

TOWN OF MORAGA
Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC)

January 7, 2009
ACTION MINUTES
6:00 p.m.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** 6:09 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL** Committee Members: Chair Barbara Simpson, Vice Chair Chris Peterson, Christine Lenahan, Joe Mahoney, and Chuck Treat.
- Liaisons: Town Engineer Jill Mercurio and Police Chief Robert Priebe
(Absent: MOFD Battalion Chief Jeff Maxwell)

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Review and approval of the October 8, 2008 TSAC action minutes by Committee Members.

ACTION: It was M/S (Lenahan/Peterson) to approve the October 8, 2008 minutes. Vote: 5-0.

- B. Review and approval of the November 5, 2008 TSAC action minutes by Committee Members.

ACTION: It was M/S (Treat/Mahoney) to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2008 meeting. Vote: 5-0.

IV. **ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA**

ACTION: It was M/S (Mahoney/Treat) to approve the meeting agenda. Vote: 5-0.

- V. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** None. Approximately ten members of the public were in attendance.

VI. **CURRENT ISSUES**

- A. Rheem Valley Blvd/St. Mary's Rd. Intersection Options

Town Engineer Mercurio summarized the Fehr & Peers Memorandum dated December 17, 2008 entitled St. Mary's Road Improvement Evaluation at Rheem Boulevard and Bollinger Canyon Road. Seven options were evaluated, and the consultant recommended a roundabout at the St. Mary's Road/Rheem Boulevard intersection, and a left-turn pocket on St. Mary's Road at Bollinger Canyon. Town Engineer Mercurio said that the option that considered re-alignment of Bollinger Canyon Road to intersect St. Mary's Road at Rheem Boulevard utilizing a bridge was not under serious consideration at this time due to fiscal constraints.

Several members of the public spoke. Kris Boasso was concerned about ingress/egress at Bollinger Canyon Road. Roxanna Khachadourian found roundabouts work well in Europe, but not as well in the United States. Dave Sylvester liked the roundabout and thinks that the intersection improvements at Rheem are critical. Frank Comprelli doesn't believe that the levels of service are appropriate methods of analysis; pedestrian needs need to be addressed better; sight distance does not consider adjacent vehicles blocking the view; and would like the consultant to review his concerns expressed to Town Engineer Mercurio previously. Bill Grubbs agreed that it is very important to improve these intersections.

TSAC members discussed the alternatives and asked staff to come back with more information including: costs for the alternatives, discussion of pedestrian and bicycle issues; how the roundabout works on the hill; lighting at both intersections; and some traffic data on roundabouts before and after construction. Interim Police Chief Priebe said that he could pull more recent accident data than what Fehr & Peers had worked with in their analysis.

B. Larch Traffic Calming Project Process/Schedule Defined

Town Engineer Mercurio asked to discuss the implementation process, with questions specifically about the petition results analysis. The Larch Avenue Traffic Safety Team is getting very close to this stage of the implementation process, with only a required public meeting with TSAC member(s) present. The date for this public meeting was set for Tuesday, January 27, at 7:00 p.m. at the Hacienda. Town Engineer Mercurio recommended that this one be held as a special TSAC meeting, and that TSAC members attend so everyone is familiar with the process. The implementation process allows for a single TSAC member be present to relay the meeting results back to the rest of the committee at the next meeting.

The committee confirmed that the 70% approval from citizens within 300' of the change refers to all households in that area, not 70% of those responding to the survey or petition. The committee also confirmed that the appropriate party to answer the survey or petition would be the property owners, not renters, or other non-owners.

Robin Felix, co-chair of the Larch Avenue Traffic Safety Team, presented the information that they would like to place on the A-frames that are required 10- days before the public meeting and a draft Larch Avenue Traffic Calming Plan 2008. The Plan requested the three way stops at the intersections of Larch Avenue at Dickenson Drive and Larch Avenue at Shuey Drive, increased signage, and a "No Right Turn" sign from Camino Pablo to Larch Avenue during certain hours. She also had received a letter from the Moraga-Orinda Fire District Battalion Chief stating that MOFD supports these level 2 recommendations.

Interim Police Chief Priebe asked what TSAC expected from the Moraga Police Department in their review of the plan. Vice Chair Peterson explained that a recommendation if the proposed project was a good idea or bad idea, based on professional experience. Interim Police Chief Priebe said that MPD could support the three way stops at the two proposed locations and associated signage, but not the right turn restriction.

When asked if the Larch Avenue Traffic Calming Plan 2008 would be available on the website, Town Engineer Mercurio said that it would be available on the TSAC page.

C. Signal at Palos Colorados Entrance

Town Engineer Mercurio updated TSAC that a signal at the entrance to the Palos Colorados project entrance would be required based on the pedestrian needs and would be coming before them in the future.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. TSAC Recommendation to Council to Reduce Members to Five

Town Engineer Mercurio discussed the possibility of reducing the number of TSAC members from six members of the community to five. TSAC members agreed. This recommendation will be placed in the Council Report regarding Boards and Commissions.

VIII. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND LIAISONS

None.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

An email from Marcia Haro was included in the packet regarding an accident on 12/10/08 at the stop sign at the intersection of Hodges and Camino Pablo.

Chair Simpson discussed communication she had had with Dennis Wanken regarding Los Perales traffic on Corliss. He was told about the TSAC meetings and schedule.

Town Engineer Mercurio discussed an email from J.D. O'Connor regarding loud vehicles. The response was handled by the Police Department.

X. ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: It was M/S (Peterson /Treat) to adjourn. Vote: 5-0.
--

BY ORDER OF THE CHAIR, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jill Mercurio, Town Engineer