

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

July 15, 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 7:05 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

City Staff: Assistant Engineer Kevin McCourt

C. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2019

MOTION: By Committeemember Schnier, seconded by Committeemember Blaschek-Miller, to approve the TSAC Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2019. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

D. PUBLIC FORUM

Steve Herrin, Orinda resident, belongs to a homeowners association (HOA) that includes residents of Sundown Terrace and Dalewood Drive; he originally moved into the neighborhood because of low traffic volume; a private road was created a couple years after he moved in which was intended to provide residents a connection between Dalewood Drive and Sundown Terrace; traffic has increased because of this access and also possibly due to navigation applications; the HOA attempted to install gates and guards to prevent vehicles from outside the neighborhood, but they were costly and not effective; the neighborhood has given up on limiting traffic, but would like to slow the traffic traveling through the neighborhood.

Eliz Boyle, Orinda resident, agreed that the speed of the traffic is an issue and requested three speed cushions similar to what was put in on Sundown Terrace; many neighbors on Dalewood are in agreement.

Committeemember Schnier questioned whether the traffic was from the neighborhood or from commuters.

Ms. Boyle replied that the traffic was from both residents and commuters.

Mr. Herrin noted the high volume of commercial vehicles which travel through Dalewood Drive; additionally, the majority of vehicles roll through the Stop sign located at Dalewood Drive and Lombardy Lane.

Chair Bisesto asked staff to request that Officer Sandy patrol the area.

Committeemember House was concerned for the safety of schoolchildren as there are no existing sidewalks and questioned if there are school bus stops along the road.

Ms. Boyle and Mr. Herrin advised that there are approximately five bus stops that have large shoulder area for pick-ups and drop-offs.

Chair Bisesto asked if there was a way to accelerate the process of the traffic calming request.

Assistant Engineer McCourt advised that the City is hiring another Senior Engineer who is expected to start in approximately one month; this may allow more staff time to dedicate to traffic calming.

Committeemember Schnier inquired if there are any existing traffic or safety studies regarding Dalewood Drive; he also questioned if it would be possible for private citizens to fund a traffic study.

Assistant Engineer McCourt said that he would research if there are existing Dalewood Drive studies and will check on whether citizens could fund a study.

Ms. Boyle asked whether the speed cushions could be asphalt instead of rubberized.

Assistant Engineer McCourt responded that he would investigate but noted that the rubberized cushions are Orinda's standard speed cushions.

E. TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATES AND ACTIONS

1. Briefing from Police Chief – SLOW DOWN ORINDA/Traffic Citations Report
No report

Committeemember House questioned whether the Police Department can focus more attention on the areas that are on the pending Traffic Calming Requests.

Assistant Engineer McCourt advised that the Police Department may not have adequate resources to divert to those areas, he will contact Officer Sandy to see if that would be feasible; he noted that Officer Sandy does go into the residential areas.

Chair Bisesto agreed that it would be desirable to have increased police presence in the areas of the requests.

Committeemember Schnier concurred and asked staff to request increased police presence in those areas.

2. Traffic Calming Requests

No new requests

3. Accessibility Issues

Assistant Engineer McCourt advised that the Paving Program Project Manager has informed staff that the installation of the two curb ramps on Altarinda Road and Santa Maria Way is scheduled to be completed in September as part of the 2019 Pavement Rehabilitation Project. He noted that the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budget for ADA upgrades has been increased from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

Chair Bisesto requested that staff bring a list of curb ramps throughout the City which are not up to code.

Assistant Engineer McCourt will bring the requested list and the TSAC's pedestrian ramp prioritization list to a future meeting.

F. STAFF REPORT

1. *Update – Current Balance of Traffic Calming Improvements Program*

FY 2019 expenditures \$0 to date; \$40,000 budget = remaining balance \$40,000.00

Assistant Engineer McCourt noted that with the start of the 2019 Fiscal Year the TSAC budget has been reset.

The Committee discussed how to increase the turnaround time for Traffic Calming Requests.

Chair Bisesto requested that a discussion be placed on a future agenda for potential changes to the Traffic Calming Request form.

Assistant Engineer McCourt stated that he would discuss the possibility of revising the form with Director Theis prior to the next TSAC next meeting.

Committeemember Blaschek-Miller requested that the step in the process that the request is currently on be noted on the Agenda next to each Traffic Calming Request.

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

Assistant Engineer McCourt advised that at the request of the TSAC, he had measured the lane widths at several locations along Rheem Boulevard; the lane widths varied from 11 to 11.5 feet wide; the roadway could possibly be restriped to create 10 foot wide lanes, but a traffic study may be needed; the cost would be between \$2 and \$5 per linear foot; another option would be to wait a couple of years until the road is repaved and then restripe narrower travel lanes at no additional cost.

Committeemember Schnier asked for a closer estimate of when in the future Rheem Boulevard would be repaved.

Chair Bisesto requested a complete cost estimate for restriping from Glorietta Boulevard to near 77 Rheem Boulevard.

Assistant Engineer McCourt stated he would bring the information to the next TSAC meeting.

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

Assistant Engineer McCourt advised that the next step for this request is for staff to make a site visit and recommend a location for speed cushion placement to the Neighborhood Action Team (NAT); there may be only one suitable site closer to Martha Road that would be acceptable.

Committeemember House commented that a single speed cushion near Martha Road could solve the issue.

4. *Update – Rheem Boulevard at Zander Drive – 3-Way Stop Sign*

Assistant Engineer McCourt advised that the striping contractor for the 2019 Pavement Rehabilitation Project will be completing the striping for these Stop signs; the striping will be completed before December 17, 2019.

5. *Postponed - Donald Drive – Signage and Speed Cushion Installation (ON HOLD)*

No update.

6. *Postponed – East Altarinda Road– Signage Request (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.

9. *Postponed – Underhill Road – Speed Cushion Request (ON HOLD)*

10. *Postponed – Dalewood Drive – Speed Cushion Request (ON HOLD)*

11. *Postponed – Davis Road – Speed Cushion Request (ON HOLD)*

G. MATTERS INITIATED

Items for the next TSAC agenda:

- Briefing from Police Chief - SLOW DOWN ORINDA/Traffic Citations Report
- Traffic Calming Requests
- Discussion – Accelerating the Traffic Calming Request Process
- Accessibility Issues
- Staff Report
 - Updates

Chair Bisesto reported that the Bike Rodeo/Bicycle Safety Day had been featured in the Orinda News; she thanked Committeemember House for his help securing Wagner Ranch Elementary School to host the event; the next Bike Rodeo may be located in the downtown area if possible.

Committeemember House mentioned that the Principal of Wagner Ranch Elementary School is an avid bicyclist and a strong supporter of the event.

Committeemember Blaschek-Miller asked about possible safe driving education for school zones.

Committeemember House suggested that the TSAC utilize school newsletters to communicate to the parents of schoolchildren; it would also be beneficial to distribute a flyer or have the Police Chief speak to parents during orientation about safe driving in school zones.

Committeemember Schnier suggested that perhaps the TSAC could be part of the orientation.

MOTION: By Chair Bisesto, seconded Committeemember House, to add Safe Driving Education for School Zones to the next TSAC agenda. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Assistant Engineer McCourt distributed plans for the Glorietta Safe Route to School Project as per the request of Committeemember House; the project establishes a pedestrian/bicyclist path for schoolchildren going to Glorietta Elementary School.

Committeemember House explained the history of the project, noting that originally the project was to be located on Hillcrest Road, but the neighborhood opposed it; it was then moved to Martha Road, which was also opposed; and ultimately it was moved to Glorietta Boulevard.

I. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: By Committeemember Blaschek-Miller, seconded by Chair Bisesto, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 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., August 19, 2019, in the Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda, California.

Prepared by: K. McCourt