

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 13, 2018

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson: Steven Son, City Engineer

Committee Members: Michael Hren, Planning Manager Designee
Juan Olmos, Director of Public Works Designee
Craig McKeeman, Police Chief Proxy Designee

Absent: Michael Wilkinson, Fire Chief

C. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Traffic Committee Minutes of July 10, 2018

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and file.

Clerk's Note: Committee Members and proxy designees who were present at the July meeting were not present at the September meeting to make a quorum to approve the Minutes of July 10, 2018. The Minutes will be forwarded to the March 2019 meeting for approval.

2. Traffic Committee Minutes of September 11, 2018

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and file.

Committee Member Hren noted that on Page 4, Request #18-016 of the Minutes, under members “Absent”, he was present and Wilkinson was absent; the minutes would require an amendment to reflect the last name change.

Michael Hren Moved, Craig McKeeman Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

Clerk's Note: Staff recommendation approved.

E. REPORTS

1. Committee Member Reports
None.

F. BUSINESS

1. Request #18-013 – Re-Address Painting of Red Curb on Kelly Avenue, Between Baker Drive to Hwy 140, to Allow Enough Lane Space for Traffic Traveling in Opposite Directions (Corey Plagenza)
(City Traffic Signal/Lighting Technician Corey Plagenza is requesting the curb along Kelly Ave, between Baker Drive and Hwy 140, be painted red because vehicles parked along the curb does not leave enough space for traffic, causing vehicles to cross centerline. This item was previously heard at the July 10, 2018, and September 11, 2018, Traffic Committee Meetings.)

Chairperson SON, considering the width of the street, traffic flow, and parking; specified that painting 100’ of red curb along the east and west sides of Kelly Avenue would be adequate.

Committee Member HREN questioned if there are bike lanes in the vicinity.

After an aerial view of the street, the existence of the bike lane was not

clear, therefore Mr. HREN indicated that he would request the Bicycle Advisory Commission (BAC) to review this matter and re-address it at a future meeting.

MOTION: To paint 100' of red curb on the east and west sides of Kelly Avenue, north of Highway 140, and defer the bike lane matter to Mr. HREN for the BAC's review.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: Approves amending the current ordinance to add the red cub on Kelly Avenue.

Son Moved, Olmos Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

2. Request #18-015 -- Re-Address the Request to Replace the 30-Minute Green Parking Space to Disabled Parking on Main Street, Between Martin Luther King, Jr. and N Street (Annisssa Fragoso)
(Citizen requests replacing the 30-minute timed parking to disabled parking to accommodate disabled persons. This item was previously heard at the September 11, 2018, Traffic Committee Meeting.)

Chairperson SON stated that there are three disabled parking spaces in the back parking lot.

Committee Member HREN recommended parking signs, specifically stating that handicap parking is available in the back, would be helpful.

Committee Member OLMOS replied that way-finding signs are estimated at \$2,500 per sign.

Mr. SON concluded that he intends to speak with the Director of Economic Development to resolve the handicap parking matter in the vicinity.

MOTION: To deny with a future study in ADA parking in the Downtown District.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Michael Hren Moved, Steven Son Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

3. Request #18-019 – Request for Additional Police Enforcement or Traffic Calming Measures be Installed on S. Coffee Street – Between E. Childs Avenue and E. Gerard Avenue, to Slow Traffic Down for School Children (Stephanie Buttici)

(Citizen requests additional police enforcement of posted speed limits, larger speed limit signs, or speed bumps on S. Coffee Street near Pioneer and Weaver schools to slow traffic down.)

Committee Member OLMOS indicated that the speed limit is 30 MPH on Gerard Avenue and a sign is posted in the zone.

Committee Member HREN suggested there be more police enforcement.

MOTION: To deny.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Michael Hren Moved, Craig McKeeman Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

4. Request #18-020 – Request for Installation of Speed Bumps on Gannet Court to Slow Vehicles Down (Lorena Gutierrez)

(Citizen requests the installation of three to four speed bumps on Gannet Court to protect neighborhood children from getting hit by speeding vehicles.)

Chairperson SON determined that speed bumps are not warranted in the area since it slows emergency vehicles down.

MOTION: To deny.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Juan Olmos Moved, Michael Hren Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

5. Request #18-021 – Request for Permission to Install Student Drop Off Signs Along South “N” Street for Alicia Reyes Elementary School (Aaron Alexander, Principal of Alicia Reyes Elementary School)
(Citizen requests permission to install already-bought student pick up and drop off signs along the N Street park strip for organization of loading and unloading of students, and for safety purposes.)

Committee Member OLMOS informed that the requested signs do not meet the US Department of Transportation Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) therefore Merced Police cannot enforce them.

Police Chief Proxy Designee, Officer McKeeman, stated their Traffic Division could increase police enforcement in the school zone.

MOTION: To deny.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Steven Son Moved, Juan Olmos Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

6. Request #18-022 – Request to Stripe the Double Left-Turn Lanes on Yosemite Avenue Turning onto M Street (Christopher Butler)
(Citizen requests street striping of the double left-turn lanes onto M Street from Yosemite Avenue to guide drivers and prevent lane merging while making a left-turn.)

CHRISTOPHER BUTLER was present and conveyed the need of the guided double left-turn lanes.

Chairperson SON affirmed that he would like to revisit this matter in March 2019 for a possibility of restriping.

MOTION: To suspend the request until March 2019.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Michael Hren Moved, Craig McKeeman Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

7. Request #18-023 – Request for Installation of Traffic Calming Measure on Shirley Street for Safety of Residents and Children (Rose Valdez)
(Citizen requests some sort of traffic calming measure be installed on Shirley Street to deter drivers from speeding through neighborhood and to ensure safety of young pedestrians traveling to school bus stop in the area.)

ROSE VALDEZ, NORMA MARTINEZ, and GUADALUPE GONZALEZ were present to express the issues they have observed and the need for the installation of speed bumps or 25 MPH signs on Shirley Street.

Chairperson SON recommended installing 25 MPH signs at both ends of Shirley Street for the reasons that the nearest cross streets (Yosemite Parkway and Merced Avenue) are highly traveled streets and there are businesses in the locality.

MOTION: To install 25 MPH signs at both ends of Shirley Street.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: Approves amending the current ordinance to add the 25 MPH speed limit signs on Shirley Street.

Michel Hren Moved, Craig McKeeman Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

8. Request #18-024 – Request for Implementation of 2-Hour Curb Parking on Canal Street – Between 18th & Main St, and on 18th Street – Between “M” & Canal St. (Keval McNamara)

(Citizen requests the installation of 2-hour parking signs be installed on portions of Canal Street and 18th Street to allow ample customer parking.)

Committee Member OLMOS recalled removing customer parking in 2013. During that time, members addressed parking on a block-by-block basis.

Chairperson SON determined that this matter would require meeting with Director of Economic Development for a resolution.

MOTION: To continue to a future meeting.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Michel Hren Moved, Steven Son Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

9. Request #18-025 – Request for Mercy Avenue by Mansionette Drive/3-Way Stop to be Restriped to Avoid Confusion and Prevent Vehicle Collision (Sylvia & Melinda Bias)

(Citizens request the street restriping on Mercy Avenue near Mansionette Drive. Drivers heading westbound on Mercy Avenue uses the “emergency lane” at the 3-way stop to turn left onto Mansionette Drive.)

Chairperson SON asserted that he is aware of this matter and the Engineering Division will be working with the developer to come to a resolution.

MOTION: To deny.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Steven Son Moved, Michael Hren Seconded

Vote: 4-0

Voting Aye: Steven Son, Juan Olmos, Michael Hren, Craig McKeeman

Absent: Michael Wilkinson

G. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

By:



Nancy Lee
Secretary II/Recording Secretary

Approved:



Ken Elwin
Interim City Engineer/Chairperson