



**CITY OF BELMONT
PARKING AND TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

March 11, 2009 – 3:00 pm

Present: Parking and Traffic Safety Committee Members, Residents, Members of the City Council.

Discussion on establishment of a 4-way stop at Hiller Street/Wessex Way

City staff presented traffic study data for comparison with the Stop Sign Installation Policy adopted by the City Council in 2003. It was determined that the installation of STOPs at the intersection of Hiller Street and Wessex Way does not meet the criteria adopted by the City Council for all-way STOPs. The installation of STOPs at the intersection of Hiller Street and Wessex Way will NOT:

- Improve the pedestrian safety at the intersection.
- Improve the safety of vehicle drivers traveling through the intersection.
- Discourage vehicle drivers from traveling through the intersection.

The installation of STOPs at the intersection of Hiller Street and Wessex Way will:

- Back up traffic onto Ralston Avenue during the peak travel times and exposing vehicles to potential collisions while waiting to clear the intersection.
- Reduce emergency response time to the Sterling Downs neighborhood.
- Increase the potential of rear-end and pedestrian collisions at the STOPs.
- Adversely impact the environment.

Request for road striping/pavement markers on the lower part of Talbryn Drive (closer to Paloma Ave side) to indicate right of way and direction

Average width of Talbryn Drive is less than 20 feet. If the street is striped, delivery vehicles will violate the double yellow line because the lane width is not sufficient enough. Several residents who attended the meeting expressed a concern with drivers not stopping at the existing stop signs. One resident recommended lowering speed limit from 25mph to 15 mph. It was recommended that the Public Works Department will place “cross traffic does not stop” sign on Talbryn Drive at Paloma Avenue and Police Department will provide traffic enforcement of the area to ensure drivers compliance with the stop sign.

Request for a 2-way left turn on Continentals/Ralston

The Parking and Traffic Safety Committee has reviewed this request, performed field investigations during various times of day and checked collision history. It was noted that due

to the geometry of Continentals Way and limited length of the left turn lane, the traffic does back up due to more vehicles use the left turn lane rather than a through lane (towards Cipriani Boulevard). Therefore, it is recommended that the through lane will be converted into a through/left turn lane. In order to minimize traffic congestion, the lanes' length shall be increased including the right turn lane that is adjacent to the curb. In order to accommodate the length increase for all lanes, it is recommended to eliminate 50 feet of parking starting at the curb return by Ralston Avenue and extending south on Continentals Way. City staff will seek City Council approval of this item on April 14, 2009.

Discussion on the Traffic Calming measures at the City Hall Parking Lot

City staff recently installed 2 additional stop signs at the City Hall Parking Lot to address right-of-way and increase safety for both drivers and pedestrians. An efficiency of this measure was discussed at the meeting.

Discussion of the need for signage for no overnight parking at Belmont Library and for additional no parking or curb painting along the front of the driveway to the Belmont Library parking lot

The Parking and Traffic Safety Committee has reviewed this request, performed a field investigation, checked collision history and researched previous parking restrictions at the subject location. The research had shown that in 1994 City Council approved Resolution 7513 establishing limited parking at the library parking lot between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. The Parking and Traffic Safety Committee discussed these parking restrictions with library staff and residents who attended this Parking and Traffic Safety Committee meeting. The library staff objected to these parking restrictions due to the library being open past 8:00 p.m. on some days but instead asked for a no parking restrictions from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. City staff will seek City Council approval of this item on April 14, 2009.

Request from Samtrans to extend existing "No Parking" zone on Continentals Way

One of the major considerations City staff had is elimination of the parking which is in high demand in this area. There is currently a no parking zone by the fire hydrant at the existing location of the bus stop. However, the existing location of the bus stop does impede traffic flow, especially during peak hours. Therefore, City staff is recommending relocation of the bus stop 40 feet south and establishing a "No Parking" zone at this location to improve traffic circulation and provide safety for passengers, drivers and pedestrians. City staff will seek City Council approval of this item on April 14, 2009.

Request from Samtrans to establish a southbound bus stop on El Camino Real and Middle Road and authorize establishment of a "No Parking" zone

The placement of the bus stop at this location would impede the traffic circulation of the area. City staff asked Samtrans to review the area and provide a better location for the placement of the bus stop.