

**CITY OF LOS BANOS  
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 9, 2007**

***ACTION MINUTES – These minutes are prepared to depict action taken for agenda items presented to the Traffic Safety Committee.***

**CALL TO ORDER:** Police Chief Gallagher called the Traffic Safety Committee Meeting to order at the hour of 2:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL – MEMBERS OF THE TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE PRESENT:** Dwayne Chisam, Public Works Director/City Engineer (Public Works Department); John LeVan, Planning Manager (Planning Department); Chris Gallagher, Police Chief (Police Department); Chet Guintini, Fire Chief (Fire Department); Norm Donovan (Planning Commission Representative)

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** City Clerk/Human Resources Director Lucy Mallonee

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Chisam, seconded by LeVan to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all committee members present

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by LeVan, seconded by Gallagher to approve the October 10, 2006 Traffic Safety minutes as submitted. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all committee members present.

**PUBLIC FORUM: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON ANY ITEM OF PUBLIC INTEREST THAT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY; INCLUDES AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS. NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO A FIVE (5) MINUTE PRESENTATION.**

DAVID MARCH, speaking on behalf of Dan Martin of the Los Banos Unified School District, spoke in support of prohibiting parking on the west side of 11<sup>th</sup> Street but in opposition of prohibiting parking on the east side of 11<sup>th</sup> Street; JIM MACHADO, Los Banos, spoke in agreement with Mr. March.

Discussion included determining if the vehicles parked on 11<sup>th</sup> Street were owned by students or citizens. Chairman Gallagher read a memo from Dan Martin regarding safety and requiring a parking permit for anyone driving a vehicle to school. It was stated that the east side of 11<sup>th</sup> Street was posted No Parking in the past, but that the signage was removed years ago.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO POST LOADING AND UNLOADING ONLY SIGNS ON THE WEST SIDE OF SOUTH 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET FROM MADISON AVENUE TO PAGE AVENUE (DAN MARTIN, LOS BANOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT).** There was committee member discussion which included concerns mentioned in the Public Forum.

Motion by Guintini, seconded by Donovan to install 2 Hour Parking Zone signs and to paint yellow curbing on the west side of 11<sup>th</sup> Street from the driveway of the Los Banos High School faculty parking lot to Page Avenue. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all committee members.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO POST 2 HOUR PARKING ZONE SIGNS ON THE EAST SIDE OF SOUTH 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET FROM MADISON AVENUE TO PAGE AVENUE (DAN MARTIN, LOS BANOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT).** There was committee member discussion regarding the possibility of waiving parking permit fees to encourage vehicles to park in the parking. By consensus there was no action taken on this item.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR A ONE-WAY STREET ON PAGE AVENUE FROM 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO THE INTERSECTION OF MONTE VISTA DRIVE.** JOE MACHADO, Los Banos, stated that this could impact his street. There was committee member discussion and it was stated that making Page Avenue a one-way street could push traffic onto Jackson Avenue to turn around. It was stated that the city is currently in the process of extending Page Avenue to Mercey Springs Rd. By consensus it was agreed to readdress the item once the Page Avenue extension is completed.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR A 4-WAY STOP AT THE INTERSECTION OF WEST I STREET AND CARDOZA ROAD.** Chairman Gallagher requested that a traffic study be completed for this intersection and that this item be placed on the next traffic safety agenda for discussion. It was stated that a traffic warrant study would be completed on this intersection and the results would be discussed at the next traffic safety committee meeting.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF MERCED COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DROP OFF AND APPROACH LOCATED AT H STREET AND JOHNSON AVENUE.** It was stated that the city is currently working with the Merced County Office of Education School Principal with regards to the striping plan. By consensus it was agreed to readdress this issue once the striping plan is completed.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO EVALUATE ENTRY ACCESS TO THE WAL-MART SHOPPING CENTER UPON EXIT OF DENNY'S RESTAURANT ONTO BADGER FLAT ROAD.** There was committee member discussion and a traffic study for this area was requested. It was stated that this item would be discussed once when the traffic study is completed.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR A REVIEW OF LEFT TURN TRAFFIC FROM THE NORTH AND SOUTH SIDES OF WEST I STREET ONTO PACHECO BOULEVARD.** There was committee member discussion and it was stated that the city would not need CalTrans approval to re-stripe West I Street and the left hand turn lanes. By consensus it was agreed to discuss this item at the next traffic safety meeting for review and consideration.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO EVALUATE THE INTERSECTION AT BIRCH AVENUE & WEST I STREET TO DETERMINE IF CROSSWALK STRIPING IS WARRANTED.** There was committee member discussion and it was stated that there is presently a bus stop a few feet away from this intersection.

Motion by Chisam, seconded by Donovan to paint crosswalks on West I Street directly north and south of the intersection of Birch Avenue and on Birch Avenue directly east and west of the intersection of West I Street. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all members present.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF SPEED LIMIT ON ORTIGALITA ROAD FROM PACHECO BOULEVARD TO PIONEER ROAD.** There was committee member discussion and it was stated that a speed limit is not currently posted so the speed limit is considered to be 55 MPH. It was then stated that a recent speed survey revealed the average speed was 48.97 MPH.

Motion by Gallagher, seconded by Donovan to post 45 MPH speed limit signs on Ortigalita Road from Pacheco Boulevard to Pioneer Road, and to reconsider the speed limit in this area once the surrounding development is completed. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all members present.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS.**

Committee Member Gallagher reported that a traffic study was recently completed at the intersection of Dove Street and Meadowlark Avenue in order to determine if a 4-Way Stop was needed. Gallagher stated that results of this study did not support a 4 way stop for the intersection at this time. Committee Member Donovan requested that staff consider posting No Truck Parking signs on Overland Avenue between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and stated that he had concerns regarding Truck Parking on H Street.

**ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting was adjourned at the hour of 3:04 p.m.

APPROVED:

/s/ Chris Gallagher  
Chris Gallagher, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/ Lucille L. Mallonee  
Lucille L. Mallonee, City Clerk