

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 10, 2017

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:14 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson: Theron Roschen, City Engineer

Committee Members: Bill King, Planning Manager Designee

Juan Olmos, Director of Public Works Designee

Absent: Jacob Struble, Police Chief Designee

Michael Wilkinson, Fire Chief

C. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

RANDALL CARPENTER, Merced Resident – Detailed concerns over the traffic flow throughout Merced, using the R Street and Olive Avenue intersection as an example. Mr. CARPENTER requested the possibility of having traffic flow through the intersection by waves of East/West/North/South or changing the signal timing.

Chairperson ROSCHEN advised the citizen of ongoing projects to synchronize the traffic signals along various corridors. Mr. ROSCHEN also informed the citizen that the City would investigate the signal timing at the intersection of R Street and Olive Avenue.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Traffic Committee Minutes of September 13 and November 15, 2016

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and file.

Juan Olmos Moved, Theron Roschen Seconded

Vote: 2-0

Voting Aye: Theron Roschen, Juan Olmos

Abstain: Bill King

Absent: Jacob Struble, Michael Wilkinson

Clerk's Note: Staff recommendation approved.

E. REPORTS

1. Committee Member Reports

(At this time, it is appropriate for any Committee Member to give an informational report of any work completed, training, or other item to share with other members. Please be brief, and no action may be taken on these items.)

None.

F. BUSINESS

1. Request #17-001 – Request for a Three-Way Stop at West 15th Street and C Street (Travis Mitchell / Merced County Dept. of Public Health)
(Merced County Department of Public Health Employee is requesting the addition of a three-way stop at West 15th and C Streets due to their concern of pedestrian safety.)

Merced County employee TRAVIS MITCHELL detailed his concerns with visibility and pedestrian safety near the crosswalk on C Street. Mr. MITCHELL also requested the crosswalks on both West 15th and C Streets be re-striped to improve visibility.

Committee Member OLMOS stated the crosswalk on West 15th Street is on the City's annual maintenance list and is scheduled to be re-striped in the spring. Mr. OLMOS also stated the crosswalk in question on C Street is maintained by Merced County.

Chairperson ROSCHEN stated the Engineering Department would generate a letter to Merced County requesting they update their crosswalk on C Street to meet current standards. Mr. ROSCHEN went on to state that there have been no reported accidents at West 15th and C Streets according to the Merced Police Department, and given the street design there was a high likelihood the intersection would not meet traffic warrants if a full analysis was performed.

Committee Member KING suggested the County look into adding sidewalks along their parking lot to direct traffic to the intersection. Mr. KING explained this would aid in pedestrian safety, as drivers expect to see pedestrians crossing at the intersection versus mid-block.

Chairperson ROSCHEN supported the sidewalk installation suggestion and stated the Engineering Department would contact Merced County to see about the possibility of a jointly funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project in the area.

MOTION: To deny the request for an all-way stop at the intersection and to direct staff to contact Merced County to discuss a possible joint Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) sidewalk project at 15th and C Streets, as well as requesting Merced County update their crosswalk on C Street to meet current standards.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Theron Roschen Moved, Juan Olmos Seconded

Vote: 3-0

Voting Aye: Theron Roschen, Bill King, Juan Olmos

Absent: Jacob Struble, Michael Wilkinson

2. Request #17-002 – Request for a Four-Way Stop at West 23rd Street and Canal Street (Kathy Friesen / Merced County)
(Merced County Employee is requesting a four-way stop at West 23rd Street and Canal Street due to their concern of vehicle collisions at the intersection.)

Chairperson ROSCHEN described the traffic analyses and warrant

process, noting there have been three accidents within the last year. Mr. ROSCHEN suggested a full traffic warrant analysis be conducted.

MOTION: To continue the item to a future Traffic Committee meeting pending the completion of a warrant analysis at the intersection of West 23rd and Canal Streets.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Theron Roschen Moved, Bill King Seconded

Vote: 3-0

Voting Aye: Theron Roschen, Bill King, Juan Olmos

Absent: Jacob Struble, Michael Wilkinson

3. Request #17-003 – Safety Concerns in the Area of San Jose Avenue, Lehigh Drive, Notre Dame Avenue, University Drive, and Rensselaer Drive (Seth Medefind)
(Citizen is requesting traffic calming measures in the “College Streets” neighborhood due to their concern of public safety in the neighborhood caused by excessive speeding.)

Citizens Speaking in Support of Traffic Calming Measures:

SETH MEDEFIND
JANICE PHENIS
MICHAEL PHENIS
CHARLES PEREIRA
STEPHANIE PETERSON

Chairperson ROSCHEN detailed the City’s adopted Neighborhood Traffic Calming Guidelines. Mr. ROSCHEN stated given the uniqueness of the neighborhood, the City proceed with further study.

MOTION: To move forward with further study of the neighborhood as outlined in the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Guidelines.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: None at this time.

Theron Roschen Moved, Bill King Seconded

Vote: 3-0

Voting Aye: Theron Roschen, Bill King, Juan Olmos

Absent: Jacob Struble, Michael Wilkinson

G. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 pm.

By:



Jamie Cruz
Secretary II/Recording Secretary

Approved:



Theron Roschen
City Engineer/Chairperson