

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CHULA VISTA SAFETY COMMISSION**

**October 11, 2007
6:00 p.m.**

**Community Room
Chula Vista Police Department Headquarters**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Present: Chair Perrett; Commissioners Cochrane, Lopez, and Moriarty

Absent: Vice Chair Liken; Commissioners Navarro and Rosario

Also present: Jim Newton, Sr. Civil Engineer; Officer Ryan Mullen; and Florence Picardal, Recording Secretary

2. Pledge of Allegiance/Silent Prayer

3. Introduction of Mayor Cox

Chair Perrett introduced Mayor Cheryl Cox. Mayor Cox wanted to thank the Safety Commission for the work they do on behalf of the community. She stated the recommendations from the Safety Commission to the City Council are much appreciated. She urged the members to look at the Citizen Leadership Academy which is scheduled for next March. Chair Perrett added he is attending this session and it is a great learning experience and is highly recommended.

3. Opening Statement

Opening statement read by Chair Perrett.

4. Approval of Minutes: August 9, 2007

MSC (Moriarty/Lopez) to approve the minutes from the August 9, 2007 Safety Commission meeting. (4-0-0-3, Liken/Navarro/Rosario absent).

5. Safety Commission Attendance Report

Accepted by Safety Commission.

6. Oral Communications

None.

MEETING AGENDA

7. Report on Request for "30 Minute" Time-Limited Parking along 11 Third Avenue

On August 7, 2007, staff received a letter from Mr. Vafa Dikow, property owner of the commercial building located on 11 Third Avenue, requesting a "30 Minute" time-limited parking zone in front of his building. This letter was accompanied with a letter signed by three building tenants (Mr. Devine of California Smog Certification, Dr. Fry of Dr. Fry Optometry, and Mr. Somo of Pine Palace Liquor store) requesting time-limited parking. In addition to these letters, staff received an e-mail letter from Mr. Wetzel, the partner of the Oasis Auto Insurance also located at 11 Third Avenue. Mr. Wetzel opposes the establishment of the "30 Minute" time-limited parking in front of his business. On September 24, 2007, staff received a letter from Dr. Fry, the optometrist located on 11 Third Avenue, stating he was no longer in favor of the proposed "30 Minute" time-limited parking.

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Senior Civil Engineer continued with his presentation. He stated it was still staff's recommendation to deny the request and staff would continue to monitor the situation. If any changes in the area should occur (new development or parking demand) they would revisit the request and make new recommendations at that time.

Staff Recommendation: Safety Commission concur with staff's recommendation to deny the establishment of a "30 Minute" time-limited parking zone in front of 11 Third Avenue.

Public hearing opened.

The following persons spoke in favor of staff's recommendation.

- a. Tom O'Connell, 1295 Broadway, #209 (Oasis Insurance)

The following persons spoke in opposition to staff's recommendation:

- a. John Devin, 11 Third Avenue, #A (California Smog Check)
- b. Harry Humu, 11 Third Avenue, #C (Pine Palace Liquor Store)

Public hearing closed.

Commission Discussion: Discussion ensued on the existing parking conditions in front of 11 Third Avenue. There is a 60 ft. long loading/unloading zone (yellow curb), 6 ft. of red curb in front of the mail box, and room for approximately three unrestricted on-street parking spaces located along 11 Third Avenue. The commercial building has 21 on-site parking spaces behind the building, including one disabled person parking space. On several days, Oasis Insurance Company uses a parking space in front of 11 Third Avenue to park a vehicle advertising their business. It is not illegal to do this as long as all parking laws are followed.

Commissioner Cochrane asked if 60 ft. is the length required for loading/unloading. Sr. Civil Engineer Newton responded there is no policy/guideline on how much yellow curb is required. Commissioner Cochrane stated he would like to see a compromise on the length of the loading zone, possibly shortening the loading zone and making two green zones to satisfy all parties.

Commissioner Lopez stated at other locations with green curb, there is a tendency for delivery trucks to double park.

Commissioner Moriarty asked why the loading zone was located in front of the businesses. Sr. Civil Engineer Newton responded it was probably requested by someone at the business when it was originally painted. His expressed concern with adding a green zone on one side of the red curb. There would then be parking on both sides of the mailbox and people would probably park through the red zone and access to the mailbox would be lost.

Chair Perrett stated based on the parking studies conducted and the usage, he did not see the need for a time limit and would support staff's recommendation.

Commissioner Cochrane stated he did not want the business owners at odds. Commissioner Lopez stated he has seen 30-minute meter parking and that might be another solution, but would not encourage it.

MS (Perrett/Lopez) to concur with staff's recommendation to deny the establishment of a "30 Minute" time-limited parking zone in front of 11 Third Avenue and direct staff to come up with another solution. (3-1-0-3, Cochrane voting no; Liken/Navarro/Rosario absent.) Motion failed. A majority (4-0) vote was needed for the motion to pass. Discussion ensued and consensus was made to continue this item to the next meeting.

Commissioner Cochrane stated he was uncomfortable with the insurance business parking their advertising vehicle in front and understood the liquor store owner wanting time-limited parking for their customers. He asked if City staff could talk to the property manager and come up with another solution.

8. Report on Request for an All-Way Stop at the Intersection of Oleander Avenue and Tamarack Court

Staff received a written request from Ms. Evelyn Sanchez, who resides at 502 Tamarack Court, requesting the installation of an all-way stop at Oleander Avenue and Tamarack Court. Ms. Sanchez feels this intersection is unsafe for motorists. Residents living near this intersection have experienced rear-end accidents and near misses due to excessive speeds of vehicles traveling on Oleander Avenue. A presentation was made by Sr. Civil Engineer Jim Newton.

Staff Recommendation: Safety Commission concur with staff's recommendation to deny the installation of an all-way stop control at this intersection and approve the installation of two stop signs, limit lines, "STOP" legends on Tamarack Court and Tamarack Street approaching Oleander Avenue, and paint red curb on Oleander Avenue near the intersection.

Public hearing opened.

The following persons spoke in opposition to staff's recommendation:

- a. David Garcia, 1540 Olive Court
- b. Alma Palomino, 488 Tamarack Street
- c. Hector Tamayo, 505 Tamarack Street
- d. Phil Christensen, 1656 Oleander Avenue

Public hearing closed.

Commission Discussion: Commissioner Cochrane asked Officer Mullen about traffic enforcement in the area. Officer Mullen stated the emphasis has been focused on some of the larger streets. The department is aware of a speeding issue at Oleander and has placed the radar speed signs at that location in an effort to slow down vehicles. Once the larger street campaign ends, the department will be able to focus on some of the smaller streets. Commissioner Cochrane asked if the speed studies were conducted between the rush hour periods. He stated this problem parallels the same problem on J Street several years ago. Additional stop signs were installed in 1999 or 2000 and they have greatly calmed the traffic on J Street. The speed limit was raised to 35 because police officers could not enforce the speed limit due to the width of the street. Consequently, when the ticket would go to court, the case would be thrown out because the speed limit was too low. Sr. Civil Engineer Newton answered the speed data was collected at the same time the volume data was collected. The data was collected by tubes that were set to measure both volume and speed at the same time, over at least a 24-hour period, if not 48 hours. He was concerned about the volume data in the chart indicating the 2005 date. He would verify the date. Commissioner Cochrane stated the residents (speakers) have justified concerns based on his past Safety Commission experience and he would like clarification from the Police and Engineering Departments on the conditions in the area. He understands the points are not met, but thinks further study should be given to that intersection and serious consideration given to a 4-way stop.

Chair Perrett stated there needs to be more data on the side streets. He stated this item may have to be continued. More updated information is needed on traffic volumes on Oleander and the side streets in order to make a more educated decision.

Commissioner Lopez also recalled the installation of a number of stop signs on J Street and expressed concern with the same happening on Oleander. He also expressed concern about the data and wanted to ensure the most recent data was being used.

Commissioner Moriarty stated she travels Oleander frequently and agreed there are lots of attractions on Main Street and expressed concern on whether the data is current. Based on the pictures of the intersection, she believes a stop sign is warranted and stated it looked very dangerous.

MSC (Perrett/Cochrane) to continue this item to the next meeting and direct staff to include any minutes if this item was previously presented to the Safety Commission. (4-0-0-3, Liken/Navarro/Rosario absent)

9. **Report on Speed Limit Establishment at Bonita Road between Bonita Glenn Drive and I-805 Southbound Ramps**

During the month of June 2007, City staff completed several Engineering and Traffic surveys for various segments of Bonita Road. It was at this time staff discovered one segment of Bonita Road was not covered by any surveys. As a result, staff completed a speed survey for Bonita Road between Bonita Glenn Drive and the I-805 southbound ramps, and pursuant to the authority under the Chula Vista Municipal Code Section 10.48.020, City staff has determined that a 35 mph speed limit should be established.

Staff Recommendation: Safety Commission concur with staff's recommendation to recommend to Council the establishment of a 35 mph speed limit on Bonita Road between Bonita Glenn Drive and the I-805 southbound ramps and that Schedule X of the register maintained in the office of the City Engineer be revised to include this established speed limit.

MSC (Cochrane/Moriarty) to accept staff's recommendation. (4-0-0-3, Liken/Navarro/Rosario absent)

10. **Safety Commission Chair Election**

This item was continued to the next meeting.

11. **Traffic Engineering CIP Project Update – September 2007**

Traffic signal modification at Fourth/Main and Fourth/Beyer is underway. The traffic signal design is complete. Survey work has been requested to complete the design for associated pedestrian ramps.

Traffic signal at Brandywine/Sequoia - Working through last issues relating to design. Small retaining wall needs to be installed on the southwest corner of intersection to make enough room for the foundation to be placed for the traffic signal standard. Also, two small trees need to be removed.

School crosswalk enhancement by Harborside Elementary - Project has been advertised. Three bids were received and will go to Council shortly. It is staff's hope to start construction during the school's winter break.

12. **Traffic Accident Summary, July 2007**

No update for August. New information from the State should be received by the end of the month.

13. **Action Summary Update**

- **August 9, 2007**
 - **Report on Traffic Safety Improvements at the All-Way Stop Controlled Intersection of Lane Avenue and MacKenzie Creek Road:** The Commission concurred with staff's recommendation to install flashing beacons (solar powered) on the stop signs on Lane Avenue. Staff is currently in the process of ordering the flashing beacon equipment from the vendors.

All other items on the summary are up-to-date.

14. **Potential Upcoming Safety Commission Agenda Items**

- a. Proposed All-Way Stop Control at the Intersection of Hartford Street and Lake Shore Drive.

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- Summary: Staff is waiting for a letter of request form Ms. Ward.
- b. Report on Accident Summary for Years 2005-2006.
- c. Request for "30 Minute" Time-Limited Parking along 11 Third Avenue
 - Continued from October 11, 2007 meeting
- d. Request for an All-Way Stop at the Intersection of Oleander Avenue and Tamarack Court
 - Continued from October 11, 2007 meeting

OTHER BUSINESS

15. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Cochrane stated he visited Wagonwheel Way because at a previous meeting a resident made a statement about semi's pulling into that street. It is a very short cul-de-sac which is "j" shaped. There is a house at 360 Wagonwheel Way conducting some kind of construction business because there is a sanded trail next to the house.

Commissioner Cochrane asked staff for a rundown on the available street repair monies. Sr. Civil Engineer Newton introduced Director of Engineering and General Services, Jack Griffin. Mr. Griffin stated he prepares the yearly CIP budget. Last fiscal year, the Pavement Management System was brought before Council to rank City streets and give information as to how to most wisely spend what limited funds the City has in order to keep the average City pavement as high as possible. At that time, funds were gathered together that had been divided into different projects. The City has approximately \$11 million in FY 07 (Transnet funds) to do pavement rehabilitation and an additional \$10 million in FY 08 -- approximately \$21 million to work with right now. The FY 08 money includes Proposition 1B funds that voters approved in November 2006. Those State funds have not yet been released. Hopefully, the City will see some of those funds (\$7 million) next calendar year. The City has a short term, much larger paving program than it historically has had. It has been about \$4 or \$5 million a year. It's estimated that to get all the streets to up to about a 78 or 80 grade (out of a 100 point scale) and to eliminate the backlog of street work (about \$45 million) the City would need to spend \$19 million/year for the next 10 years. The City doesn't have \$19 million for the next 10 years. In the next few months, staff will be bringing to Council some strategies as to how the City can try to raise as much funds as possible, for not just pavement, but for all of its infrastructure issues. The City has significant shortfalls in drainage funds. There are lots of missing street improvements (curb, gutter and sidewalk). In the past 1-1/2 months, approximately \$4 million of sealing and chip sealing work has been contracted out. Driving around town, lots of street work can be seen and will continue for about a month. Staff will be bringing a \$5 million sealing and digout project forward to Council in November.

Commissioner Cochrane, on behalf of his friends and neighbors, wanted to thank Engineering and Street Repair staff for the quick response to an email he sent about a serious street deterioration. The City came out promptly and repaired it.

Commissioner Cochrane stated he was saddened to hear there was the possibility of losing some City employees due to budget constraints. Mr. Griffin responded that each City department was required to come up with a list of reductions totaling 10% of their budget. For the Engineering and General Services Dept. that was \$2.3 million. Once the departments submitted their lists, a budget review team would then review and make their recommendations to Council. The reductions do involve positions within the department. The employees affected have been notified in advance. The City is also offering an early retirement program and the hope is if enough people take advantage of it that would reduce the amount of layoffs. The goal is to try and minimize the amount of people leaving, but the reality is there will be some layoffs.

Chair Perrett commented he has been attending the Citizen's Academy. The last meeting's topic was the City's budget and was very interesting. There was an exercise on budget reduction which was very difficult.

Commissioner Moriarty asked if the intersection of Silverado between Clubhouse and Greensgate could be investigated for speed problems. She stated the neighborhood is very anxious about the speed problem.

Commissioner Lopez requested the mailing lists be updated with the current phone/e-mail information.

Commissioner Lopez requested information regarding time limited parking in front of liquor stores.

Chair Perrett thanked staff for the Robert's Rules books for all members.

16. Staff Comments

Sr. Civil Engineer Newton asked members if they had any ideas for the December workshop meeting to forward those ideas to him. Staff conducted a traffic calming presentation at the National APWA Conference in San Antonio and will be making this same presentation to the Commission at their December workshop.

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:45 P.M. to the next regularly scheduled meeting of November 8, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence Picardal, Recording Secretary