

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION COMMISSION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2008, 4:00 P.M.
City Council Chamber, City Hall

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: J. Michael Cochran
 Edmundo Duvignau
 Azim Ghafoori
 Rob Hallstrom
 Stephen Hall
 Lesley Mahaffey

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Johnnie Simmons

STAFF PRESENT: Mark Miller, City Traffic Engineer
 Dave Langstaff, Traffic Engineering Analyst
 Sgt. Steve Williams, Fullerton Police Department
 Teri Carlson, Engineering Aide III
 Janelle Pasillas, Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cochran at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one from the public wished to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Vice Chair Duvignau, SECONDED by Commissioner Cochran, and CARRIED unanimously, that the Minutes of the August 4, 2008 meeting be APPROVED as written.

NEW BUSINESS

The following items were heard out of order.

No Stopping Anytime – Malvern Avenue

Mark Miller, City Traffic Engineer, provided a brief overview of the item. The item had come before the Transportation and Circulation Commission (TCC) previously, and staff had been requested to provide additional information regarding the possibility of adding a left–turn pocket at Adlena Drive, and how many parking spaces would be lost in order to accomplish it. Earlier this year a pedestrian involved accident had occurred, and Council had directed staff to review the removal of parking on the south side of Malvern Avenue. Mr. Miller explained the history of parking along this stretch of Malvern Avenue, along with the accident history for the area. Parking and street occupancy studies had been completed; with the left-turn pocket 12 spaces would be removed, leaving 27 spaces available on the street. Staff believed all parking along the south side of Malvern Avenue should be removed, and a two-way left-turn pocket be striped

between Bastanchury Road to meet up with the left-turn pocket at Carhart Avenue/Basque Avenue.

Vice Chair Duvignau asked if there was a possibility of allowing parking in the evening only. Mr. Miller did not recommend it based on the 45 mph speed limit, the slight curve of the road, and the limited sight distance. The majority of the accidents at this location had occurred at night.

Public hearing opened.

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

- Margaret Freepartner
- Kurt Schiessel

The concerns were:

- Need to allow parking on Adlena Drive if parking is removed on Malvern Avenue.
- Lowering the speed limit would reduce accidents.
- Families in the apartments need parking.
- Most of the families have two cars.

Public hearing closed.

Commissioner Cochran asked if Malvern Avenue was an arterial street, and Mr. Miller responded affirmatively. He explained that the street had recently been surveyed, and the 85th percentile was at 45 mph. The expected collision rate for this road was 3.35, and the calculated rate was .88; therefore the speed limit should not be lowered.

Commissioner Cochran then asked if a request would need to come from the residents on Adlena Drive in order for staff to look at allowing overnight parking. Dave Langstaff, Traffic Engineering Analyst, responded that more than 50% of the residents would need to sign a petition, and show a shortage of parking on the street. Adlena Drive had adequate parking without the exemption. Mr. Miller commented that generally an overnight parking exemption was done to benefit the residents of the street, and he did not believe the residents on Adlena Drive would want the apartment residents parking in front of their homes.

Commissioner Mahaffey stated she owned an apartment on the other side of town, and any problems relating to the property were her responsibility as the property owner. The apartment owners at this location needed to look for other solutions for their parking problems, such as talking to the neighboring church to see if they could arrange to use their parking lots.

Commissioner Cochran believed there was no good answer, but there was clearly a public safety issue. Statistics indicated the City should expect even more accidents, and the Commission had an obligation to protect the resident's safety, in spite of the hardships.

MOTION made by Commissioner Cochran, SECONDED by Vice Chair Duvignau, and CARRIED unanimously that said request be recommended to City Council for approval.

4-Way Stop – Truslow Avenue & Pomona Avenue

Mr. Miller originally a request was made by the Homeowner's Association for the SOCO Condominiums for City to install red curb on Truslow Avenue at the southwest corner, due to the

limited sight distance of driver's traveling northbound on Pomona Avenue. Staff reviewed the intersection, and noted a utility pole and large tree at the southwest corner, and staff believed the installation of red curb would not solve the sight problem due to the utility pole and tree. Also, installation of red curb at this location would require elimination of three parking spaces. Mr. Miller had spoken with the resident's at 401 Pomona Avenue, and they suggested the installation of a stop sign. Although the intersection did not meet the requirements for a four-way stop, the traffic manual gave latitude to the City Traffic Engineer to make the decision.

Public hearing opened.

The following person spoke in support of the request:

- Howard Adler

The reasons for support were:

- High density area, zoned residential, but high occupancy single-family residential
- Would also like to request a crosswalk across Truslow Avenue
- Limited parking enforcement on the southwest corner
- Parking in the area was mainly commuters, not residents

Public hearing closed.

Chair Hall asked what the possibility of a crosswalk at the intersection would be, and Mr. Miller responded it would be a possibility, but the parking in the area would have to be considered. Red curb would need to be added to prevent cars from parking in the crosswalk.

MOTION made by Commissioner Cochran, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mahaffey, and **CARRIED** unanimously that said request be recommended to City Council for approval.

4-Way Stop – Burning Tree Road & Island Drive

Mr. Miller explained the request and described the location. The intersection did not meet the requirements per the traffic manual, but the City Traffic Engineer did have the discretion to make an alternate decision.

Public hearing opened.

The following people spoke in support of the request:

- John Avera
- Linda Burns

The reasons for support were:

- A need to slow traffic down.
- Would also like a "No Outlet" sign at the entrance to the neighborhood.

Public hearing closed.

Mr. Miller agreed that a "No Outlet" sign would be appropriate north of Pioneer.

MOTION made by Commissioner Hallstrom, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Cochran, and **CARRIED** unanimously that said request be recommended to City Council for approval.

Two-Way Stop – Maplewood Avenue & Wood Avenue

Mr. Miller explained the request had come from a resident. The intersection had limited visibility due to the curvature of Woods Avenue, and staff recommended a two-way stop on Maplewood Avenue.

Public hearing opened.

The following people expressed concerns related to the request:

- Margaret Jones
- Albert Perales

Their concerns were:

- Noise from traffic coming to a stop
- Stop sign at this location was a good idea, but did not want additional noise
- Stop sign alone will not solve problem, need to add lines on at the intersection

The following person spoke in support of the request:

- William Lasley

His reason for support was:

- A need slow traffic

Public hearing closed.

Mr. Langstaff indicated lines would be striped when the stop signs were installed.

Mr. Miller explained that there was more traffic on Valencia Drive than there was on Woods Avenue, therefore the traffic coming to a stop on Maplewood Avenue would probably not make additional noise.

MOTION made by Commissioner Cochran **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mahaffey, and **CARRIED** unanimously that said request be recommended to City Council for approval.

Disabled Person's Parking – 1107 S. Pine Drive

Mr. Miller explained the request, and stated that staff recommended the item.

Public hearing opened.

The following people spoke in support of the request:

- Melvin Marquardt

Public hearing closed.

MOTION made by Commissioner Mahaffey, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Cochran, and **CARRIED** unanimously that said request be recommended to City Council for approval.

Disabled Person's Parking – 117 W. Valencia Drive

Mr. Miller explained the property was in a historic preservation area, and therefore was limited to what changes could be made on the property. Valencia Drive is a heavily parked street, and staff recommended the request be approved. Blue curb tends to be self policing; when someone moves out the new owners typically do not want a blue curb in front of their home, and staff would remove it at that time.

Public hearing opened.

The following person spoke in support of the request:

- Sean Hurst

Public hearing closed.

MOTION made by Commissioner Ghafoori, SECONDED by Commissioner Cochran, and CARRIED unanimously that said request be recommended to City Council for approval.

1-Hour Parking – Balfour Avenue

Mr. Miller explained the area was near Cal State Fullerton (CSUF), and although the one-hour parking would restrict the residents, over 50% of the residents had signed the petition.

Commissioner Cochran asked if this would be consistent with the surrounding streets, and Mr. Miller responded that it would.

Public hearing opened.

The following people spoke in support of the request:

- Aubrey Renteria
- Nita Godwin

The reasons for support were:

- Driveways frequently blocked
- Trash in the gutters
- Driving at excessive speeds when late for class
- Traffic gridlock from people trying to park
- Danger to kids playing in the area
- CSUF raised parking fees and more people were trying to park there
- Street looked like a parking lot during school hours

Public hearing closed.

MOTION made by Vice Chair Duvignau, SECONDED by Commissioner Hallstrom, and CARRIED unanimously that said request be recommended to City Council for approval.

COUNCIL REVIEW

City Traffic Engineer Miller gave an update on recent traffic-related Council actions.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Sgt. Williams explained a new form that would be provided with the Commissioner's paperwork at the traffic hearings. He also advised the Commissioner's that, at a parking hearing, they had the option to take an item under advisement and make a decision at a later time, which would then be mailed out.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Transportation and Circulation Commission adjourned at 5:20 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting of November 3, 2008, at 4:00 p.m.