



CITY OF HEMET
Traffic and Parking Commission Minutes
Wednesday, October 13, 2004
8:00 AM

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

The meeting was called to order at 8:09AM 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: Council Member Roger Meadows

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Gow, Deputy Public Works Director; Streets Superintendent Richard Broos; Police Corporal R. Young; Watch Commander J. Nevarez; Management Assistant Julee Heckermann; Commission Secretary Kris Cannon.

2. **FLAG SALUTE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Chairman Berry
3. **Approval of Minutes of September 8, 2004.**
Motion made by Commissioner Walters to accept minutes, seconded by Commissioner Wellman, and carried 5-0.
4. **Request for Multi Way Stop at Lincoln/Orchard and Lincoln/Steiner and Speed Bumps on Lincoln between Orchard and Steiner (Gene Archer, Lincoln Ave)**
Gow reported that this item had initially been taken to Council and was referred to the Commission. The request is for installation of 3-way stop signs and speed bumps on Lincoln Avenue to slow speeding traffic. Gow reported that staff's recommendation was to not install stop signs or speed bumps. Gow further reported that traffic counts for the area do not warrant stop signs, and that speed bumps are not recommended for reasons regarding emergency vehicle access and increased potential for accidents.

Gene Archer, 5695 Lincoln Avenue, Hemet

Mr. Archer stated that there is a speeding problem on Lincoln Avenue and questioned the accuracy of measurement of the speed trailers. He further commented on an accident that occurred on Lincoln, and requested a 3-way stop at Orchard/Lincoln and a 3-way stop at

Steiner/Lincoln.

Randall Ward, 5715 Lincoln Avenue, Hemet

Mr. Ward commented on vehicle speeds and the safety of crossing Lincoln Avenue on foot.

Lee Archer, 5395 E. Lincoln Avenue, Hemet

Mr. Archer commented on the same issues.

Gow clarified the placement of speed trailers as deterrents, and explained that if a speed survey were to be conducted for the purpose of speed limit sign or stop sign installation, it would be conducted by personnel in unmarked vehicles. Gow further explained that a speed survey could potentially warrant posting a higher rate of speed on the street.

Corporal Young clarified the details of the accident that Mr. Lee Archer had commented on, and also explained the measuring capabilities of the speed trailers.

Discussion ensued regarding speed calming elements and the options for their use on Lincoln Avenue.

Commissioner Walters directed staff to research the cost of design for speed calming elements on Lincoln/Steiner and Lincoln/Orchard, and place speed trailers out to further appraise the situation in terms of other possible speed calming elements.

Commissioner Wellman reiterated that placement of speed trailers is only a deterrent for speeding vehicles. He further requested direction from the residents as to whether they wanted to have speed trailers placed as a deterrent, or have a legal survey conducted with the possible risk of increasing the speed limit.

Mr. Ward stated that stop signs are what is being requested.

Discussion ensued about prevalence of traffic flow on Lincoln Avenue.

Gow reiterated staff's concerns with the installation of stop signs, explained that guidelines for stop sign installation are set by the State of California, and discussed the potential of stop signs to increase the incident rate of rear-end accidents in low volume traffic areas. Gow reported on preliminary traffic counts in this area and explained that they did not meet guidelines set by the state for stop sign installation.

Discussion ensued regarding the general purpose, size, placement and effectiveness of bulbouts.

The Commission directed staff to place speed trailers on Lincoln between Steiner and Orchard, increase law enforcement presence in the area, and review the matter again at a future Commission meeting.

Commissioner Wellman further directed staff to assess the speeding situation on Lincoln and compare it with other areas in city to determine if speeding on Lincoln Avenue was

extraordinary or typical.

Discussion ensued regarding directional monitoring for placement of the speed trailers. Nevarez reported that the Police Department has two speed trailers available and that they will be placed to simultaneously monitor eastbound and westbound traffic on Lincoln Avenue, between Steiner Drive and Lake Street.

5. Request to Paint Double Yellow Center Line at Corner of Avon Place/Blackburn Street. (Ted Baca, 3033 Avon Place)

Gow presented a sketch of the area and explained that the item referred to a 90 degree turn in the development. He further stated that the type of striping requested was not complicated, but was non-existent anywhere else in the City. Gow stated that staff saw a lack of anticipated benefit and reported concerns about setting a precedent for striping in developments elsewhere. Gow reported staffs recommendation is to not install double yellow lines and stated that striping within tracks and subdivisions is not installed due to low level of travel.

Commissioner Berry stated that he had spoken with Mr. Baca and that Mr. Baca had reported motorists were cutting across the street in order to make the left turn at the corner.

Ted Baca, 3033 Avon Place, Hemet 92545

Mr. Baca stated that cars coming from Avon Place to Blackburn Street are hugging the curb on left-hand side at a point where children cross the street. Mr. Baca also stated there have been occasions that he has had to slow down in his vehicle to avoid head-on collisions. Mr. Baca reported that there are many children in the area that cross the street most heavily around 7:00a.m.

Gow reported that staff predicted any motorist who ignores speed and safety would be unaffected by the stripes, but that painting the stripes would allow motorists to be sited more often.

Discussion ensued regarding signs posted in the area, other traffic calming features, and potentially setting precedents within the City.

Corporal Young concurred with staff's earlier prediction that the likely hood of offenders obeying the striping would probably be low. Young suggested getting a count of the number of cars that come across on to the wrong side of road before painting the double yellow lines.

Commissioner Wellman moved that the Commission, City and Police Department undertake a study to research what is being done in other cities to identify and implement effective traffic calming techniques and return item to a future agenda. Motion seconded by Modica and carried 5-0.

Commissioner Walters motioned to direct staff to conduct a traffic count at the corner, install double yellow lines at the corner, and then conduct a second traffic count with all data to be returned to a future meeting. Motion seconded by Modica, and carried 5-0.

6. Request to Paint Red Curb in front of 991 Marion Avenue (James Navarro, 991 Marion Ave)

Gow reported the background on this request to be that neighbors are parking in front of the requester's house, affecting weekly street sweeping services. Gow informed the Commission that Marion is a public street, and that there were no ordinances that justified red curbing for the reason requested. Gow further reported that other options were available to remedy the problem.

Commissioner Berry reported meeting with Mr. Navarro and stated that blocked visibility and street sweeping prevention were being caused by the parked cars.

The Commission directed staff to research installation of red curbing to prevent parking on corners and return it to a future agenda.

**7. Request to Install Speed Bumps along Creekside Dr
(Residents, Creekside)**

Gow reported the location related to this item and stated that some of the streets in the development will be extended with new development. Staff recommendation is to not install speed bumps. Gow suggested offering additional law enforcement for the area.

Commissioner Berry stated that he had toured the area in question and stated that the speeding problem exists only when school is not in session.

Commissioner Walters inquired if the Police Department recognized street names in the area as being associated with tickets or accidents. Officer Young reported that he was not aware of collisions related to that area and that it was not a main thoroughfare.

Commissioner Walters directed staff to provide the exact cost of a radar speed trailer to the Commission at a future meeting.

Commissioner Wellman moved to accept staff's recommendation to not install speed bumps along Creekside Drive. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Walters and carried 5-0.

**8. Request to Install Speed Bumps and Stop Signs on Mustang Way
(Mindy Holcomb, 4334 Brookside Dr)**

Gow reported that Mustang Way is a five-lane secondary highway that extends from Sanderson Avenue to Warren Road. Staff recommendation is to not install speed bumps or stop signs on Mustang Way. Gow further explained that speed bumps are not recommended on internal streets, and would be more highly opposed on a five-lane highway.

Planning Commissioner Calkins stated that there would be a possibility of changes later with the development of Lennar Homes and Rancho Diamonte. Gow concurred that future growth may warrant a stop sign, but currently warrants have not been met.

Commissioner Walters moved to accept staff recommendation to not install speed bumps and stop signs on Mustang Way. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wellman, and carried 5-0.

9. Install "No Parking" Signs Along North Side of Thornton, West of Sanderson

Gow informed the Commission that this item referred specifically to restricting parking on the north side of Thornton Avenue along the Page Plaza property.

Sue Fox, 3800 W. Thornton Avenue, Hemet

Mrs. Fox stated that residents had previously requested speed limit sign installation, which had not yet occurred. Mrs. Fox then read a letter from the residents stating concerns about commercial traffic from Page Plaza, and requesting "resident parking only" signs on both sides of Thornton between Sanderson Avenue and Cawston Avenue.

Discussion ensued regarding various alternatives for parking restrictions. Gow restated that staff intent is to restrict parking on the north side of Thornton Avenue along the Page Plaza property only.

The Commission approved, in concept, resident only parking along other areas of Thornton, with Police Department and Engineering Department approval, and enforcement of the parking.

Motion made by Commissioner Walters approving staff recommendation to restrict parking along the Page Plaza development on the north side of Thornton Avenue. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wellman and carried 5-0

The Commission further directed staff to explore available resident only parking options including a study of the cost of permitting and/or sticker system and return the item to a future agenda.

10. Lighted Crosswalks

Gow reviewed a brochure for lighted crosswalks and discussed the costs and technology of the crosswalks. Gow stated that the City has the authorization and provision to require developers to provide the improvements that the City chooses.

Commissioner Calkins suggested a review of currently established development fees prior to adding a crosswalk requirement.

Commissioner Wellman was excused at 10:03a.m.

Commissioner Modica was excused at 10:05a.m.

Discussion ensued regarding the potential of lighted crosswalks causing accidents, as well as the potential elimination of crosswalks at uncontrolled intersections.

The Commission directed staff to return Crosswalk at Juanita Street and Florida Avenue as a discussion item on a future agenda.

11. 2004 Traffic Commissioners Workshop - Informational

Staff informed Commission of upcoming workshop on November 6, 2004.

12. Riverside County TIP Update

Gow updated the Commission regarding the road closure of Gilman Hot Springs Road and the start of construction on the extension of Domenigoni Parkway. Gow will provide a map of the Domenigoni Parkway alignment at a future meeting.

Gow reported on Acacia Street/Sanderson Avenue construction.

Gow reported on the signal and corner work to be done at Kirby Street/Florida Avenue and on the approval status for dedicated left turn phasing.

13. Action Item List.

Commissioner Walters inquired about repainting and/or installing reflectors at the eastbound right turn lane at Park Avenue an Stanford Street.

Commission directed staff to repaint eastbound right turn lane on Park Avenue at Stanford Street.

Discussion of future improvements on Cawston Avenue, north of Menlo Avenue.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No comments

15. Future Agenda Items.

- A. *Speed Trailer - Cost Information*
- B. *Traffic Calming - Effective Methods*
- C. *Crosswalk at Juanita Street and Florida Avenue*
- D. *Domenigoni Parkway Alignment - Map*
- E. *Permitted Parking - Residential*

16. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am. Next meeting is scheduled for 8:00 AM, Wednesday, November 10, in City Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kris Cannon
Commission Secretary**