.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Kris Cannon**  
**Commission Secretary**