

City of Pacific Grove
Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes of – July 14, 2009

Present: Shayne, Terry, Lewis, Prock, Elstob & Roehl
Staff: Chief Darius Engles, Celia P. Martinez and Malcolm Knisely.
Others: Residents
Absent: Leinen

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 June 9, 2009.**
MOTION was made by Tony Prock and seconded by David Terry to approve the minutes as written. MOTION passed unanimously.
4. **Commission and Staff Announcements:**
None
5. **Correspondence:**
None
6. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Sunset Drive & 19th Street Flashing Crosswalk – Update by Staff
City staff reported that the flashing crosswalk is now operational and this item will be dropped from the agenda.
 - B. Pedestrian Safety Assessment for the City of Pacific Grove – Update by Staff
Commissioner Roehl gave an update on the actions of the Pedestrian Safety Sub Committee. The Committee has met three times and has researched various reports and documents prepared over the years which indicated site improvements which would improve safety for pedestrians. Including the recently completed Pedestrian Safety Assessment recently provided by ITS of the University of California, the Commissioners has proposed a list of twenty two (22) sites in the City to be considered for improvements as noted in the above reports and documents.

The Commissioners will meet at least one more time to prioritize the list of sites proposed for improvement. The prioritized list will then be given to City Staff to explore funding options to begin making some of these improvements.
 - C. Jewell Avenue Pedestrian Safety in the Vicinity of Sally Griffin Center – Continued from last month)
City Staff reported that the street has been marked and the City is waiting for the existing utilities in the area to be located and identified. Once this has been done then the construction can begin in regards to handicap ramps, sidewalk and curb and gutter realignment and minor pavement repair. Staff will continue to provide updates. Work will be completed probably by October.

- D. A request has been received from Dave Osborne, 1272 Stuart Avenue, regarding the speed of vehicles on Stuart Avenue at Sea View avenue – (Continued from last month)

The owner of Bechler Patisserie, 1222 Forest Avenue, was present to discuss his concerns regarding the closed access on Stuart Avenue at Hwy 68. Several times a week large trucks (semi's) make deliveries to his bakery and the only means of access is via Stuart Avenue at this location. There is not a viable alternative for large trucks. He suggested rumble strips and flashing lights in lieu of closing Stuart Avenue

Staff informed the Commission that Mr. Osborne volunteered to arrange to coordinate a meeting of the residents in the area as to their thoughts regarding the proposal to close the access to Stuart Avenue with Hwy 68 at this location. Malcolm said he would contact Mr. Osborne regarding his contacting the neighbors, etc.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Request from Commissioner David Terry to consider the installation of red curb on Forest Avenue at Gibson Avenue.

The Commissioners discussed the request of painting the curb red on the northeast corner of Forest Avenue and Gibson Avenue. The proposed red curb will be located on the east side of Forest Avenue north of Gibson Avenue. Located at this corner is a fire hydrant and two mailboxes. There is an existing fifteen foot (15') red curb at this corner for the fire hydrant. There is no red curb for the mail boxes. It is proposed to add another thirty five (35") feet of red curb to include mailboxes fifteen (15') feet and twenty (20") feet of red curb to remove one parking space.

A discussion followed in reference to the sight distance at other intersections on Forest Avenue and what about adding red curbing there also. It was proposed that staff investigate the intersections of Forest Avenue with Junipero Avenue, Spruce Avenue and take another look at the Gibson Avenue intersection.

MOTION was made by Winston Elstob and seconded by Tony Prock that staff and Commissioners field review the intersections, all corners, on Forest Avenue between Sinex Avenue and Pine Avenue for the installation of red curbing, MOTION passed unanimously

- B. A letter was received from PGSUD requesting the installation of a loading zone on Sunset Drive (Hwy 68) in front of the new football stadium.

The School District is requesting a white passenger loading/unloading zone on the north side of Sunset Drive in front of the entrance to Breaker Stadium. Malcolm stated that the City's Municipal Code allows the Traffic Engineer to authorize a white passenger loading zone in front of the entrance to any place of business or in front of any hall or placed used for the purpose of public assembly. (Section 16.40.310, Loading Zones Authority to Establish). Malcolm also recommended that parking T's be painted on the south side of Sunset Avenue. (Not in the loading zone area)

MOTION was made by David Terry and seconded by Jan Roehl that the recommendations as presented regarding the white loading zone and the installation of Parking T's on the north side of Sunset Drive be approved. MOTION passed unanimously

- C. A letter was received from Karen Sheppard requesting a four way stop be installed at the intersection of Gibson Avenue and Fountain Avenue.

Malcolm explained the traffic warrants submitted with the packet for today's meeting. It was explained that the volume of traffic, number of collisions and the volume of pedestrians does not meet the recommended warrants for the proposed 4 way stop at this location. Malcolm also stated that the presence of two care facilities in the immediate area, the tennis courts, that Fountain Avenue is a student walking route for two schools, the presence of medical offices opposite Forest Hill Manor and the limited sight distance posed by the tennis court's fencing and landscaping should be considered in the decision for installing the four way stop at this intersection. The Commissioners discussed the warrants and concerns as noted.

MOTION was made by Winston Elstob and seconded by David Terry that the four way stop intersection at Gibson Avenue and Fountain Avenue be approved.

MOTION Passed: AYES: Terry, Elstob, Shayne, Roehl & Lewis NOES: Prock

- D. A request was received from local business owners to reconfigure the curbside parking times and uses on the north side of Lighthouse Avenue between 13th Street and 12th Street.

Malcolm Stated that the first parking space marked east of 13th street was signed as 90 Min parking; the next space was painted Green, 20 Min; the next 3 spaces were painted yellow; loading zone 20 min. There was red a zone painted on each corner. The business owners as indicated wanted all existing spaces be signed 90 Minute parking. Malcolm also requested that the parking T's be repainted on this side of Lighthouse Drive in this area.

MOTION was made by Jan Roehl and seconded by Winston Elstob that the parking spaces be converted to 90 Minute parking.

- E. A letter was received from concerned residents regarding the parking situation on Locust Street between Lighthouse Avenue and Short Street.

The request and issues as noted in the letter were discussed by the Commissioners. It was noted that the letter was sent to the Police Department as well as the Community Development Department. The Commissioners noted that the letter was anonymous (not signed) and that it appears that the concerns are considered to be Code enforcement issues. No action was taken by the Commission.

- F. Commissioners requested that concerns regarding School Safety be discussed prior to the opening of school in the second week of August.

The Commissioners at their last meeting wanted to discuss school safety issues prior to the schools reopening for the new term. An invitation was given to the School District advising them of the Commission's desires and requested that the District send a representative to this meeting with any concerns related to traffic that they may have. The Commission was notified that all of the Officials would be on vacation at this time and no one was able to attend.

The Commission was notified by Staff that the pedestrian signs for Pine Avenue in front of Robert Down School had been received and should be installed prior to school opening. No action was taken at this time.

G. Request received from Ed Lake to consider the restriping of Forest Avenue in front of PG Middle School.

The request was that consideration be given to restriping Forest Avenue between Sinex Avenue and Hillcrest Avenue from two lanes with parking on both sides to two lanes, 1 northbound lane and 1 southbound lane and parking only on the east side. The result would be that the two through lanes would be wider.

Malcolm informed the Commission that Forest Avenue was thirty-eight feet wide, face of curb to face of curb with two 2 eleven foot lanes, 1 N/Bound lane & 1 S/Bound lane with 1 parking lane on each side. The parking lane on the west side has signs prohibiting parking.

David Terry proposed restriping Forest Avenue with an 8' parking lane on the east side, 2 - 12' through lanes, 1 northbound, 1 southbound and one 5' bicycle lane on the west side.

MOTION was made by David Terry and seconded by Jan Roehl that Staff consider the striping revision as noted. Passed unanimously

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Malcolm Knisely
Traffic Engineer

Darius Engles
Chief of Police