

City of Pacific Grove
Traffic Safety Commission
**Rip Van Winkle Community Park Open Space
Minutes of March 13, 2009 Meeting**

Present: Terry, Akeman, Travaille, March, Flesher & Cowan

Staff: Cmdr Nyunt, Celia P. Martinez & Malcolm Knisely

Others: Council Member Garcia & Kay Coakley

Absent: Henry Leinen

1. **The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Terry at 4:05 pm.**

2. **Oral Communications:
None**

3. **Minutes of meeting held March 6, 2009
MOTION was made by Thom Akeman and seconded by Lowell Marsh to approve the minutes as written. MOTION passed unanimously**

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Discuss and finalize parking alternatives to the current parking situation at the Rip Van Winkle Community Park Open Space.

David Terry opened the discussion and noted that the Committee had approved proposal No. 2 as presented at the May 6, meeting. With that approval, Committee members scheduled a site meeting to be held on Sunday March 8th at 10:00 am with David Terry, Gretchen Flesher and Mark Travaille attending. As a result of that meeting a drawing was prepared by Gretchen depicting the available parking areas with improvements that have been proposed. The proposals provide approximately 18 parking spaces and are more than originally provided.

A discussion followed which included tree removal, parking spaces, defining those parking spaces, trails in the area, speed of vehicles on Congress Avenue, and using DG to provide better walking and parking surfaces. Celia Martinez noted that the current financial conditions of the City will not permit the City to allocate enough funding to accomplish everything at this time. The City can define the parking spaces with boulders, rocks and logs, but fencing, refining trails and other modifications will come later as funds become available.

In addition the Committee also discussed donations from users to improve the facility and using the Forest Groves School's parking facilities when school is not in session. Malcolm noted that when the plan is agreed upon he wants to update all the existing parking zones in this immediate area and will include preparing an ordinance to update the City's Municipal Code and to freshen up all No parking signs and post new ones if necessary. Most of the existing signs are faded.

MOTION was made by Mark Travaille and seconded by Bruce Cowan to approve the plan (Plan Diagram) as presented that includes the removal of 2 small oaks and 1 stump in Zone "B" and the removal of 1 oak tree in Zone D. MOTION passed: AYES: Travaille, March, Flesher & Cowen; NOES: Terry, Akeman.

The use of DG was discussed in regards to providing trails for pedestrian use and the installation of split rail fencing on the entire length of park property fronting Congress Avenue which will delineate the park and the parking areas.

MOTION was made by Gretchen Flesher and seconded by Lowell March that the long range vision for the open space includes the installation of rail fencing to delineate the park and the parking spaces as shown on the plan. MOTION passed unanimously

The approval of the plan for improving the parking situation has been completed and will be forwarded to the Traffic Safety Commission for its consideration and approval for submittal to the City Council.

Chairman David Terry was thanked by the members for leading the Sub Committee. This will be its last meeting

5. Meeting ended at 5:25 pm.

Malcolm Knisely
Staff Person

John Nyunt
Commander

Parking Improvement Plan for Rip Van Winkle Open Space

Notes made on the Sunday March 8, 2009 site review

Zone A: Approximately 4 pull in spaces deep enough for offloading of dogs from rear of vehicle with ramps

- No trees to be removed
- North limit is Ped Crossing sign; South Limit is large pine approximately 40' south. West boundary should be reduced approximately 3' from existing limits to protect trees and trail access
- Suitable physical protection is needed to protect pine roots at south end and to delineate zone boundary
- Existing soil does not support vehicles so suitable base, preferably native material such as decomposed granite, would need to be imported

Zone B: Approximately 4-5 pull in spaces approximately 20' deep

- Requires removal of 2 oak trees, a stump and an oak sapling and light pruning of another oak. 2 spaces without removal
- North limit is Power pole and continues south approximately 70 feet to oak that is to remain
- Public Works to establish north limit of parking in this zone due to requirement of unimpeded access to Fire Road 16 and the angle fire road passes the west boundary. Physical protection should be established to prevent vehicles parking in any areas that are unsuitable and/or too small for parking completely off pavement
- On west boundary consider split rail fence or other options that consider grade change when pulling into this zone so motorists can see it as they approach
- Existing soil does not support vehicles so suitable base, preferably native material such as decomposed granite, would need to be imported

Zone C: 2 or 3 Parallel Parking Spaces

- No trees to be removed
- North limit is 1st Parallel Parking sign and continues 70' south with varying depths of 12' to 16'
- Recommend placement of boulder just north of parallel parking sign to protect roots of large pine and restrict parking which encroaches on pavement
- Pine at south end needs physical protection to prevent root area compaction
- Existing soil does not support vehicles so suitable base, preferably native material such as decomposed granite, would need to be imported

Zone D: 2 Parallel Parking Spaces (1 additional space may be created by removing 1 mature Oak Tree in center of zone)

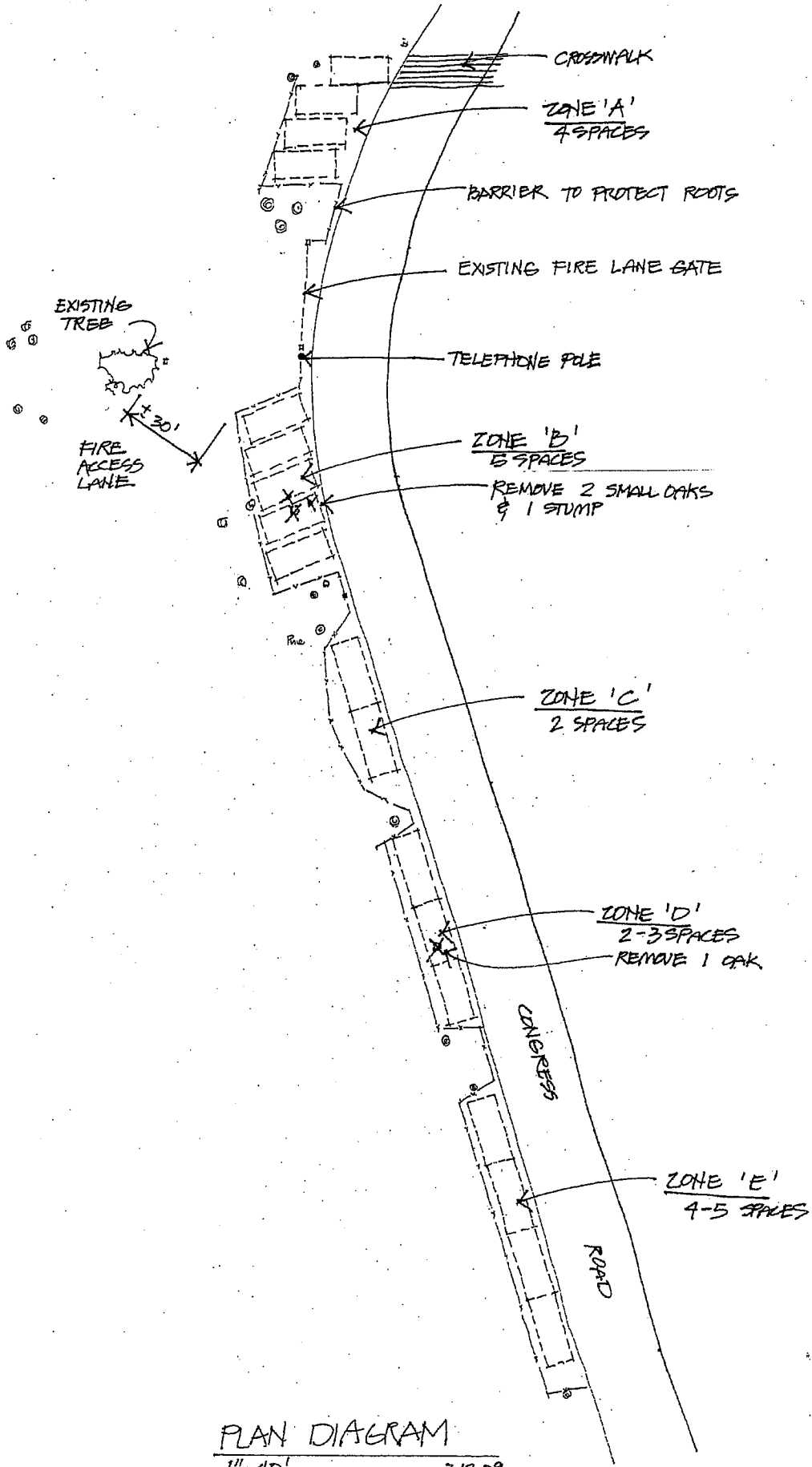
- No trees to need to be removed to create 2 spaces
- North limit is 2nd Parallel Parking sign and continues to a point approximately 20' north of the next (3rd) Parallel Parking sign
- Pine at south end needs physical protection to prevent root area compaction
- Existing soil does not support vehicles so suitable base, preferably native material such as decomposed granite, would need to be imported

Zone E: 6 Parallel Parking Spaces

- Not trees to be removed
- North limit is 20' south of 3rd parallel parking sign and continues approximately 110' to end of clearing
- Existing soil does not support vehicles so suitable base, preferably native material such as decomposed granite, would need to be imported

It is the goal of this plan, and hopefully any plan that the City Council ultimately approves and implements to provide safe off road parking areas for visitors of the Rip Van Winkle Open Space Area. To accomplish this we recommend that City staff review Congress Ave between Sunset and Forest Lodge Road for the following:

- make sure all signs that are supposed to be in place are there and that they are clean and perform as originally designed and constructed
- place physical barriers along the shoulder to prevent vehicles from parking anywhere outside the parking areas designated in final approved plan
- Enhance pedestrian safety for users that choose to walk to the park or park on the east side of Congress in existing on street parking by installing rumble strips northbound on Congress similar to those installed southbound



PLAN DIAGRAM
 1"=40' 3.12.09

SITE REVIEW MAR 8, 09