



CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Minutes Traffic Committee

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

2:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson JORDAN called this meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Member Juan Olmos, Member Casey Wilson, Chairperson Daryl Jordan, and Member Francisco Mendoza-Gonzalez

Absent: 1 - Member Nathaniel McKinnon

C. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Kaitlin BENSON - Citizen shared how she would like to request a lighted crosswalk at the intersection of 11th Street and V Street. She continued to share how there are many vehicles that tend to speed because there isn't anything slowing the drivers down, yet there isn't anything to hold the drivers accountable when they travel into this school zone. She added that many of the students and families living in this neighborhood walk often because there isn't other options as a means of transportation such as personal vehicles. She also shared that even though her cross guards got flashing stop signs, this did not stop drivers from driving carelessly through the neighborhood.

Lorey ORTEZ- Citizen shared concern about the intersection of West 18th St and O St. She added that she has witnessed several accidents and near misses and adding a stop sign on 18th St to slow the vehicles traveling at high speeds could help.

Angelita ARCHER - Citizen shared concerns about the crosswalks on 9th Street and West Avenue and Heritage Drive and 11th and R Street. 11th and R Street is where two students were struck by vehicles. She added that there needs to be a lighted crosswalk directly in front of Gracey Elementary School and at 9th St and West Ave.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

D.1

SUBJECT: Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2025

ACTION:

Approving and filing the Traffic Committee Minutes of January 14, 2025

ATTACHMENTS

1. Traffic Committee Minutes of January 14, 2025

A motion was made by Member Olmos, seconded by Member Wilson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Aye: 4 - Member Olmos, Member Wilson, Chairperson Jordan, and Member Mendoza-Gonzalez

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Member McKinnon

E. REPORTS

E.1. **SUBJECT:** Committee Member Reports

Member MENDOZA-GONZALEZ noted that he was filling in for Member Jonnie Lan and shared that the Local Roads Safety Plan would be going to the City Council on March 17th

F. BUSINESS

F.1 **SUBJECT:** CONTINUED REQUEST #24-44 Requesting Painted Bike Lanes And 4 Way Stop Signs At The Intersection Of 15th Street And D Street And Before The S-99 Ramp Along 16th Street.

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen is concerned about the bicyclist and vehicle traffic traveling on both 15th Street and D Street and 16th Street towards the S-99 on ramp. Citizen explained that he has witnessed several near-misses of pedestrian vs. vehicle accidents. Adding a four way stop at both intersections and painted bike lanes could improve bicyclist and pedestrian safety.

Members agreed to continue this item due to insufficient information to provide.

A motion was made by Member Olmos, seconded by Member Mendoza-Gonzalez, that this agenda item be continued. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Aye: 4 - Member Olmos, Member Wilson, Chairperson Jordan, and Member Mendoza-Gonzalez

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Member McKinnon

F.2

SUBJECT: CONTINUED REQUEST #24-50 Requesting A Four Way Stop At The Intersection Of 18th Street And O Street.

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen shares how there have been several accidents at this intersection in the past and it continues to be dangerous due to near-miss vehicle accidents that happen almost daily. Drivers tend to exceed the 30 mph speed limit. By adding additional stop signs and making this a four way stop, it could promote safety for all citizens in the area.

Lorey ORTEZ repeated her comments from Oral Communications during Agenda Item F.2

Members agreed to continue this item to allow for proper traffic data to be provided from PD.

A motion was made by Member Olmos, seconded by Member Wilson, that this agenda item be continued and request traffic data from PD. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Aye: 4 - Member Olmos, Member Wilson, Chairperson Jordan, and Member Mendoza-Gonzalez

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Member McKinnon

F.3

SUBJECT: CONTINUED REQUEST #24-51 Requesting Speed Bumps On 26th Street In Front Of Hoover Middle School And Installation Of A Crosswalk At The Intersection Of 9th Street And 26th Street.

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen expresses concern for student and pedestrian safety as vehicles travel up to 50 mph along 26th Street. Due to the school zone and the number of children constantly in this area, adding speed bumps and a crosswalk along 26th Street next to Hoover Middle School can caution drivers to slow down and provide a safer environment to all in the area.

Member OLMOS stated he would be more in favor of enhancing the crosswalks, like installing ADA ramps, rather than installing speed bumps. He added that a rapid flashing beacon could be a better choice than speed bumps. In addition to that, speed bumps are more so a cost that the neighborhood normally takes care of.

Member WILSON shared his concern about adding an additional stop sign at the intersection of 26th Street and 9th Avenue. He mentioned that it could give students and other pedestrians a false sense of security, in addition to the responsibility of school staff managing other crosswalks at

7th Ave and 8th Ave.

A motion was made by Member Olmos, seconded by Member Wilson, that this agenda item be denied, however Public Works is to refresh the striping of the existing crosswalks and have two Traffic Committee members meet with the schools to discuss further options. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Aye: 4 - Member Olmos, Member Wilson, Chairperson Jordan, and Member Mendoza-Gonzalez

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Member McKinnon

F.4

SUBJECT: REQUEST #24-54 Requesting An Additional Stop Sign and Lighted Crosswalks At The Intersection Of 11th Street And V Street.

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen shares concern for student and pedestrian safety as vehicles travel at excessive speeds on V St. Citizen states she is a cross walker at this intersection and is often put at risk of being struck as drivers do not stop and will run through her stop sign while she is in the crosswalk. She recommends additional safety measures such as adding a stop sign and a flashing beacon/high visibility crosswalk to alert drivers of pedestrians.

Citizen shared that she hoped there is a way to bring attention to drivers that there is a school nearby with many students that are walking and also hoped for some way to have accountability and awareness from the drivers in this area.

Member OLMOS said that they added this location for their request for budget to the City Council. This location would also need ADA ramps and he mentioned that there was a PGE pole, so there would possibly be the need to move the crosswalk to the south side of the intersection.

Members also discussed the idea of partnering with the school district on funding for these crosswalk additions.

Citizen added that police officers had went out to that area in the past to support the safety of the crossing guards and students.

A motion was made by Member Olmos, seconded by Member Wilson, to approve the installation of a rapid flashing beacon and allow City Council to determine how to move forward based on their review. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Aye: 4 - Member Olmos, Member Wilson, Chairperson Jordan, and Member Mendoza-Gonzalez

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Member McKinnon

F.5

SUBJECT: REQUEST #25-01 Requesting Speed Bumps Along South G Street And Winder Avenue.

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen shares concern for all pedestrian safety near Farmdale Elementary School. She mentions that there are no crosswalks for students and parents near the preschool, which is at the corner of S G Street and Winder Avenue, so speed bumps could require drivers to slow down. Citizen requests that this item be considered high priority due to the amount of community members who have been at risk of being struck by vehicles traveling at high speeds.

Members discussed how there is already a drive through lane designated for parents to use when students go to and from school, rather than dropping off students in the street.

A motion was made by Chairperson Jordan, seconded by Member Wilson, that members from the Traffic Committee meet with the school district to see how they can work together. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Aye: 4 - Member Olmos, Member Wilson, Chairperson Jordan, and Member Mendoza-Gonzalez

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Member McKinnon

G. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Mendoza-Gonzalez, that this agenda item be adjourned at 2:37pm. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Aye: 4 - Member Olmos, Member Wilson, Chairperson Jordan, and Member Mendoza-Gonzalez

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Member McKinnon