

Moraga Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC)

MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, September 1, 2010

6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Hacienda De Las Flores – Mosaic Room

2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556

I. CALL TO ORDER 6:01 pm

II. ROLL CALL

Committee Members: Vice Chair Joe Mahoney, Luis Salvago-Toledo, and John Valentine. (Absent: Chair Barbara Simpson and Richard Sauve)

Liaisons: Police Chief Robert Priebe and Town Engineer Mercurio (Absent: Town Council Liaison Howard Harpham and MOFD Battalion Chief Randy Trumpf)

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Review and approval of the January 6, 2010 and August 4, 2010 TSAC action minutes by Committee Members

ACTION: It was M/S (Valentine/Salvago-Toledo) to approve the January 6, 2010 and the August 4, 2010 minutes. Vote: 3-0.

IV. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

ACTION: It was M/S (Salvago-Toledo/Valentine) to approve the September 1, 2010 meeting agenda. Vote: 3-0.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

VI. CURRENT ISSUES

A. Campolindo HOA's Transportation Action Request from 11/20/09

Vice Chair Mahoney acknowledged that Town Engineer Mercurio sent a letter to Campolindo Homeowner's Association in mid-August asking for the status of the project from their end. No response has been received to date. She will follow up via email or phone call shortly.

B. "About Town" article

Town Engineer Mercurio brought copies of the August 27 issue of "About Town" which included an article about traffic safety and TSAC. Member Valentine asked about distribution of the "About Town" publication. He wants TSAC to work on communication with residents who may not be receiving this. Staff confirmed that Lamorinda Weekly has done articles. Chief Priebe brought up the Lamorinda Patch article stating that the process we have does not work – citing the Larch stop sign. Vice Chair Mahoney said that our Traffic Calming Guide (TCG) brings the best of many types of guides. A Council Member has brought his concern that our TCG may not be effective.

Member Valentine asked for a briefing on the Larch, since this was the example of the TCG "failure." Vice Chair Mahoney said that the residents worked with the neighborhood to install on stop signs on Larch at Dickenson and at Shuey. Stop signs require a 75% approval of the adjacent neighbors to

agree to the installation. A “lesson learned” was that one recommendation was that the proponent should begin their talks with the adjacent property owners to determine if they have opposition there.

Member Valentine asked if the 75% was set. Vice Chair Mahoney confirmed that this in the TCG and pretty consistent through other TCGs as well. Vice Chair Mahoney feels that TSAC should put together a written response to the issues. Chief Priebe agreed that would be appropriate. The response will be agendaized for the next meeting. Town Engineer Mercurio will draft a response to the Councilmember for the Committee to review.

C. Corliss accident update

Town Engineer Mercurio brought copies of the letter from Fehr & Peers regarding their recommendation to improve pedestrian safety at the intersection of Corliss and Warfield where the pedestrian fatality occurred last December. Vice Chair Mahoney asked for Chief Priebe’s input on this intersection and accident. Chief Priebe said that lighting at that time of the year makes visibility difficult, which was a factor in the tragedy that occurred. The family would like to see something done to make the improvements. Chief Priebe said that this is one situation where all three of the adjacent neighbors need to approve the installation of a stop sign. Chief Priebe says that this suggestion would improve safety, but because there are no sidewalks beyond the site, pedestrian travel would continue in the parking lane.

Member Valentine asked for a description of a curb extension, which Town Engineer Mercurio provided. Member Valentine would like the Committee to reconsider the 75% rule - which could be onerous, especially where three lots are impacted. Perhaps a simple majority of the immediately adjacent properties would be more appropriate? Vice Chair Mahoney explained that these numbers were reduced from the previous thresholds. Vice Chair Mahoney asked if a report (what happened and is there a remedy?) should go to Council? Chief Priebe said this would be very unusual. Vice Chair Mahoney believes that the information should be made available.

Member Valentine asked about opinion from the school/PTA? Town Engineer Mercurio explained that there had been lots of discussion about safety in the area – but not enough to implement the process. Town Engineer Mercurio asked if the Committee would like to have more input from the proponents – neighborhood consensus, etc. Vice Chair Mahoney said that he would be willing to consider, but would like to have the rest of the Committee have input prior to providing direction. Member Salvago-Toledo asked about having the proponent attend a meeting. Town Engineer Mercurio said that she would make sure that the family is invited to the next meeting, and this would be agendaized for discussion. She also said that she left a message with the family this afternoon to resume any improvements to be done at that intersection

Member Valentine asked if the purpose of the group is advocacy or simply adjudicative. Vice Chair Mahoney believes that the purpose is to facilitate – facts, process, then advise the Town Council. Town Engineer Mercurio explained that the purpose had been to intercept issues, review and advise. Vice Chair Mahoney explained that TSAC should assist project proponents, but not proactively pursue projects.

D. Future TSAC Projects

Vice Chair Mahoney asked if there were any ideas that we should do and follow up from last month? Member Salvago-Toledo asked if TSAC should develop or support certain programs issues such as DUI driving. Chief Priebe has asked the school about the “Every 15 Minute” program, but the school has not accepted the offer. Chief Priebe said that juveniles can be directed to other educational programs if cited. Member Salvago-Toledo asked if there was anything that should be done regarding new drivers and their inexperience. Member Valentine asked about the Healthy Choices program. Chief Priebe said that the Police Department has been very involved with the program, which has gone very well.

Regarding other future TSAC activities, Vice Chair Mahoney does not believe that a business plan for traffic calming would be appropriate for the Committee. He did ask if the Committee thought it would be useful to do an “appraisal” of Moraga traffic safety. He asked Chief Priebe if he thought it would be

advantageous or if it has been done. Chief Priebe wondered what purpose it would serve. Chief Priebe said that they just received 2008 collision statistics. Member Valentine asked about the possibility of utilizing the HS Senior Government class conducting a study/audit – many advantages. Chief Priebe would be interested in anything that educates the Town's students. Chief Priebe and Member Valentine would continue this discussion off line.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. Meeting Schedule for 2010

The calendar was reviewed for the rest of 2010. Meetings were set for:

September 29/October 6th (if hold off on Corliss)
(cancel October 6th)
November 3
December 1
January 5

B. Update Traffic Calming Guide contact information

Town Engineer Mercurio discussed recommended changes to the Traffic Calming Guide – specifically in the contact information page, which is outdated. The Committee agreed. The updated version should be available online shortly.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Member Salvago-Toledo asked about Camino Pablo and Knoll adjacent to the exit for Rancho Laguna Park. The traffic coming out of the park tends to be heavy and there should be a stop sign. Town Engineer Mercurio said that she would look into it.

IX. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND LIAISONS

None.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: It was M/S (Valentine/Salvago-Toledo) to adjourn. Vote: 3-0.

BY ORDER OF THE CHAIR, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jill A. Mercurio, Town Engineer