



**Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting**

**September 08<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Draft Minutes**

**(Pending approval.)**

<b>Current Committee Roster:</b>	<b>In Attendance:</b>
Mandy Havlik (Chair) (B)	X
Margaret Virissimo (B)	Absent
Sarah Moga-Aleman (B)	X
Eva Schmitt (B)	Absent
Nicole Burgess (C)	X
Paul Grimes (C)	X
Matt Schalles (C)	X
<b>ATTENDED BY:</b> Lucky Morrison (B), Eric Graves, Michelle Bennett	

**CALLED TO ORDER: 6:11 pm**

**ADJOURNED: 7:59 pm**

**AGENDA MODIFICATIONS & APPROVAL**

Yea 5 Nay 0 Abstain 0

Reasons for abstentions:

**MINUTES MODIFICATIONS & APPROVAL**

Yea 5 Nay 0 Abstain 0

Reasons for abstentions:

## **NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ACTION ITEM #1** Letter to city regarding expediting the installation of the approved and funded traffic safety mitigations for the intersection Froude and Voltaire.

MH educated the group on the history of the request. The original letter for traffic mitigations was approved and signed by the PCPB in January 2018. The request was approved and funded by the city of San Diego and they are set to install a flashing beacon and crosswalk.

The letter of support was read to the group. Instead of the flashing beacon and crosswalk that has been approved and funded by the city we are requesting a 4 way stop sign and a crosswalk be installed in instead. This would provide a more consistent mitigation as the flashing beacon lights are operated by the touch of the pedestrian.

LM mentioned that he always uses that location to make a left turn onto Froude as it is a non-stop route to Newport Avenue. There are no stop signs. He asked why is this being requested and what is the specific complaint or issue of concern.

MH stated that one of the reasons this request is being made is to help assist pedestrians across Voltaire Street with a designated crosswalk. The descent down Voltaire as you head towards Ocean Beach is steep and vehicles accelerate as they are going down. The stop sign would allow for a stop of the acceleration towards Ebers.

LM mentioned the stop light at Voltaire and Ebers. He was wondering if having the stop sign so close to Voltaire would be an issue of concern due to the proximity. He inquired about the status of Voltaire Street.

PG was aware of this process but did not know what the status was for Voltaire Street.

LM was concerned that the city would not complete this request due to the street status.

MH mentioned her conversation with Gary Pence, City of SD Sr Traffic Engineer, and he directed her the letter to the CM and himself would be required in order to complete the changes to this request.

MH would like to add requesting a stop sign along Froude Street possibly at Brighton Avenue to the next meetings agenda as an action item.

LM requested the neighbors located near any requested intersection for a stop sign be consulted to ensure they are supportive.

NB stated the fact a community member was killed near this intersection recently and the city has received 100+ complaints from neighbors due to this death and the city is currently conducting 7 traffic studies on the nearby intersections. She stated she is not a fan of stop signs and would like to see a traffic circle considered for this location in the future by the city of San Diego. She stated this intersection is shared with the OBPB and has been discussed with their traffic subcommittee and are supportive of our requests for a different mitigation than the flashing beacon. She referenced the one that was located at Point Loma Avenue and SSC's Blvd. One car stops and the car behind makes a pass with a right hand turn on the side and it creates a dangerous situation for the pedestrians.

PG was concerned about the widening of the street and it may help to add some street calming measures to the intersection. He was supportive of the stop sign but he thought it would be helpful to add some flex posts. He stated the flashing beacon light may not be seen by drivers not being attentive. He thought the possibility of adding a traffic circle for future consideration should be added to this letter of support to the city.

Eric Graves asked Nicole Burgess about the issue of the flashing beacon that was installed at Point Loma Avenue and SSC's Boulevard.

NB stated the 4-way stop was installed due to drivers attempting to pass on the right side of the intersection and jeopardizing the safety of the pedestrians who were wanting to cross over SSC's Boulevard. She also stated the reason she thinks a stop sign would be helpful at this location is because when motorists see the green light at Ebers and Voltaire they tend to gun it or speed up to make the light.

MS suggested narrowing of the road to help calm the traffic at this intersection. The constricting of the intersection causes the drivers to slow down and will shorten the distance the pedestrian takes to cross the street. He felt like some of the specs in the design of the Chatsworth and Plumosa may be the same fit to Froude and Voltaire. Flex posts or rubber installations that can be used as planters could be considered.

PG mentions that there is no stop sign along Froude in between Voltaire and Newport Avenue. We will add this to our list of traffic safety mitigations to address.

Lucky Morrison mentioned that many locals use Froude as a bypass to Sunset Cliff's Boulevard. He asked for the traffic incident report. Mandy offered to share this report to him. He was not willing to consider voting for stop signs along Froude as this would impact his vehicle travel.

SM lives along Froude and she says that she and her neighbors have discussed the lack of stop signs along Froude and feel that there is an opportunity for more to help with the safety of the neighborhood families and young children who live along Froude. There are a lot of irresponsible drivers utilizing this street.

PG remembers Froude used to have a bus line that ran through it and it may be why there is a lack of stop signs.

Eric Graves asked Lucky Morrison about the street designation and why there are several stop signs along Hill Street and not Froude Street or SSC's Boulevard.

**Motion:** Motion to approve the traffic letter and add this location as a possible future traffic circle site, flex posts or calming measures to the intersection and the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Froude

and Voltaire instead of the flashing beacon and crosswalk that has been funded and approved.

1<sup>st</sup> Mandy Havlik 2<sup>nd</sup> Nicole Burgess Yea 5 Nay 0

Vote: Unanimous

**ACTION ITEM #2** Letter of support for city installed traffic mitigations on the corner of Chatsworth and Plumosa.

This was a community led effort brought to the city by a local community member Elizabeth Girardi. The city has approved and funded this mitigation and requested board approval before they install a crosswalk with a flashing beacon at Chatsworth and Plumosa to help assist pedestrians across Chatsworth safely.

PG is concerned about the design and the sharp left turn that motorists will be making from Plumosa into a crosswalk with a concrete curb in the center of the crosswalk. He believes it is a sharp turn and may create a safety issue. He would like to see the crosswalk installed on the Southside of the intersection to avoid this issue. He thinks it is poorly designed.

MS would like to see traffic calming measures in the area of the crosswalk. He mentioned the raise curb is in an area that he would ride his bike and wanted to confirm if there are designated bike lanes on Chatsworth. He thinks it may force bicyclists and cars to share the area and create a dangerous situation.

Michelle Bennett lives nearby and feels PLHS contributes to the existing traffic issues and she cannot believe that there are no crossing guards at the school to help assist with pedestrian safety issues. She would like to know what efforts the school is making to help support the traffic issues in the area.

MH agreed with Michelle about the need for crossing guards in our public schools. Her children attend Ocean Beach Elementary and stated she is actively pursuing this as a possible option for our schools in the future. There are funding shortfalls with the city and the school district and there has not been much interest in this option.

PG stated this is due to a liability and training issue.

NB did say that there is not a designated bike lane and she would like to see this corridor considered for a bike way. She would also like to have the crosswalk raised as a speedbump instead of the bulb cutouts and to possibly use some flex posts and paint to help calm the traffic in the area.

PG thought the crosswalk should be at Hyacinth and Chatsworth as a better location instead of at Plumosa and Chatsworth.

The group is concerned about the placement of the crosswalk, the curb located in the middle of the crosswalk, would like the crosswalk be raised like a speed bump with ballards in the center. They would like to see additional traffic safety measures such as ballards and flex posts to help direct motorists and cyclists as well as it being considered for a possible bike way in the future. Track lighting would also be helpful.

LM said we should be conscious of the Emergency Vehicles that use Chatsworth.

Mike Morgan states that making a left on Hyacinth onto Chatsworth is the most dangerous turn in the neighborhood and he avoids this area because it is dangerous.

PG would like to table this and get more information from the city and provide them with our inputs before we vote to approve. He is concerned that the design is not safe.

**Motion:** Motion to table this request to get further information from the city and provide the inputs received at this meeting to the city.

1<sup>st</sup> Paul Grimes 2<sup>nd</sup> Mandy Havlik Yea 5 Nay 0

Vote: Unanimous

**ACTION ITEM #3** Letter of support for immediate Traffic Safety mitigations along Sunset Cliffs Boulevard and surrounding area. (Nicole Burgess)

MH read the letter to the group for discussion. The remedies that are being proposed are immediate to help provide relief to the Sunset Cliffs neighborhood. The PCPB Traffic and Transportation subcommittee will be continuing to look at the neighborhood and provide the city with recommendations to help assist the neighborhood with traffic safety issues and the lack of enforcement that is being experienced by the neighborhood.

NB was in attendance with several neighbors in a neighborhood meeting with Barbara Bry and there were a few areas of concern that were specifically mentioned. She stated that stop signs are not her first remedy, but she feels that the installation at the proposed locations would be helpful to slow and calm down the traffic in the area.

PG believes there is some need for help along Devonshire but he is concerned about the placement of the stop signs at Devonshire and Leon that are being proposed and he thinks that they are too close to the adjacent intersections with stop signs. He would like to see a stop sign and crosswalk at Devonshire and SSC's to help provide a safe crossing for visitors wanting to visit SCNP. He felt this would be a better location than Osprey and SSC's Boulevard.

SM lives a block from Devonshire and Osprey and she disagrees with Paul because there have been several near misses lately at this location and she feels that something needs to be done.

NB would like to recommend a round about at the intersection and use the stop signs as a short-term solution.

PG feels Osprey and Devonshire would be a better placement instead of the Devonshire and Leon location. He is concerned about the vehicles attempting to make a turn.

Michelle Bennett is concerned by the amount of visitors to the park and the fire rescues. She visits the park and is concerned about the lack of police presence and lack of enforcement. She says it is chaotic and feels like there is a need for more support to this area.

MH asked if we would like to request additional enforcement on the streets near the park to help with the various issues the neighbors are experiencing.

NB feels the stop signs proposed for Devonshire and Leon are needed and we request traffic calming measures for the intersection as well. She likes the possibility of a 4 way yield.

Eric Graves recommended the stop sign at Froude and SSC's Boulevard instead of Osprey and SSC's Boulevard.

NB asked that traffic calming be added in addition to the stop sign to the letter.

SM was supportive of anything to help calm the traffic.

PG is not sure what traffic calming will do to the area. He would like to have the stop sign moved to Osprey and Devonshire instead of Osprey and Leon.

MS is concerned that the stop sign being moved will not address the traffic issues and asked if the intent was to slow down traffic on Devonshire.

SM is okay with moving the crosswalk and she is not sure if the stop signs will help with traffic and confirmed the community is requesting a stop sign at Devonshire because the yield at Osprey is not sufficient. She thinks that something is better than nothing.

**Motion:** Motion to approve the letter and add a 4 way stop at Devonshire and Osprey to our list of proposed traffic safety mitigations.

1<sup>st</sup> Paul Grimes 2<sup>nd</sup> Mandy Havlik Yea 5 Nay 0

Vote: Unanimous

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM #1** Open discussion about existing traffic issues and concerns throughout the community.

LM would like to recommend the intersection of Voltaire and Chatsworth (in front of PLHS) to make a right turn down Voltaire using the green arrow



with a sign that you cannot turn right on red. The problem is there is no arrow on the opposite direction, and he would appreciate a left turn arrow to be considered as an action item as this causes confusion.

MH will add it to our list of identified traffic safety issues within the community to consider for a possible action item in the future.

PG mentioned that a yield sign may be needed to improve the safety of the intersection.

MH asked the group if they had any feedback regarding the list of traffic safety mitigations to mark as top priority.

MS mentioned Scott Street and the lack of crosswalks in the area. There are lots of cars speeding and he would like to know if the city has any plans to redesign the area to help. He remembered Brad Herrin mentioning this possibility in the past and would like to get more information about the plans the city has from Talbot and North Harbor Drive along Scott Street. He would like to have more bike lanes as well. There are lots of cars using it as a bypass instead of using Rosecrans.

MH will ask the city about any pending projects for the area. She will inquire about asking the Naval Station to provide instruction to their personnel to utilize specific streets when driving into and off the peninsula as opposed to them taking side streets and zigzagging through back streets to bypass the major streets exiting the peninsula.

MH will request additional inputs from Muska Laiq

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEM #2** Traffic Safety Issues along Sunset Cliffs Boulevard

MS wanted to discuss the idea of a one way along SSC's Boulevard and starting at the fork located where Cordova splits off Sunset Cliffs.

MH mentioned that she has brought this up with Nicole Burgess as a possible solution to help with the traffic and parking issues. The concept would be to have a one-way lane for vehicle traffic and a protected bike lane, with parking on one side of the street along with a walking path. This would remove the foot traffic from the cliffs along Sunset Cliffs Boulevard and help mitigate the trampling and erosion of the cliffs while creating a safer street for the neighborhood and the visitors coming to enjoy the scenic route and view.

MS wanted to know if the neighbors would be supportive of this idea.

MH felt like the one-way loop would create a traffic calming effect and pulling the traffic off of the cliffs would be an attempt at preservation of Sunset Cliffs and the homes along the street.

PG mentioned Eric Graves lives on that stretch of road and he would have some insights regarding this possibility. Paul is concerned with losing some of the parking and creating an inconvenient route for the neighbors living along Brandisi. He is not sure that we will get support from everyone. MH mentioned that permit parking is also another option that has been suggested by the neighbors in the area and we can also look into this possibility for the neighborhood to help address the issues. The lack of enforcement is the issue with permits.

MH asked to confirm if a parking enforcement officer could be requested to help.

NB stated that parking enforcement officers can be funded through a parking district.

MH mentioned she is looking into the possibility of establishing a parking district in the neighborhood and or the park to help address the issues and provide enforcement support to the neighborhood.

The next traffic and transportation meeting will be held on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

DRAFT