



MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION COMMITTEE (TCC)

David Gebhard Public Meeting Room
630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA
Thursday, June 23, 2011, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Chair France called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

ROLL CALL:

TCC MEMBERS

Hillary Blackerby
Mark Bradley
Keith Coffman-Grey
Edward France
Susan Horne
David Pritchett
David Tabor

Attendance

Present
Present
Present
Present
Present
Excused
Present

CITY STAFF PRESENT :

Browning Allen, Transportation Manager
Robert J. Dayton, Principal Transportation Planner

LIAISONS PRESENT

Deborah Schwartz, Planning Commission Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT

David Van Hoy, Mesa Arch.
Deyl Kearin, Resident
Laurel Perez, Mesa Architects
Jeff King, Resident
Derrick Eichelberger, Mesa
Arch.

Steven Rogers, Resident
"B" Corkery, Resident
Tom Ochsner, Mesa Arch.
Dennis Thompson, Mesa Arch.
Adam Green, Interested Citizen
Lesley Wiscomb, Resident
Deborah Schwartz, TCC Liaison
Alex Pujo, Resident

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. No items on the Consent Calendar

REPORTS

2. Review and forward a recommendation to City Council regarding a proposal from the Mesa Architects to re-stripe Cliff Drive between Loma Alta Drive and Meigs Road, and Meigs Road to Flora Vista Drive from a four lane undivided road with parking on both sides to a two lane road with a center turn lane, bike lanes and parking on both sides.

A group known as the Mesa Architects has been exploring various options for Cliff Drive. After gathering community input, they have requested that Caltrans adjust the number of lanes on Cliff Drive between Meigs Road and Loma Alta Drive from four to two travel lanes, adding a center turn lane, and two bike lanes, while retaining the on-street parking. Reasons for the proposal, expressed by the Mesa Architects, include collision reduction, improved sight distance, traffic speed reduction, creating a bicycle facility, and improved residential/commercial driveway access.

Caltrans could re-stripe the roadway at its expense because the street is currently scheduled for payment maintenance in early July. Caltrans has said that they will entertain the re-stripe proposal if endorsed by the City. The Mesa Architects has, therefore, requested the change be considered by City Council (see attachment). Council will consider the request on June 28, 2011, at its evening session at 6:00 PM. The purpose of this meeting of the TCC is for the committee to make a recommendation to Council.

The proposed striping change meets the Caltrans standard road design. According to Caltrans data records, Cliff Drive currently has approximately 15,000 Average Daily Trips between Meigs Road and Loma Alta Drive. After the change, the roadway will perform much like Meigs Road north of Cliff Drive which currently carries the same number of cars and already has the two lane roadway configuration. The proposed roadway striping would widen out again to four lanes at the signalized intersections at Loma Alta Drive and Meigs Road. Accordingly, the congestion levels at these intersections will not change. Staff agrees that the new striping will improve safety for left turning vehicles on Cliff Drive.

The Mesa Architects gave a presentation about the restriping options. Chair France opened the floor to public comment. The question of crosswalks was brought up. That issue will be up to the Traffic Engineer. Caltrans will not guarantee that submitting it would make it happen due to a technical barrier.

Public Speakers: Adam Green, Leslie Wiscomb, Deborah Schwartz, Alex Pujo, Tom Oskner, "B" Corkery, Steven Rogers, Derrik Eichelberger, Jeff King, Laurel Perez, Deyl Kearin and David Van Hoy.

Chair France and the rest of the Committee thanked staff and the community for coming out to comment and take initiative. The Committee members commented on the fact that this is a good step in the right direction, and the problems with the intersection at Cliff Drive and Mesa, including the safety risks to pedestrians and bicyclists. The Committee has watched this item with interest, along with the item about relinquishing State Route 225. The public and staff were encouraged to report any and all accidents that happen at Cliff Drive and other locations, since that is the way that things will get done. There was a question as to when Caltrans wanted to repave. Staff was notified a few months prior, at the same time as the City. Staff also asked about the ability to squeeze two bike lanes in.

Staff clarified that we only advise the residents on Sidewalk Infill projects. Staff also pointed out that collision data is important to Transportation because that is how the City determines speed limits, and traffic calming signs. It was confirmed that the micropaving will cover the areas from Cliff

Drive at Las Positas to Castillo. Because of the narrow sidewalk, and the loss of lanes, there will not be two bike lanes.

MOTION: That the TCC forward a recommendation to City Council supporting the restriping proposal, which includes crosswalks, and in accordance with Circulation Element and State Complete Streets requirements and to work with Caltrans. to complete the work.

Motion made by Ms. Blackery, seconded by Mr. Coffman-Grey

Ayes: 6, Noes: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 1

Chair France encouraged people to go to City Council to support this item

Chair France Adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.