



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

**July 30, 2009 – 10:00 am**

Present: Parking and Traffic Safety Committee (PTSC) Members and Residents.

Meeting opened and introductions were made. For each item residents presented their concern, staff presented results of investigations to date, discussion ensued and staff will further investigate and report.

**Request to restrict parking at the stop sign on Cypress Ave/Middle Road**

Four residents living in the vicinity of Cypress Avenue/Middle Road attended the PTSC meeting. City staff presented findings and collision history in this area. The following issues were raised by residents:

- When cars park on Cypress at Middle Road right on the STOP legend, it is very difficult to get around them.
- Cypress Avenue bears traffic to Central school and some student trips pass through this area.
- Cars u-turn at Cypress to get to El Camino Real.
- Drivers often park on sidewalk and do not curb their wheels - no citation is given to them for either offense.
- There are 3-4 cars usually parked on the east side of Cypress Avenue.

Police Department pointed out that elimination of parking will force the drivers to park on the nearby streets.

After the meeting the Police Department checked the vehicle code and its applicability to the parking on and next to the STOP legend. There are guidelines. City staff is researching an option of eliminating one parking space on Cypress Avenue at Middle Road adjacent to the STOP legend. Upon completion of the research if PTSC finds this option feasible, City staff will seek City Council approval for the establishment of the NO PARKING zone on Cypress Avenue at Middle Road. Residents will be notified.

**Request to restrict parking on the curve at 2626 and 2630 Monte Cresta Drive**

Three residents living in the vicinity of 2626/2630 Monte Cresta Drive attended the PTSC meeting the resident of 2630 Monte Cresta Drive submitted a letter of support of the no parking restriction. City staff presented traffic data and collision history in this area and explained its

applicability to the Parking on Curves Policy. According to the criteria specified in this Policy, the parking restrictions at this location are not warranted.

The residents expressed the following concerns:

- There are currently tenants living at 2626 Monte Cresta Drive who often park on the curve.
- The property at 2626 Monte Cresta Drive has a 2-car garage and large driveway that does not seem to be used by the residents/tenants of this property.
- Most often cars are parked on the curve in the evening/morning but sometimes during the day.
- Overgrown vegetation creates a problem. (Community Development representative of the PTSC responded that a site visit was performed and vegetation does not obstruct the visibility but rather the geometry of the street.)
- Fire trucks might not be able to get through when vehicles are parked at the curve (Belmont/San Carlos Fire Department representative of the PTSC responded that this location should not be a problem for the fire truck to get by).
- One resident asked the tenants of the 2626 Monte Cresta Drive to use the driveway for parking but she was rebuked by them.

City staff pointed out that parking in this area is already in high demand and parking restrictions will simply move the problem to the different area of the neighborhood. City staff will research an option of placing a warning sign of the presence of the curve to alert drivers. Residents will be notified.

**Request to install larger botts dots or delineators on South Road at Holly Road to divert drivers from driving on the opposite lane of traffic**

One resident attended this meeting. City staff presented the following findings that were obtained from the City of San Mateo in regards to the oversized botts dots installation:

- The oversized botts dots were put in over 5 years ago on 36th Avenue at Hacienda which is a very flat area.
- The original placement of the oversized botts dots was not supported by any legal documents but apparently was based on neighboring residents' request to install them.
- The engineers are not aware of any guidelines/policies that warrant installation of these devices.
- These oversized botts dots do not adhere well to the pavement, pop up easily and require continuous replacement.
- The street with current oversized botts dots was paved a couple years ago and the botts dots were replaced to match the previous ones. The botts dots are routinely replaced since they are routinely being ripped out of the pavement, sometimes along with a chunk of asphalt attached to it.
- San Mateo engineers feel that these oversized botts dots are liability and can be potentially dangerous to cars, motorcycles, and bicycles. Therefore, no new oversized botts dots are being considered for installation.

City staff recommended installation of the double yellow line on South Road between Holly Road and Holly Road. Such work will be part of the citywide thermoplastic striping.

**Request to install a barrier on Ralston Avenue to prohibit left turn onto the shopping center on Ralston Avenue at El Camino Real**

City staff discussed the option of barrier/oversized bottle dots installation but did not find it feasible. There is no room for any barrier installation on Ralston Avenue and the negative impact of the bottle dots was described above. City staff is researching alternatives to discourage drivers from turning left from westbound Ralston Avenue.