

**CITY OF ORINDA  
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

June 17, 2019

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TSAC) WAS HELD ON THE ABOVE DATE IN THE SARGE LITTLEHALE COMMUNITY ROOM, 22 ORINDA WAY, ORINDA, CALIFORNIA.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Bisesto called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

COMMITTEEMEMBERS: Laura Bisesto, Travis Blaschek-Miller, Stuart House (absent, excused), Mark Roberts, Steve Schnier

City Staff: Director of Public Works and Engineering Services Larry Theis; Assistant Engineer Kevin McCourt

Chair Bisesto introduced and welcomed newly appointed Committeemember Travis Blaschek-Miller; Committeemember Blaschek-Miller has been an Orinda resident for approximately one year and is enthusiastic to be a member of the Committee due to the traffic safety issues around his neighborhood near Wagner Ranch.

**C. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

March 18, 2019

MOTION: By Committeemember Roberts, seconded by Committeemember Schnier, to approve the TSAC Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2019. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Director Theis stated that the TSAC has seven Committeemember seats; according to the Brown Act, four Committeemembers must be present to establish a quorum; the previous two scheduled TSAC meetings were canceled due to the inability to form a quorum; Committeemembers are encouraged to contact residents who may be interested in filling the two vacancies; if necessary, staff may request that the City Council change the TSAC to a five member Committee.

**D. PUBLIC FORUM**

Mary Gilles, Orinda resident, requested action to increase pedestrian safety on Brookwood Road; many of the residents on Brookwood Road walk to the intersection of Camino Pablo to access BART or the downtown area; there is vegetation, some of it poison oak, impeding pedestrians on the south side shoulder at #67 Brookwood Road; she suggested installing a gravel path on the shoulder or creating a striped area designated for pedestrians along with a crosswalk where #67 Brookwood Road ends; additionally, she

requested increased lighting in the area and noted a metal light pole without a light head near the John Muir building.

Director Theis responded that the installation of a designated walking space on Brookwood Road would fall under the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) which is beyond the scope of the TSAC; any designated walkway would need to be ADA compliant and would be expensive; the Orinda community traditionally prefers paved walkways over concrete sidewalks; if the HOA can add additional space onto the property for parking, the City could look into painting lines for pedestrians; he recommended that Ms. Gilles attend the upcoming City Council meeting and request funding for a study for a Brookwood Road pedestrian path; the new Fiscal Year budget is nearly complete and it would be unlikely that the City Council would fund the entire project as there are currently other similar pedestrian projects that are unfunded; the project may be able to be funded through a TDA grant. Most Orinda residents do not favor increasing lighting; additional streetlights can be paid through a lighting assessment district; Brookwood Road may fall into a lighting district; if not, they could assess themselves for a new lighting district.

Chair Bisesto suggested that because the City Council is moving to revitalize the downtown area, Ms. Gilles should emphasize that a Brookwood Road pedestrian walkway would be a downtown project, as Brookwood Road has 4-Hour parking spaces within walking distance to the downtown area.

Director Theis noted that a Brookwood Road walkway was one of the projects discussed for the CIP, but was a low priority; a study may be easier to move forward.

**E. DISCUSSION – BIKE RODEO/BICYCLE SAFETY DAY**

Chair Bisesto reported that she and Committeemember Schnier attended the May 11, 2019, Bike Rodeo/Bicycle Safety Day at Wagner Ranch Elementary School; over 30 children attended with a number of parents; Bike East Bay was pleased with the turnout for the event, which was held two days after *Bike to Work Day*; she supported holding another such event with improved advertising and flyers that may increase the participation; it was unclear whether Bike East Bay could have managed more children at that time.

Committeemember Schnier commented that, while the advertising could have been better, the event was a great experience; more people attended the event than signed up; Bike East Bay only used a portion of the school parking lot; for a future event, it may be beneficial to use the Rite Aid parking lot for easier accessibility.

Committeemember Blaschek-Miller mentioned that he had not received any information from his school and that possibly moving the event to the Community Center may help.

Committeemember Roberts asked if there were any evaluations of the event from the parents.

Chair Bisesto reported that Bike East Bay may have that information; however, the parents that she had spoken with enjoyed the event.

**F. TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATES AND ACTIONS**

1. Briefing from Police Chief – SLOW DOWN ORINDA/Traffic Citations Report  
No report
2. Traffic Calming Requests
  - a. Dalewood Drive – Speed Cushion Request – Recommend (ON HOLD)
  - b. Davis Road – Speed Cushion Request – Recommend (ON HOLD)

Assistant Engineer McCourt advised that there are currently eight requests in the queue and these two new requests should be placed on hold.

3. Accessibility Issues

Director Theis noted that the budget for curb ramps was increased this year and the installation of two curb ramps on Altarinda Road and Santa Maria Way is scheduled to be completed during this year’s Pavement Rehabilitation Project.

**G. STAFF REPORT**

1. *Update – Current Balance of Traffic Calming Improvements Program  
FY 2019 expenditures \$7,775.96 to date; \$40,000 budget = remaining balance  
\$32,224.04*

Assistant Engineer McCourt noted that the 2019 Fiscal Year is coming to a close and no other expenditures are anticipated prior to the end of June.

2. *Update – Rheem Boulevard - Radar Speed Sign Installation*

Assistant Engineer McCourt stated that the Neighborhood Action Team (NAT) had asked to keep this request open - although they could not meet the requirements for a radar speed sign, they would like to re-stripe the road to narrow the drive lanes.

Director Theis advised that Rheem Boulevard was slurry sealed in 2014; the lanes could be re-striped for no additional cost when it is paved again, although that could be several years in the future; otherwise the cost may be ten to fifteen thousand dollars.

Chair Bisesto requested that staff continue to look into re-striping.

3. *Update - Hillcrest Drive (between Martha Road and Overhill Road) – Speed Cushion Installation and Radar Speed Sign Installation*

Assistant Engineer McCourt advised that a NAT meeting was held in April at the site of the requested speed cushions; the request also included a crosswalk paddle at Martha Road and Hillcrest Drive and increased Police enforcement; a map was created and the NAT indicated the property owners unsupportive of speed cushions in front of their property; more residents than anticipated did not support speed cushion

placement; staff will make a site visit to determine whether there are alternative locations in the neighborhood for placement of speed cushions.

Director Theis added that the NAT does not support radar feedback signs that state 25 MPH; placement of 15 MPH advisory signage was favored at the site of the speed cushions; also requested was a turn restriction onto Hillcrest Drive from Overhill Road with residents excepted via a permit.

Director Theis advised that permit-only turning is not a viable option.

Chair Bisesto reminded the Committee that this item was prioritized due to the proximity to Glorietta Elementary School.

4. *Postponed - Donald Drive – Signage and Speed Cushion Installation (ON HOLD)*  
No update.

5. *Postponed – Rheem Boulevard at Zander Drive– 3-Way Stop Sign (ON HOLD)*  
Assistant Engineer McCourt advised that the recommendation for Stop Signs at Rheem Boulevard and Zander Drive was brought to the City Council on June 4, 2019; residents were contacted through postings on Outlook and NextDoor, and letters were sent to residents within an 800’ radius of the Rheem Boulevard and Zander Drive intersection; letters and e-mails were received from residents and forwarded to the City Council, with the majority in favor of installation; following discussion, the City Council approved the Stop signage; staff is currently obtaining a quote for the signs and has arranged with the striping contractor for the 2019 Pavement Rehabilitation Project to install the striping; Mr. Au, Orinda resident who owns the driveway that intersects the Rheem Boulevard and Zander Drive, will be contacted regarding placement of the Stop sign at his property frontage; a crosswalk may be installed following a trial period with the new signage.

Director Theis clarified that the City did receive a few negative comments, however, most were from outside the Zander Drive neighborhood; a traffic signal at the Rheem Boulevard and Zander Drive intersection, although cost prohibitive, would make the most sense; the City Council was open to the idea of installing a traffic signal at this location in the future.

Committeemember Blaschek-Miller asked how the City measures compliance to the Stop signs.

Director Theis replied that an increase in collisions at the intersection would indicate non-compliance with the signage.

6. *Postponed – East Altarinda Road– Signage (ON HOLD)*  
No update.
7. *Postponed – Northwood Drive – Speed Cushion Request (ON HOLD)*  
No update.

8. *Postponed – Lost Valley Drive – Signage/Striping/Radar Feedback Request (ON HOLD)*  
No update.

**H. MATTERS INITIATED**

Items for the next TSAC agenda:

- Briefing from Police Chief - SLOW DOWN ORINDA/Traffic Citations Report
- Traffic Calming Requests
- Accessibility Issues
- Staff Report
  - Updates

Chair Bisesto requested an update on the CIP and the Transportation Development Act (TDA) grant.

Director Theis reported that the Ivy Drive Bicycle Route Project was recommended and will receive the TDA grant funding; although Nick Waranoff, Orinda resident, spoke in opposition at the County Board of Supervisors meeting, the grant was approved; last year's TDA grant project, the Moraga Way/Brookside Road Crosswalk, is on the CIP list as is a pathway between Martha Road and Catherine Court to access Glorietta Elementary School; the City may add the trail into their system; the Bicycles, Trails, and Walkways Master Plan may need to be updated in the future and the TSAC should participate.

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** By Committeemember Roberts, seconded by Committeemember Schnier, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The next Regular Meeting of the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee will be 7:00 p.m., July 15, 2019, in the Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda, California.

Prepared by: K. McCourt