



Minutes

Safety and Parking Advisory Commission January 8, 2009

Commissioners Present: Dan Fenocchio (chair), Dan Barcellos, Bill Bernheim, Theodore Parks, Tim Spangler

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff: Roxanne Namazi, Senior Civil Engineer
Sgt. Ton Phan, Police Department

Chair: Commissioner Fenocchio called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

A. Approval of Agenda

Approved the amended agenda with the addition of Item A-1.

A.1 Oath of the Office

Commissioner Barcellos was sworn in.

B.1 Public Communications

None.

B.2 Commission/Staff Comments

Staff provided the following update:

- The Council approved staff's recommendation to remove the pedestrian actuated signal at 8th and G intersection. The signal poles will be removed shortly.
- The F Street crossing relocation is 95% complete and is working well.
- Commissioner Qi resigned from the commission as of January 2009.

C. Consent Items

Approve and/or Correct Commission Minutes, Meeting of December 4, 2008.

Approved Minutes as submitted.

D. Discussion Items

D.1. Arroyo Avenue – Traffic Calming Request

Staff presented the background of the information. Residents on Arroyo Avenue submitted a signed petition concerning the speeds on their street and requested traffic calming measures be installed on Arroyo. Staff collected data (east of Cresta Court). The traffic volume (440 vpd) and critical speed (28 mph) do not meet the minimum requirements to install traffic calming measures (at least 500 vehicles per day and a minimum 32 mph critical speed would be required).

Resident expressed the following concerns:

- High rate of the speed both around the curve and in the straight segment of Arroyo to the west of the curve.
- Safety of the many kids living in the neighborhood due to the high rate of speed.
- Visibility of the bike crossing due to the parked cars and overgrown vegetation near the crossing.
- Residents were concerned that the collected data did not reflect the speeds around the curve.

Commission discussed various options to calm traffic in the neighborhood including speed humps/tables, striping, education. Staff suggested that residents contact the Police Department regarding a “Neighborhood Watch Program” to discuss speeding issues with the residents (as the neighborhood residents are the speeders).

Action: Commission directed staff as follows:

- Review the visibility of the bike crossing and extend the red curb on the west side as necessary.
- Install raised pavement markers at the centerline around the curve to channelize and slow down drivers.
- Collect speed data just to the south of the bike crossing (north of the curve).
- Bring the item back to the Commission in February for further action.

D.2. Anderson Road between Sunset and Rutgers –Request for Pedestrian Crossing Improvement

Staff presented the background of the information. The Oeste Manor Neighborhood Association submitted a letter concerning the safety of the pedestrians crossing at Sunset Court and Amherst Drive. Staff reviewed the crossings and collected data on Anderson Road. Residents attending the meeting expressed concerns regarding the safety of the pedestrians and lack of respect by the drivers when pedestrians are in the crosswalk. A resident discussed the operation of the flashing 25 mph beacon and was concerned that it may not be working properly. A representative from the church expressed concerns about the width of Anderson Road and the crossing signs being too far apart to get the drivers' attention. He requested "In Street" signs and center islands be installed at Sunset Drive. The HOA Chair expressed concerns regarding the safety of the elderly crossing the street. She was concerned about lack of any advanced crossing signs at Amherst Drive. Staff will review possibility of installing advanced crossing signs at both intersections. A resident suggested installation of landscaped islands and bulb-outs to shorten the crossing and provide a refuge for the pedestrians. Commission discussed the need for educating the drivers regarding the rules of the road. Staff will review the intersections for further safety improvements. Staff will pursue installation of a speed board on Anderson Road to calm traffic.

Action: Commission, unanimously, approved staff's recommendation to refresh the crosswalk paint at Sunset Drive and install the "triple quad" crosswalk at Amherst Drive.

Next Meeting: Confirmed for February 5, 2009, at 5:00 p.m. at the Community Chambers.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Namazi
Senior Civil Engineer