

CITY OF CORONADO

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, March 24, 2005

The regular meeting of the Traffic Operations Committee (T.O.C.) was held on Thursday, March 24, 2005, at 2:00 p.m. in the Police Facility Emergency Operations Center. Present were Robert Hutton, Jim Benson, Tony Peña and Kim Raddatz. Scott Huth was absent and unrepresented. Also present was Dave Johnson, Assistant Engineer.

1. Minutes of the February 24, 2005 Meeting – The minutes were unanimously approved as written.
2. Oral Communications – None.
3. Recommendation Regarding Installation of Stop Signs at the Intersection of A Avenue and Ynez Place – Mr. Johnson provided some background. Trant Manor at 1401 Ynez Place is being renovated. In conjunction with this renovation there is a concept to readjust the curb line and create a pocket park. Staff has not made a recommendation on diagonal parking at this location, just stop signs. This will have to be brought back later to make a recommendation to Council on the applicability of diagonal parking here. The intersection does meet the warrants for a one or two-way stop. The recommendation is to place one stop sign on the minor street, A Avenue.

Mr. Peña asked if the stop sign would go in after the realignment and Mr. Johnson replied that it would, not with the current curb alignment. Diagonal parking should not be affected by this concept. There is no concern with sight distance affecting traffic. The average daily traffic is higher than the volume required by the warrant. Mr. Hutton noted that the pocket parks will make a shorter span for pedestrians, which is good.

Chris Ackerman, project architect, said that this is similar to what the City did at Adella and Orange where a wide expanse of asphalt was replaced with a pedestrian plaza. The Trant property has a lot of grandfathered parking spaces and this concept takes them away and puts them underground, so the parking situation improves.

Mr. Peña moved to approve the staff recommendation to install one stop sign on A Avenue to control southbound traffic; Mr. Benson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
4. Recommendation Regarding a Left-Turn Restriction at the Intersection of Alameda Boulevard and Fifth Street – Mr. Johnson said the T.O.C. has seen this issue several times. The first time was in February 2002. After the semi-diverters were placed traffic patterns changed and there was a request from a resident in August 2002 for a turn restriction at this location. The T.O.C. recommended installing a left-turn restriction here, but Council voted not to piecemeal traffic solutions. Staff has continued to receive some questions about this issue since then and decided to re-evaluate it after the diverters came down. He said that the Major Traffic Study does not make a direct recommendation on this; it focuses on major arterials. Traffic volumes are still high, but

are down since the removal of the semi-diverters. There has been no increase in accidents.

Mr. Hutton was concerned that the T.O.C. looked at this at one point, made a recommendation and now is looking at making a decision contrary to that. He'd like the people who brought this up initially to have an opportunity to speak to it. Mr. Peña was concerned that if a restriction goes in it will result in overloading Sixth Street and so on. Mr. Johnson noted that Sixth Street traverses the middle of the school zone. Mr. Hutton moved to continue the item until residents have been notified. Mr. Peña seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5. Review of Draft 2004 Annual Traffic Report – Mr. Hutton clarified that the T.O.C. is being asked to comment at this time, not to approve the Annual Traffic Report.

Mr. Johnson said that Caltrans has not released its Average Daily Traffic (ADT) volumes so there is data that still needs to be added. All the traffic accident data has been reconciled. Accidents are slightly up from last year. The only thing that stands out is that the number of collisions on the Strand is down significantly. One thing that is not included here is a collision map that he will put together for presentation to the City Council.

Mr. Benson observed that accidents are up by a lot on Third and Fourth Streets over every other year and Mr. Johnson said that auto/pedestrian conflicts are also up since prior years. Mr. Hutton said he would like to see the locations and times of day of the auto/pedestrian and auto/bicycle accidents. The Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) asked the Police Department to solicit a grant because Coronado's pedestrian accident injury rate was one of the highest in the state. Their study, however, does not appear to take into account traffic volumes; their statistics are based on population size. He has asked for additional information from OTS but has not heard back. Mr. Johnson said that a couple of the auto/bicycle incidents were single bikes running into parked cars; this shows up in the statistics, but is really not indicative of a traffic problem.

Mr. Peña thinks Graphs A and B could be portrayed a little better. Mr. Benson said this is just plotting the same thing two different ways and there was discussion about possibly eliminating one of the graphs. Mr. Hutton thinks that putting the Strand traffic on the bottom of Graph A would make it look more like what is occurring; that is, that the Strand traffic is fairly flat. Mr. Benson noted some redundant language on page 33, item #4 and suggested rewording it.

Mr. Johnson said the Engineering Department also received an OTS grant for a traffic collision database which he is in the process of implementing. He hopes this will result in a new and improved annual report in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.