



TRAFFIC SAFETY AND PARKING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, November 6, 2013 - 7:00 pm

San Bruno City Hall
567 El Camino Real
San Bruno, CA 94066

MINUTES

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS -

A. ROLL CALL

<u>TSPC Members:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Jessica Barnes-Lopez (Chair)	X	
Mark Howard (Vice-Chair)	X	
Eric Wood	X	
Tom Hamilton	X	
Tim Ross	X	

Staff in Attendance:

Tina Tseng, Public Services Department
Joseph Cervantes, Public Services Department
Eunejune Kim, Public Services Department
Tim Mahon, Police Department

Public in Attendance Total: 20

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA

Mark Howard made a motion to move Item 5B and then 5A to the beginning of the agenda. Second by Tom Hamilton. (M/Howard, S/Hamilton: 4-0-0) Approved. (Jessica Barnes-Lopez not present for voting).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the October 2, 2013 meeting minutes made by Mark Howard, second by Tom Hamilton. (M/Howard, S/Hamilton: 5-0-0) Approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

5. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. Receive Report Regarding Traffic Speeding on Cedar Avenue between Jenevein Avenue and Niles Avenue

Tina Tseng stated this item was brought forward by Roger Moore, a resident on Cedar Avenue who is concerned about speeding on his street. He collected signatures from 27 residents in his neighborhood who are also concerned about speeding during school drop off and pick up hours. He requested speed bumps be installed, or have a portable speed radar placed on Cedar Avenue. As he was unable to attend tonight's meeting, Roger came to the Engineering counter to state he felt the traffic counts collected did not accurately reflect the speeding pattern on Cedar, as he felt the speed was higher at the top of Cedar and the data was collected about 1/3 of the way down Cedar at Niles.

Tina Tseng stated City staff conducted a field review and arranged to collect 24-hour speed data on Cedar Avenue between Jenevein Avenue and Niles Avenue and that the data shows that most of the traffic occurs during morning drop off and afternoon pick up times.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPENED

Judith Fontana, 460 Cedar Avenue, stated she has to pull her car onto the street in order to leave her home, as she cannot leave her driveway during high traffic school drop-off and pick-up times at Parkside Intermediate School. The traffic has gotten worse since 6th grade was added and she feels it is created by the school district's poor circulation plan during peak times. Parents block driveways and double park to drop off or pick up their children.

Tim Mahon stated City staff has met with the school district a number of times on this issue and both the school district and the City are working on solutions. The school district has hired architects and are designing a new drop-off and pick-up lane, as well as another drop-off and pick-up lane next to the gym, and building a new parking lot below the school so staff can park there and not utilize on street parking. San Bruno is growing at a very rapid rate and the traffic volume is not going to change, so we are trying to create options to mitigate this.

Judith Fontana said the school district created this problem, so they need to correct it. They should be attending meetings.

Tim Mahon stated the school district is well aware of the problem and they are working with the City on it. There is just too much traffic volume.

Judith Fontana stated residents should be notified when any construction at Parkside begins.

Tina Tseng stated the school district is trying to work with the City on this issue. Residents will be notified when there is construction planned.

Tom Lynch, 480 Cedar Avenue, stated he has lived on Cedar for 34 years and the traffic and speeding have increased since Parkside added 6th grade to the student population. Most of the speeding vehicles are usually large sized. One day of traffic counts probably does not give an accurate number of the amount of speeding taking place. Speed bumps are not the answer; solar powered flashing speed signs and cameras should be installed.

Tim Mahon stated cameras cannot be installed, due to litigation and cost issues. There are no known neighborhoods in California that have speed cameras installed.

Tom Lynch asked where the counts were taken. A count taken at different locations on various days may give a more accurate count.

Tina Tseng responded the traffic counts were taken at 429 Cedar.

Judith Fontana asked about the installation of fog lines on Cedar.

Mark Howard responded that Cedar is not wide enough, as there has to be enough width for two-way traffic as well as parked vehicles to install fog lines.

Judith Fontana stated she is against the installation of speed bumps.

Tom Lynch stated his concern is that vehicles may not see the staff recommended pavement markings, because traffic is so heavy.

Mark Howard responded that the proposed improvements to the school drop off and pick up areas should assist in easing traffic congestion near the school.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD CLOSED

Mark Howard made a motion to approve the staff recommendation to install “25 mph” speed limit pavement markings on the street going each direction and to request additional visible enforcement during weekday peak traffic hours of 7–9 am and 3-7 pm as available. Second by Tom Hamilton. (M/Howard, S/Hamilton: 5-0-0) Approved.

B. Receive Report Regarding Traffic Speeding on Courtland Drive between Crestmoor High School and Whitman Way

Tina Tseng stated this item was brought forward by a Courtland Drive resident who is concerned about speeding and driver violations at the stop sign at the bottom of Whitman Way. Courtland Drive is a short local roadway that starts at the former Crestmoor High School site, which is at a higher elevation, and then slopes down to Whitman Way. City staff collected a 24-hour traffic volume and speed count last Wednesday and based on the findings, the median speed was 25 mph and 85% of the motorists were going 30 mph. This shows the majority of drivers are following the speed limit. There currently are speed limit signs and pavement markings noting the speed limit on the street. The noted stop sign has a northeast curve in the roadway before approaching the stop sign, so staff is proposing installation of a “stop ahead” sign on the northwest corner because of the characteristic of the roadway.

Tina Tseng stated she received three phone calls from residents regarding this issue:

Barbara, resident at 341 Courtland Drive, voiced concern about speeding during peak school hours in the morning and afternoon.

A resident on the corner of Rosewood and Courtland voiced concern about speeding on southbound Courtland coming from Whitman Way. She feels exiting her driveway is dangerous.

Mary, no address given, stated some of the speeding is occurring during weekends, especially with soccer events at the Crestmoor School site.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPENED

David Umbertus, 400 Courtland Drive, stated he has seen two accidents on his street and that he and his wife have almost been hit going into their driveway. It is also too hard to back out of their driveway because of speeding. There is speeding on the weekends from soccer games. Stop signs don't work, as drivers go right through them.

Julius Domotor, 381 Courtland Drive, stated he has seen numerous accidents on his street in the 45 years he has lived on Courtland Drive. The main problem is students speeding and the traffic congestion on the weekends.

Henry Jefferson, 360 Courtland Drive, stated one of the main problems is rolling stops on every corner of Courtland. Installation of a stop sign might help slow people down. Drivers do not show respect.

Ralph Escalante, 300 Courtland Drive, stated the drivers speed down the hill and it is especially bad at night. The drivers going to soccer games on the weekends are driving very fast.

Ursula Hackenburg and Markus Hackenburg, 306 Courtland and 2330 Whitman Way, stated no one stops at the stop signs. Speed bumps do work if they are installed effectively and would be a good solution.

Rich Mendonca, 380 Courtland Drive, stated he is a 40 year resident and one of the main problems on Courtland is that drivers travel on the wrong side of the road. "Caution, children at play" painted onto the road may be a solution.

William Baldwin, 371 Courtland Drive, stated he is a 5 year resident and is in law enforcement. In front of John Muir School there was a driver going about 80 miles an hour, talking on his cell phone, and another vehicle failed to yield and flipped over. The first driver drove into his truck. There needs to be more enforcement until there is a solution that works. Saturdays, Tuesdays and Fridays are key days because students from the continuation school get out early, especially Fridays from 11 am to 3 pm. Weekends are worse from 9 am to 4:30 pm during soccer season.

Tracy Harcourt, 336 Courtland Drive, stated the residents that live on Piedmont are also speeding. Residents from Shelter Creek are also parking on Courtland, making it difficult to park. The speeding makes it unsafe for pets and children. Speed dots might help.

Michael Angelich, 321 Courtland Drive, stated the parents of the soccer players are very disrespectful and driving too fast. All the drivers are on their cell phones. The main problem is on the weekend.

Alessio Pavone, 315 Courtland Drive, stated he is a 15 year resident and he feels the solution is making the street one way going up Courtland. He has to be very careful backing out of his driveway because of speeding.

Norma Quickert, Courtland Drive, stated the soccer parents are a major cause of speeding.

Mark Howard stated the solution will come from a combination of enforcement from the Police Department, education of the residents and drivers, and with traffic calming solutions from the City's Engineering Division. Courtland Drive is a collector street, so rumble strips are not going to be a solution, as they are too loud for residents. Speed bumps are not an option for a collector street, which means that due to its width and location, it is supposed to collect traffic from the neighboring streets as a thoroughfare. The traffic count shows only 4 people traveling at excessive speed in 24 hours. One suggestion would be installing fog lines, which would create a visual narrowing of the road and can slow drivers down. It is also cost effective and does not create noise issues or interfere with fire vehicle access. Another option that has good success is the installation of signage like "please drive like your kids live in this neighborhood".

Henry Jefferson stated placing a staged officer on the street may be a speeding deterrent.

William Baldwin recommended a portable speed sign be installed. He asked about temporary speed bumps.

Mark Howard responded that Courtland is too wide of a street and has too much volume for speed bumps.

David Umbertus asked what defines a collector street.

Tom Hamilton responded that there are three types of streets. A collector street is defined by the width, volume and traffic flow. They are designed to move cars from one neighborhood to another.

Jessica Barnes-Lopez stated the goal is to appease the majority of residents. This issue cannot be solved today, but the Committee will make suggestions to assist with the problem.

Mark Howard stated the City does evaluate City streets every 5-10 years to assess effectiveness. Out of 826 cars traveling on Courtland during the peak hours, only 4 were going over the speed limit. Enforcement is important, but signage can also help educate drivers, as well as fog lines to slow drivers down.

Julius Domotor asked what day this speed study was done.

Tina Tseng stated this was taken on a Wednesday.

Julius Domotor stated the school district is also part of the problem, as the school buses also use Courtland a lot.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD CLOSED

Mark Howard made a motion to accept the staff recommendation to install "STOP AHEAD" at the northwest corner of Courtland Drive and Rosewood Drive facing northbound traffic and request the Police Department schedule routine visible speed/traffic enforcement as available during peak hours. Second by Tom Hamilton. (M/Howard, S/Hamilton: 5-0-0) Approved.

Mark Howard made a motion for City staff to evaluate the feasibility of installation of box dots on the center line in the areas of concern on Courtland Drive; evaluate the feasibility of the installation of fog lines along the length of Courtland from Whitman to the school entrance; installation of "children at play" signs; contact AYSO to notify parents of the required driving behavior on Courtland during the soccer season; increase enforcement during the beginning of the next AYSO soccer season; and that City staff gather traffic accident data before the next soccer season. Second by Tom Hamilton. (M/Howard, S/Hamilton: 5-0-0) Approved.

Tim Ross asked if the Police Department can place the speed radar on Courtland Drive on one of the next two Saturdays. Tim Mahon agreed that it could be done.

Norma Quickert asked if it is possible to place "stop ahead" signs by the soccer field. There is a stop sign there that drivers rarely stop at. Mark Howard responded that the property belongs to the school district, so they are responsible for changes to their property. Residents can contact them to make a request.

Jessica Barnes-Lopez asked if City staff can contact the school district about this.

Tina Tseng concurred.

William Baldwin asked if enforcement on school district property is performed by the City. Tim Mahon confirmed that the City is responsible for enforcement on school district property in San Bruno.

6. REPORT OF COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

None

7. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None

8. COMMENTS FROM STAFF

City Engineer Eunejune Kim introduced Joseph Cervantes as the new staff liaison to the Traffic Safety and Parking Committee, as tonight is Tina Tseng's last meeting. The Committee thanked Tina for all her hard work and welcomed Joseph.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the Traffic Safety and Parking Committee (TSPC) meeting until its next regular scheduled meeting on December 4, 2013 at 7 p.m. (M/Hamilton, S/Ross): 5-0-0 - Approved. Meeting Adjourned, 8:28 pm.