



City of Pacific Grove  
Traffic Safety Commission  
Minutes of October 11, 2011

Present: Commissioners: Roehl, Elstob, Lake, Lucius & Cunningham  
Staff: Commander John P. Miller  
Others: Residents Douglas McCall, Marilyn Andreas and Kristin Schneider  
Absent: Commissioners Prock and Terry; Malcolm Knisely, Traffic Engineer

*The Traffic Safety 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. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Jan Roehl at 4:03 pm. She introduced the new commissioner Casey Lucius.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION was made by Winston Elstob and seconded by Casey Lucius that the agenda be approved as presented. MOTION passed unanimously.**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**A. Written Communications**

None

**B. Oral Communications**

None

**4. MEMBER & STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A. Staff Members' attendance at meetings**

1. Commissioner Elstob said that he attended the City Council meeting at which Monterey presented detailed plans for 3 alternatives for traffic on Lighthouse in New Monterey. He said that the Commission needs to study this matter and that perhaps Monterey should give a presentation to the Commission.

2. Cmdr Miller, in response to Commissioner Elstob's concerns about lack of evacuation routes from Pacific Grove in case of a disaster, said that routes through the Presidio are already part of the plans in case of an actual emergency.

## **B. Ex Parte Meetings and Communications**

Nothing to report

## **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **A. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings**

Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 13, 2011

**MOTION was made by Michael Cunningham and seconded by Ed Lake to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2011 meeting as written. MOTION passed unanimously.**

### **B. Approval of Minutes of Sub-Committee Meetings, etc.**

Nothing to report

## **6. REGULAR AGENDA**

### **A. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

### **B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a. Pedestrian Safety Assessment for the City of Pacific Grove - The Commission will receive periodic reports as to the progress of making improvements for pedestrians in the City of Pacific Grove - Update by Staff.

Nothing to report

### **C. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Request from Kristin Schneider to discuss vehicle speeds on Eardley Avenue between Pine Avenue and Sinex Avenue.

Ms. Schneider presented her concerns on this subject as further detailed in her letter of September 10. She said that there needs to be better police enforcement of the speed limit. She also wanted to know if the residents raised money on their own there could be increased signage regarding children at play or other warnings. Cmdr Miller said that the MRU (Mobile Radar Unit) had been placed on Eardley. He did not have the results from that unit. A formal radar survey of speeds was not conducted. He said that AB 529 will take effect on 1/1/2012 and gives local authorities the authority to round speed limits up or down by 5 MPH, based on the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile of speeds observed in a formal survey.

Ms. Schneider said she feels that the number of accidents in that area has been under-reported because of people exchanging insurance data after accidents, but not reporting to the police. She personally knows of an accident that occurred in July, but does not show up in the accident statistics of the police department.

Commissioner Casey asked Cmdr Miller if there was data as to the number of citations written in this neighborhood. He said that there is, but that he did not have it readily available at this time.

Commissioner Elstob suggested that there be greater speed surveillance by the police in this area. Commissioner Lake said

that more signage probably wouldn't work if existing signs are already being ignored. If increased police surveillance does not work, then more stop signs may be needed. Commissioner Roehl concurred that increased police surveillance should take place. Squaring off the Junipero/Eardley intersection might help, but that would take considerably more money.

**MOTION was made by Commissioner Roehl and seconded by Commissioner Elstob to request that the MRU be moved to the area and that there be continued increased police enforcement and use of the MRU and that the Traffic Engineer look at possible measures for traffic calming in that area. MOTION passed unanimously.**

b. Request from Commissioner Cunningham that the Eardley Avenue & Lighthouse Avenue stop sign arrangement be placed on the October agenda of the Traffic Safety Commission.

Commissioner Cunningham said that he had revisited the intersection where a northbound Eardley car had nearly collided with him when he was westbound on Lower Lighthouse. He noted that there is not a "Yield" sign in the median area for northbound cars as there is for southbound cars and that may have been the reason the northbound driver did not realize westbound traffic does not stop and has the right of way. He feels that the addition of a "Yield" sign would reduce confusion for drivers unfamiliar with the intersection.

**MOTION was made by Commissioner Cunningham and seconded by Commissioner Lake that the Traffic Engineer look into adding a "Yield" sign in the median area for northbound Eardley. MOTION passed unanimously.**

**MOTION was made by Commissioner Lake that a stop sign be added at the intersection for eastbound Lighthouse and that the existing "Yield" sign for southbound Eardley be removed. MOTION died for lack of a second.**

c. Discuss the prohibition of unhitched trailers on City Streets.

Commander Miller, as requested by the City Manager, outlined for The Commission the proposed change to Municipal Code 16.40.045, which would strike subsection (b). After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission that more information was needed.

**MOTION was made by Commissioner Lucius and seconded by Commissioner Lake to postpone action on this item until the next meeting and to request a staff report for the Commission. MOTION passed unanimously.**

d. Discuss the 13<sup>th</sup> Street Residential Parking Permit Program  
Doug McCall, a resident of 13<sup>th</sup> Street, expressed displeasure with some of the comments at the City Council meeting he attended. He disputed the assertion by PGUSD Superintendent Porras that PGUSD was “blindsided” by the proposal. Robin Blakeley of PGUSD was present at the June meeting of the Traffic Commission when this subject was discussed and approved. Mr. McCall said that he also had a copy of a letter written to PGUSD on this subject earlier in the year and that numerous phone calls to school administrators were not returned. Marilyn Andreas, also a resident of that street, said that there was erroneous information given at the City Council meeting regarding the number of parked cars that would be displaced. The number would be about 5, not the 15 that was cited at the meeting. She said that Pony League games on weekends also caused congestion on the street as drivers arriving for various starting times looked for available parking spaces. Mayor Garcia has asked that the Police Chief, a PGUSD representative, and 13<sup>th</sup> Street residents meet with the Traffic Safety Commission to discuss the situation. The best way to do this was discussed by the commissioners.

**MOTION was made by Commissioner Elstob that a special public meeting be noticed and held for the police, PGUSD, 13<sup>th</sup> Street residents and all interested parties.  
MOTION died for lack of a second.**

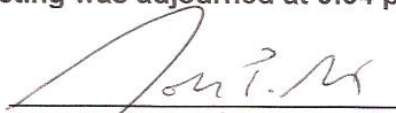
**MOTION was made by Commissioner Elstob and seconded by Commissioner Lake that this issue be placed on the agenda for the Commission’s next meeting and to request that staff notify the police, PGUSD, and 13<sup>th</sup> Street residents of this.  
MOTION passed unanimously.**

**D. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES**  
None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:54 pm.

  
**Michael Cunningham**  
Commissioner

  
**John P. Miller, Commander**  
Police Department

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.  
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.  
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.