



CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

AGENDA REPORT

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL
FROM: Daniel E. Cort, Mayor
MEETING DATE: July 16, 2008
SUBJECT: **CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY OF MONTEREY COUNTY (TAMC) BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
CEQA STATUS This item does not constitute a "Project" as defined by CEQA.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the appointment of Jan Roehl Transportation Agency of Monterey County (TAMC) Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee.

DISCUSSION:

Based on a recommendation from the Traffic Safety Commission, I am recommending that Jan Roehl be appointed at the alternate to Henry Leinen.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Daniel E. Cort
Mayor



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AGENDA REPORT

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL
FROM: Police Chief Darius E. Engles
MEETING DATE: January 16, 2008
SUBJECT: Minutes of the November 13, 2007 – Traffic Commission

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive.

DISCUSSION:

Receive the minutes of the regularly scheduled Traffic Commission meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

ATTACHMENTS:

Minutes of the Traffic Commission – October 9, 2007 (4 pages)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Darius E. Engles

Darius E. Engles
POLICE CHIEF

REVIEWED BY:

James J. Colangelo
CITY MANAGER

City of Pacific Grove
Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes of Meeting – NOVEMBER 13, 2007

Present: Shayne, Besag, Roehl, Terry, Garcia & Leinen
Staff: Chief Engles, Commander Nyunt, & Verwold
Others: Linda Williams, Principal Robert Down School
Absent: 1 vacant position

The Traffic Commission meeting was recorded. Recordings are kept at the Police Department for review. Recordings are kept for a period of ninety days following the meeting.

1. **The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Shayne at 4:00 pm.**
2. **Oral Communications:**
None
3. **Minutes of meeting held October 9, 2007.**

MOTION was made by Carmelita Garcia and seconded by Henry Leinen to approve the minutes as written. MOTION passed unanimously.

4. **Commission and Staff Announcements:**

Commissioner Garcia announced that she would be leaving @ 5:20 p.m. because of a prior commitment. She also announced that a Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held at 6:00 pm this evening in the Police Department conference room.

Malcolm Knisely noted that for this months meeting he had e-mailed the entire November Commission meeting packet (PDF) to the Commissioners as well as mailing them a hard copy. He inquired what the Commissioners would prefer for future meeting mail outs. A discussion followed and it was decided to send them out in PDF format via e-mail. Also, if any Commissioner would like a hard copy, he or she should request one from Malcolm and it will be at the front counter of the Police Department for pick-up.

5. **Correspondence:**

Malcolm Knisely reported the City received a letter requesting that the red curb on the south side of Lighthouse Avenue west of Alder Street be painted out. This is an "old bus stop" that is not being used anymore. Malcolm stated that the City is going to contact MST to determine if there are anymore abandoned bus stops with red zones. The Traffic Commission was informed by Robert Verwold that MST will remove the red paint and posts in regards to abandoned bus stops as requested by the City.

6. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Forrest Hill Manor Construction – Update by Staff

Chief Engles reported that very few complaints/requests have been received considering the magnitude of this project.

B. Discuss a request from Ms. Linda Williams, Principal, Robert Down School – The School is concerned about safety issues in the vicinity of 12th Street and Spruce Avenue and would like to discuss their concerns (Continued from previous meeting)

Malcolm explained the study that was taken and how the traffic counts and warrants determined that installing a stop sign on Spruce Avenue east of 12th Street for westbound traffic was warranted and recommended in the Staff Report.

Staff also recommended that two crosswalks be painted at the intersection of Spruce Avenue at 12th Street. One across 12th Street north of Spruce Avenue and one across Spruce Avenue east of 12th Street. Staff also recommended that the curbing around the radius on the north west corner of Spruce Ave and 12th Street be painted red.

Chief Engles also reported that the City would like to request that the School District, if bond money is available, that consideration be given to traffic improvement projects in conjunction with school district improvement projects involving school buildings and sites. This could include better access points, pick-up and drop-off locations, enlarging vehicle parking areas, etc.

Malcolm also informed the Commission that he just completed a Safe Route to School (SR2S) grant application for the modification of the existing traffic signals at the intersection of Forest Avenue and Pine Avenue. Forest Avenue and Pine Avenue are major walking routes for students from Robert Down and PG Middle Schools. The modification would update the entire signal system to include full pedestrian signals on all approaches and full vehicle detection.

Commissioner Terry also noted that there was a vision obstruction (large bush) at the north east corner of the intersection of Spruce Ave & 12th St. Robert Verwold said that Public Works will check it out.

MOTION was made by Henry Leinen and seconded by Carmelita Garcia to approve the recommendations as listed in the staff report:

- 1. Staff to prepare a report and resolution for City Council consideration and approval to authorize the installation of a stop sign for westbound traffic on Spruce Avenue east of 12th Street.**
- 2. Install a yellow crosswalk across 12th Street north of Spruce Avenue**
- 3. Install a yellow crosswalk across Spruce Avenue east of 12th Street.**
- 4. Paint the curb red at the radius on the northwest corner of Spruce Avenue & 12th Street.**

MOTION passed unanimously

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discuss a request to improve pedestrian safety on the streets surrounding the Gateway Center.

A request was received from Commissioner George Shayne regarding the pedestrian activity on streets surrounding the Gateway Center. Residents from the Center use these streets to go for daily walks in the neighborhood. Most of the residents of the Center appear to be physically disabled, some in wheelchairs, etc.

The Staff report indicates that Rosemont Avenue between Congress Avenue and Cedar Street and Cedar Street between Rosemont Avenue and Sunset Avenue are both narrow streets with roll type curbing on portions of these streets which encourage vehicles to park on the sidewalk. Portions of Cedar Street have no sidewalk, just weeds and dirt. It is not legal to park on the sidewalk but because of the narrowness of the streets, drivers park on the sidewalk to allow vehicles to pass by, etc. In addition, property owners place garbage containers on the

sidewalk, utility poles are located in sidewalk areas and vehicles parked in driveways overhang the sidewalk. Most of these obstructions, if not all of them, require that pedestrians walk in the street. Staff also explained that it took approximately five (5) years for the City to improve Congress Avenue from Sunset Avenue to Sinex Avenue to remove conditions as described above. The funds were obtained from a TAMC grant of approximately \$225,000 dollars. The Commissioners discussed the issues in regards to making improvements for the Gateway Center residents as well as local homeowners who live in the area. They also noted that improvements made to these streets such as the ones made to Congress Avenue could take years to accomplish.

MOTION was made by Henry Leinen and seconded by Dave Terry that the issue be tabled until next month in order that a representative of the Gateway Center can attend the meeting and discuss the issues and possible solutions. MOTION passed, AYES: Leinen, Besag, Terry, Roehl NOES: None ABSTAIN: Shayne, Garcia

NOTE: Commissioners Shayne & Garcia abstained from voting because they live within 500' feet of the area under consideration.

- B. Discuss a request from City Staff – It was requested that the intersection of Bishop Avenue and Bishop Place has a sight distance restriction on the northwest corner. Parking and vegetation on the corner creates a situation that obscures the vision for approaching vehicles.

A request was received from the property owner at the northwest corner to paint the curb red at this location to prevent vehicles from parking in this area which blocks sight distance for approaching vehicles. It was also noted that large shrubbery at this location also contributes to the vision being obscured.

The above conditions as noted were discussed by the Commissioners.

MOTION was made by Jan Roehl and seconded by Dave Terry that this issued be referred to the Public Works Department for their action as they deem appropriate. MOTION passed Unanimously

- C. Discuss a request from the City Managers Office for the Traffic Commission to discuss the consolidation of the City's Board's, Commissions, and Committee's especially as it relates to the Traffic Commission.

Malcolm reported the Department had received a request from the City Manager to discuss the possible consolidation of the Traffic Commission with other City Commissions, or Committee's. The Committee discussed among other things, elimination of the Commission, cancel meetings that have no items or postpone meetings until there are sufficient items to warrant a meeting. The Commissioners and staff stated that these measures were inappropriate and some of their thoughts are noted:

1. The Traffic Commission was very important to the City both to City Staff and residents.
2. The Commission deals directly with citizens and residents regarding safety issues and concerns.
3. The recent survey taken of local residents indicated that traffic was their #1 concern.
4. The Commission for the most part is complaint driven.
5. The Commission directs City staff informally.

6. The Commission's makeup is very professional and most Commissioners serve out their full eight year terms. (4 terms, 2yrs each)
7. The Commission acts as a buffer between the City Council and Staff.
8. It was noted that several years ago a prior consolidation between Commissions and Committees took place. Traffic Commission and the former Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee was combined and the Traffic Commission's name was changed to the Traffic & Safety Commission

MOTION was made by Dave Terry and seconded by Kathy Besag that the Traffic & Safety Commission remains as is. MOTION passed unanimously

- D. Discuss the City of Pacific Groves Bikeways Plan and appoint a Commissioner to serve as an alternate on the TAMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee.

Malcolm informed the Commission that Commissioner Henry Leinen had previously been appointed to be the City of Pacific Groves representative on TAMC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee. It was suggested that a member of the Traffic & Safety Commission be nominated as an alternate to this Committee when the current member is unable to attend.

MOTION was made by Dave Terry and seconded by George Shayne to appoint Jan Roehl as an alternate to Henry Leinen on the TAMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee. MOTION passed unanimously

- 8. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.**

The next meeting of the Traffic Commission will be on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, 4:00 PM at the Pacific Grove Police Conference Room, 580 Pine Avenue, Pacific Grove.

Malcolm Knisely
Staff Person

Darius Engles
Chief of Police