

**CITY OF LOS BANOS
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 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 2:07 p.m.

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

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Assistant City Clerk/HR Technician Sousa, Public Works Operations Manager Pimentel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Donovan, 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 Donovan, seconded by Guintini to approve the July 17, 2007 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. No one came forward to speak and the public forum was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO INSTALL A 4-WAY STOP AT THE INTERSECTION OF WARD ROAD AND SAN LUIS STREET (BOB NIEMOND) (CONTINUED FROM JULY 17, 2007). Chairman Gallagher read a letter from Bob Niemond regarding the request. It was stated that this intersection did not meet stop sign warrants, and that on a typical eight-hour day 3,000 cars and 66 pedestrians traveled through the intersection. It was also stated that an island is present at mid-intersection; therefore, pedestrians did not have to cross all four lanes at one time. By consensus it was agreed to wait on any action regarding this intersection until the Traffic Model is completed.

Motion by Donovan, seconded by Chisam to deny the request to install a 4-way stop at the intersection of Ward Road and San Luis Street. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all committee members present.

CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO INSTALL ADDITIONAL HANDICAP PARKING SPACES IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA.

There was committee member discussion regarding the best location for additional handicap parking in the downtown area. It was stated that there was a need for handicap parking at the intersection of I Street and 5th Street because of the heavy traffic in and out of the beauty salons in the area. It was agreed by all committee members present that the best solution would be to place a handicap ramp at the corner of the intersection so the pedestrians would also have access to the area.

Motion by Donovan, seconded by Guintini to install a handicap ramp at the southeast corner of I Street and 5th Street. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all committee members present.

CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO APPROVE A LOADING/UNLOADING ZONE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF J STREET FROM 7TH STREET TO 8TH STREET FOR LOS BANOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

There was committee member discussion, and it was stated that vehicles dropping off and picking up children at Los Banos Elementary School are double parking on J Street causing congested traffic in the area during morning and afternoon school hours.

Motion by Gallagher, seconded by Chisam to post loading/unloading signs with a time restriction from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., on the south side of J Street beginning two parking spaces in from 7th Street and ending at 8th Street. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all committee members present.

CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO INSTALL A CROSSWALK ON SAN LUIS STREET AT THE AVALON ADULT COMMUNITY GATES.

There was committee member discussion and it was stated that presently the area does not meet traffic safety standards to install a crosswalk. It was also stated that installing a crosswalk at mid-block may give pedestrians a false sense of security when crossing the street.

By consensus it was agreed to deny the request to install a crosswalk on San Luis Street at the Avalon Adult Community gates.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS. Committee Member Chisam spoke regarding the addition of bike lanes and installation of a double yellow line on Cardoza Road from Center Avenue in order to slow traffic.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at the hour of 2:51 p.m.

APPROVED:

/ s / Christopher Gallagher
Christopher Gallagher, Chairman

ATTEST:

/ s / Jana R. Sousa
Jana R. Sousa, Secretary