

MINUTES

CITY OF SAN JOSE

TRAFFIC APPEALS COMMISSION - April 16, 2009

A. CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Traffic Appeals Commission (TAC) was called to order by Chair Gary Pelton at 7:00 p.m.
QUORUM - Yes

Commissioners present: Edwin, Pelton, Collen, Flynn, Daulton, & Sgt. Jeffrey

Commissioner not present: Ferguson

Staff present Sam Koosha, Len Ramilo & Belinda Torres

Guests Brenda Viglienza, Janette Judd, Curt Furdmann, Youli Peng, & Judy Smith

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF March 19, 2009

The minutes were approved as written.

C. APPEAL FOR AVENIDA ROTELLA AND VIA ANACAPA

Commissioner Pelton announced the roll call for the commissioners. All commissioners were present, except for Ferguson.

Commissioner Pelton asked that all staff introduce themselves. Commissioner Pelton turned the meeting over to Senior Engineer Sam Koosha from the Department of Transportation.

Engineer Ramilo explained and showed in a presentation how the intersection of Avenida Rotella & Via Anacapa was analyzed in accordance with City council policy 8-1.

The criteria is as follows:

- Crash History
- Conflicting Traffic Volumes
- Presence of Schools
- Unusual Conditions

Engineer Ramilo explained each criteria in details and provided an example of assigning points using the criteria. The intersection of Avenida Rotella and Via Anacapa received 4 points out of 20 points needed to qualify for all-way stop controls.

The Department of Transportation implemented the following measures:

- Deployed radar speed trailer on Avenida Rotella to increase motorists' awareness of the speed limit
- Requested the San Jose Police Department's Traffic Enforcement Unit to provide enforcement in the area

Engineer Ramilo also explained the federal and state guidelines for the use of stop sign.

Public comments:

Brenda Viglienza and Janette Judd, neighborhood residents, spoke on behalf of the residents of Avenida Rotella. Collectively, they have all been in the neighborhood for about 10-30 years. They wanted the opportunity to express their concerns to the Commission. Their goals and objectives are the following:

1. Safety

- a. Establish right-of-way at intersection, and reduce speeds
- b. Discourage cut-through traffic
- c. Reduce accident & collision potential
- d. Reduce crime potential via traffic reduction measures

2. Permanent Traffic Calming

- a. Reduce impact of motor vehicle traffic
- b. Improve driver awareness and driver safety
- c. Improve quality of life, livability and safety on residential streets

3. Do not shift the problem

Ms. Janette Judd spoke and mentioned that the neighborhood is being used as a cut-through route due to the two schools, a large public park, and a community center that bring additional traffic in and out of the neighborhood.. Concurrent with population and traffic increase, crime and unwanted activity has also risen in this community. It was also mentioned that Judy Smith, a resident, was involved in a crash recently on Via Anacapa.

Ms. Judd stated that the neighborhood is mostly front on houses, few stop controls, and has limited access. The residents request that the City of San Jose, Department of Transportation, conduct further and more in depth studies of Avenida Rotella in particular, and the Los Paseos neighborhood, for the purpose of better safety in their neighborhood.

The residents are looking for any other solutions to help manage their neighborhood and be proactive with different kinds of education so that they don't have to be dependent on the City of San Jose.

Commissioner's decision:

It was recommended that the intersection of Avenida Rotella and Via Anacapa get tree trimming to improve the visibility of signs. Additional signage was also recommended to improve delineation around the curve. The removal of parking was recommended at the corners of the intersection to improve visibility.

A motion to deny an all-way stop at the intersection of Avenida Rotella & Via Anacapa was made by Commissioners Pelton, Daulton, Flynn, & Collen. Commissioner Edwin voted for the all-way stop signs. The vote was 4 to 1 to deny.

Outcome: Denied

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Belinda Torres
Traffic Appeals Commission Secretary

Gary G. Pelton
TAC - Chair