



## TRAFFIC SAFETY AND PARKING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017 - 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>
Tom Hamilton (Chair)	X	
Jessica Barnes-Lopez (Vice-Chair)	X	
Mark Howard	X	

#### Staff in Attendance:

David Wong, Public Services Department  
Michael Blundell, Police Department

Public in Attendance Total: 20

### 2. REVIEW OF AGENDA

Mark Howard made a motion to hear Item 5 first. Second by Tom Hamilton. (M/Howard, S/Hamilton: 3-0-0) Approved.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the April 5, 2017 meeting minutes made by Mark Howard. Second by Tom Hamilton. (M/Howard, S/Hamilton: 3-0-0) Approved.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

### 5. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Reconsideration of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon Installations adjacent to the Parkside Intermediate School and Portola Elementary School

David Wong stated on February 1, 2017, staff brought this item to the Traffic Safety and Parking Committee (TSPC) to review and consider the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) adjacent to Parkside Intermediate School and Portola Elementary by the San Bruno Community Foundation (SBCF). The main pedestrian routes taken by children attending Portola

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Elementary and Parkside Intermediate School require children to walk across uncontrolled crossings. Installation of RRFBs at these locations would enhanced the safety of children utilizing these crossings by increasing motorist awareness of potential pedestrian conflicts.

David Wong stated the general consensus from the TSPC was that while RRFBs are an effective pedestrian safety measure, RRFBs should be reserved for locations with either significant pedestrian volumes or a history of pedestrian/vehicular accidents due to the cost to furnish and install these units. Due to pedestrian counts not being available in time for the previous meeting, no recommendation was made by the TSPC regarding the installation of flashing beacons at Parkside Intermediate and Portola Elementary. Pedestrian volume counts have since been completed and with this additional information the SBCF is requesting that the TSPC approve and provide input regarding the installation of RRFBs at these two schools.

David Wong reviewed the existing street conditions, traffic collision history, pedestrian traffic counts, and the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon evaluations with the Committee for Portola and Parkside schools. Staff is requesting that the TSPC approve the installation of the RRFBs by the SBCF to enhance pedestrian safety due to heavy pedestrian and vehicular traffic during school pick-up and drop-off hours.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPENED**

Cecil de Leon, Windsor Court, stated there is a lot of foot traffic on Portola but parents are hesitant to let children cross the street because of the adjacent hill, the parked cars blocking visibility and speeding cars.

Katie Christie, Redwood Avenue, stated the flashing beacons would be helpful. There are no stop signs at key intersections and dropping kids off in the street is dangerous. There are more kids coming to Parkside with the addition of 6<sup>th</sup> graders, so the flashing beacons are necessary.

Michele Lynch, Crestmoor Drive, stated drivers cannot see students crossing between parked cars. There is a lot of traffic coming and going during drop off and pick up so the beacons would be a good thing to have.

Marty Medina, Garden Avenue, stated he watched the drop off and pick up at Parkside one day and there are parents dropping kids off in the middle of the street. The beacons would be a good addition for the safety of the kids.

Virginia Chu, Marbella Way, stated her children go to both Portola and Parkside. She goes to both schools early to avoid the traffic congestion. It is very dangerous. The beacons would be good.

Leona Wong, Dundee Drive, stated she is the PTA president for Portola School and she stated traffic and parking lot safety has been an ongoing issue. They have tried many ways to address this, with parents volunteering to direct traffic and placing cones in the parking lot. They are in support of installing these beacons.

Mark Howard asked if landscaping changes have been addressed with the school district.

Leona Wong stated this has been discussed with the school as well as other recommendations, but these ideas must be approved by the district and funded.

Carrie Dees, Principal of Parkside School, stated she sees the coming and going of 830 students per day. Most go on Niles Avenue and there have been many near accidents during the drop off and pick

up. There are also a lot of families using the school on the weekends for sports and the beacons would increase safety for them as well. The school is working to develop a traffic committee with the parents and reviewing possible improvements. We are in support of the installation of the beacons.

Ashish Chaudhary, Marysville Drive, stated his son attends Portola and there are blind spots near the hill that are dangerous for crossing. The flashing beacons would help this problem.

Loraine Liebling, Marysville Drive, stated she is supporting the Portola PTA's request to install the flashing beacons.

Daniel Mitsunaga, Concord Drive, stated he volunteers for traffic safety at Portola. He would love to see speed bumps installed, but flashing beacons are a good addition.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD CLOSED**

Tom Hamilton asked if the flashing beacons installation would also include curb ramps. David Wong replied that he would have to check with the SBCF to see if they would include this in their proposal.

Mark Howard asked about the cost reduction for the installation of the beacons from the previous quote of \$100,000 to \$50,000. David Wong responded that it depends on the type of beacons installed.

Jessica Barnes-Lopez asked about the visibility of the beacons if the crosswalk is not visible. Something more should be done if there is a crosswalk near a hill that does not have good visibility. White curbing should be considered. David Wong stated the beacons being proposed for installation are not in the street. The existing paddles will be removed.

Tom Hamilton stated this is a good starting point; both schools can be reviewed for further improvements.

Mark Howard made a motion to accept the staff recommendation and review the installation of white curbing for the pick-up and drop-off locations and review the installation of curb ramps in addition to the flashing beacons at the proposed locations. Second by Jessica Barnes-Lopez. (M/Howard, S/Barnes-Lopez: 3-0-0) Approved.

### **B. Request for No Overnight Parking within the Parking Lot Adjoining Belle Air Elementary School**

David Wong stated staff from the San Bruno Park School District (SBPSD) have expressed interest in reducing parking congestion within the parking lot adjoining Belle Air Elementary School during morning drop off and afternoon pick up. This site serves not only elementary students of Grades K through 5 but also functions as one of the sites for the SBPSD pre-school program. Current student enrollment at the school is composed of 294 elementary school students and 102 preschoolers. Except for an afternoon class of 30 preschoolers, the remaining students all arrive around the time that instruction begins at about 8:15 AM. Additionally, the 56 kindergarten students and all preschooler students are not allowed to be dropped off at the entrance of the school and are required to be walked in to their respective classroom by their parent/guardians.

David Wong stated the parking lot adjoining Belle Air Elementary School is signed for 15 minute parking only during the weekday hours of 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM and 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM to facilitate the morning drop off and afternoon pick up. These parking restrictions were intended to facilitate both student drop off / pick up while still allowing the nearby residents to utilize the parking lot for overflow parking when not required by the school. However, staff from Belle Air Elementary have reported that the vehicles being parked overnight are continually not adhering to the posted parking restrictions and

remain parked during student drop off/pick up hours. Due to this inconsiderate behavior and to ensure that more parking is available during school drop off/pick up, school staff is requesting that parking restrictions be implemented within the parking lot to restrict overnight parking.

David Wong reviewed the existing street conditions, land surveying results and parking survey results with the Committee. Staff recommends that the TSPC request active enforcement of the existing parking restrictions and for parking surveys to be conducted in six months to determine if residents are in compliance with the posted restrictions.

Mark Howard stated if the signage is already posted then why is enforcement an issue? Michael Blundell responded that previously there was some confusion as to who is responsible for the Belle Air parking lot, the City or the school district. Police staff met with David Wong to clarify which spots are enforceable by the Police Department.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPENED**

Michael Rothhammer, 450 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, stated he supports the proposal. A significant number of residents park their cars there and do not move them in time for drop off in the morning. Citing cars makes things better for a while and then the cars come back. It seems hard to enforce. There are a lot of families that need to park their cars and walk the children in.

Stephen Seymour, Mastick Avenue, stated he observed the Belle Air School parking lot traffic flow for a day and recommends closing the lot at night. Parents are rushing through crosswalks. Making the schools safer is a priority.

Michelle Ham, 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated she is teacher at Belle Air and a resident on 5<sup>th</sup>. There is a gate at 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue that go to the school and more enforcement is needed. There is lots of traffic on these streets that should be going to the front of the school for drop off.

Marty Medina, Garden Avenue, stated there should be utilized parking that ends at 7 am and is enforced so that the parking spaces are available when school starts.

Waylon Feng, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, asked for clarification on the recommendation. David Wong responded that if there is an approved overnight restriction, it would apply to the entire parking lot.

Michael Rothhammer stated the enforcement needs to be changed so that an improvement is seen.

David Wong stated one resident called in that she is not in favor of overnight parking restriction.

Waylon Feng stated noticing residents to remind them of the requirements might be helpful.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD CLOSED**

Tom Hamilton clarified there is currently not signage that restricts overnight parking. David Wong confirmed this.

Mark Howard stated there should be increased enforcement and a review of the existing parking limit hours to see if extending the hours will help with enforcement. Changing signs could be expensive so a six month evaluation of enforcement results could be a reasonable solution.

Tom Hamilton asked if there are parking enforcement officers are available to increase enforcement. Michael Blundell replied there are.

Tom Hamilton made a motion to accept the staff recommendation to request active enforcement of the existing parking restrictions and for parking surveys to be conducted in six months to determine if residents are in compliance with the posted restrictions. Second by Jessica Barnes-Lopez. (M/Howard, S/Barnes-Lopez: 3-0-0) Approved.

**6. REPORT OF COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

None

**7. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Tom Hamilton stated the bot dots between Junipero Serra County Park and Crystal Springs that were discussed a few months ago are still not installed; is there an update? David Wong stated there is a contract with a striping firm that will be finalized in June and they will be installing them.

**8. COMMENTS FROM STAFF**

Michael Blundell stated there will be a couple of upcoming DUI check points performed by the Police Department.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: To adjourn the Traffic Safety and Parking Committee (TSPC) meeting until its next regular scheduled meeting on June 7, 2017 at 7 p.m. (M/Howard, S/Hamilton): 3-0-0 - Approved. Meeting adjourned, 8:15 pm.