



CITY OF MERCED

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

Minutes Traffic Committee

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

2:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson WEGLEY called the Regular Meeting to order at 2:03pm.

B. ROLL CALL

Clerks Note: Sergeant Nathan McKinnon absent

Present: 4 - Member Juan Olmos, Member Casey Wilson, Member Mike Wegley, and Jonnie Lan

Absent: 1 - Member Nathaniel McKinnon

C. ORAL COMMUNICATION

There were no public comments.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Member Lan, seconded by Member Wilson, that this be approved the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

D1. **SUBJECT:** Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2023

ACTION:

Approving and filing the Traffic Committee Minutes of November 7, 2023

A motion was made that this Consent Item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

E. REPORTS

E1. **SUBJECT:** Committee Member Reports

Member WEGLEY reported that the absence of PD was due to a scheduled training.

F. BUSINESS

F.1 **SUBJECT:** Continued Request #23-16 - Requesting upgrades to the roadway/shoulder to stop damage from vehicles using the requestor's

property as a shoulder, and to stop damage from flooding at the south edge of 16th Street, east of the car wash at G Street. (Chris Grant)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states that due to worn markings and a lack of separation between the roadway and their property, there has been significant damage and flooding to their property. Vehicles of all sizes use the property as a shoulder, leaving behind significant damage to sprinklers and landscaping.

Citizen stated parking continues to be a problem in this location.

The idea of barriers was introduced by member WEGLEY. But the installation and probable outcomes created a dismissal of the idea.

Surveying needs to occur to identify property vs city line. Once the parameters are established, public works will create the true demarcation line between the road and property land.

A motion was made by Member Olmos that this Business Item be approved with surveying from Engineering and true demarcation markings from Public Works. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

F.2

SUBJECT: Continued Request #23-17 - Requesting an unloading and loading zone at Sheehy Elementary School (T Street and 6th Street) to accommodate students and others with disabilities. (Ken Testa)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states that as a component of Sheehy Elementary School being completely modernized, plans and specifications were developed by Darden Architects and submitted and approved by the State Department of State Architect (DSA). The project was competitively bid, and CenCal Construction of Fresno is the sub-contractor performing on site grading, concrete, and path of travel upgrades. In order to upgrade path of travel and accommodate students and others with disabled access conditions, the Merced City School District requests a change in the parking ordinance at the location noted on the attached map. Signage and striping paint will indicate the truncated domes and new sidewalk and curb-and-gutter with asphalt paving upgrades to City of Merced Standards. MCSD respectfully requests the change in parking ordinance to allow for a "Unloading and Loading Zone" area consistent with the plans submitted.

Continuance was proposed by member WEGLEY to continue this item until the next meeting to gain a response from the requestor.

A motion was made by Member Wegley, seconded by Member Lan, that this Business Item be continued. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- F.3** **SUBJECT:** Continued Request #23-22 Requesting A Stop Sign At The Intersection Of Wildcat Drive And St Tropaz Avenue To Prevent Accidents From Occurring.

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states cars speed past the intersection from both directions since there is no stop sign. This intersection creates many near misses on a daily basis.

Based on traffic data, there are no warrants to approve the stop sign.

A motion was made by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Olmos, that this Business Item be denied. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- F.4** **SUBJECT:** Request #24-02 Requesting stop signs or speed bumps to aid in the dangerous area of Gerard Ave between Parsons Avenue and Coffee Street (Carroll Ramos)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states cars drive past the area at uncontrollable speeds. The surrounding neighbors have experienced several hit and runs that leaves this area dangerous to all parties.

Collision reports provided by PD do not permit a stop sign at this location.

A motion was made by Member Olmos, seconded by Member Wilson, that this Business Item be denied. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- F.5** **SUBJECT:** Request #24-03 Requesting stop signs and speed humps in front of Weaver School on North Coffee Street to prevent accidents and control this school zoned area. (Monica Jackson)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states cars drive past the area at uncontrollable speeds even when children are present. Citizen believes speed humps are necessary to keep pedestrians safe.

Member OLMOS stated that while he was not in favor of additional stop signs or speed bumps, he introduced the idea of police enforcement in the area.

A motion was made by Member Olmos, seconded by Member Lan, that this Business Item be denied. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

F.6

SUBJECT: Request #24-04 Requesting a stop sign or other safety measures at Park Place and Park Avenue to protect the residential area and the children walking to school. (Jessica Chadwell)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states cars drive past the area at high speeds disregarding the residential zone or the children walking to school. Citizen is requesting a stop sign on Park Place and Park Avenue.

Members decided the request does not meet traffic warrants.

A motion was made by Member Wegley, seconded by Member Wilson, that this Business Item be denied. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

F.7

SUBJECT: Request #24-05 Requesting a four way stop as there are no traffic controls on Canal St between W 13th Street and W 8th Street (Sgt Nathan McKinnon)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Sergeant states there are no traffic controls in the area as well as a restricted view created by cars parking too close to the intersection. In 2023, there have been ten reported collisions and five reported collisions in 2022.

Based on crash data, there are warrant to create a four way stop at the the W 11th and Canal Street Intersection.

A motion was made by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Lan, that this Business Item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

F.8

SUBJECT: Request #24-06 Requesting clear lines and signage indicating drivers to "keep clear" to aid in the dangerous area of Fairfield Drive and M Street. (Laura Ivancich)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states there are no clear lines or warnings against high speeds when there is cross traffic entering the intersection. With multiple altercations, increased warning is necessary.

Committee voted to withdraw the request after engineering asked for its deletion.

This Business Item was withdrawn.

F.9

SUBJECT: Request #24-07 Requesting signage and other measures to

discourage drivers from turning left out of the McDonalds/ Tractor Supply parking lot onto Campus Parkway. (Corey Plagenza)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states cars exit the parking lot and cross both the traffic lanes dirt median to make a left turn onto Coffee Street instead of making a right turn.

Members debated the idea of street signs but were hesitant that the signs would deter drivers.

Member Wegley suggested planning contact the developer regarding the area and safety precautions needed.

A motion was made by Member Wegley, seconded by Member Olmos, that this Business Item be approved as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

F.10

SUBJECT: Request #24-08 Requesting a traffic circle at the intersection of West 11th and W Street. (Jerry Perezchica)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states that the additional signage and repainting at the intersection has failed to influence a reduction of speed and traffic. Citizen believes adding a traffic circle can aid in the solution.

Clerk Note: Item was moved before F.2 for discussion

Members discussed options and reasons for the traffic in the area.

Member WILSON and LAN explained how a traffic circle could be a problem for firefighters and could still lead to problems with traffic.

Member LAN explained the importance of studies in the area and offered to refer these issues in the comments of the next study.

Member OLMOS requested a speed trailer at this location in the meantime.

A motion was made by Member Lan, and seconded by Member Olmos, that this Business Item be denied. The committee also requested for planning to refer these issues at the upcoming traffic study, and have PD provide a speed trailer for the area . The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

F.11

SUBJECT: Request #24-01 Requesting the addition of a four way stop at the intersection of M Street and Childs Avenue. (Jaylene Melendez)

REPORT IN BRIEF

Citizen states there are numerous car accidents held at this intersection due to a restricted view. The four-way stop will help with these safety concerns.

Member WEGLEY notes that the intersection is too close to another four way stop.

Member WILSON agreed.

A motion was made by Member Wegley, seconded by Member Wilson, that this Business Item be denied. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

G. ADJOURNMENT