

CITY OF CORONADO
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

A meeting of the Traffic Operations Committee (T.O.C.) was held on Thursday, July 24, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Scott Huth, Ed Walton and Tony Peña were present. Mike Blood represented the absent Kim Raddatz and Laszlo Waczek represented the absent Lou Scanlon. Assistant Engineer Dave Johnson was also present.

1. Minutes of the June 26, 2008 Meeting – Mr. Walton moved to approve the minutes, Mr. Waczek seconded the motion and they were approved unanimously.

2. Oral Communications – None.

3. Recommendation Regarding a Request to Install a Blue Curb Zone in Front of the Residence at 121 G Avenue – Mr. Waczek moved to approve installing a blue curb zone in front of 121 G Avenue, Mr. Walton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously on consent.

4. Recommendation Regarding a Proposal to Install a Pedestrian Crossing Sign at First Street and B Avenue – Mr. Johnson said that the Engineering Department has received several inquiries about this type of sign. It's been used in Imperial Beach on Seacoast Drive for quite a while and several other agencies use it in uncontrolled marked crosswalks. The *MUTCD* adopted it in 2003 so it has been an official traffic control device for the last several years. Staff felt this was a good time to install one at the ladder crosswalk at First and B on a trial basis and if we like the effects, maybe it could be used in some other locations. There are no documented incidents of pedestrians being hit at this location recently, but he always hears stories of "it was just that close" and "I almost saw something happen." This sign will reinforce to drivers that they're to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk. The sign would say "State Law – Yield to Pedestrians within Crosswalk."

Mr. Peña asked how many uncontrolled marked crosswalks there are in Coronado and Mr. Johnson responded that he doesn't know the specific number, but he feels this would be beneficial at three locations: First and B across from the Ferry Landing; Sixth and Pomona which is one he always gets inquiries about; Isabella and Ocean; and possibly on Sixth Street at E Avenue. He doesn't see a huge proliferation of these signs because if the sign at First and B is successful, the Engineering Department would develop a warrant for its installation so that it can't proliferate in a haphazard way. He thinks it would only be used at uncontrolled marked crosswalks.

Mr. Peña said that the City doesn't tend to install marked crosswalks because of the sense of security it gives pedestrians and adding signs would give an even greater sense of security for them to get out into traffic. That could lead to a problem in itself. He has mixed emotions over this. Mr. Johnson said that if the trial installation is approved (if it's found

that pedestrians are behaving in a way we don't want them to because of the sign) then we won't adopt this as something to use in the City.

Mr. Peña also doesn't feel that this sign is very attractive. Mr. Johnson said he felt that people will like it. He has received several requests for this type of sign because people have seen it in other communities.

Mr. Waczek asked if this sign could be placed on a state route and Mr. Johnson said it is an *MUTCD*-approved sign, so Caltrans could not say "No, it's not approved," but the City would have to ask their permission to put it in their right-of-way. They may have a policy or directive in place regarding the use of this sign. Mr. Waczek has seen them in Portland, Oregon and feels they're an effective tool.

Mr. Walton noted that possibly the warrant could dictate when the signs are out there. He saw them in Atlanta being put out during certain events or time frames. In Coronado perhaps they could be out in the summer and in the winter when pedestrians are less frequent they would be removed.

Mr. Waczek moved to try this sign on a trial basis, Mr. Walton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m.