

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE NATIONAL CITY  
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2013 AT 2:00 P.M.**

**I CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Howrey-Colmenero called the meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee to order at 2:02 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12, 2013.

**II PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III ROLL CALL**

**Committee Members Present:** Chairperson Cheryl Howrey-Colmenero, Arlito “Ricky” Reclosado, Roberto Garcia, Gonzalo Quintero, Christopher Coyote.

**Officials Present:** Stephen Manganiello, City Engineer; Karina Vasquez, AVA Officer; Alfredo Cabal, Parking Regulation Officer, Michael Shanahan, Traffic Division, Police Department, Ruben Carrillo, Public Works Department, Kenneth Fernandez, Engineering Technician; Lynn Cole, Executive Secretary, Engineering Department

**IV APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON MAY 8, 2013**

Action: Motion by Reclosado, seconded by Coyote, to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2013 meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee.

Carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howrey-Colmenero, Reclosado, Coyote, Garcia, Quintero.

**V OLD BUSINESS**

None

City Engineer Manganiello requested that Item No. 2 be heard first as a member of the public was present to speak on the item.

## **VI NEW BUSINESS**

### **2. ITEM NO. 2013-12**

**REQUEST FOR RED CURB “NO PARKING” ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF E. PLAZA BOULEVARD EAST OF ‘B’ AVENUE TO ENHANCE SAFETY AND ACCESS AT THE EXISTING MTS BUS STOP.**

**BY: M. SLOTMAN, MTS**

Mr. Manganiello summarized the staff report.

Mr. Matt Slotman, Transit Operations Technician for the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), has requested red curb “No Parking” at the eastbound bus stop located in front of 200 E. Plaza Boulevard, just east of “B” Avenue.

Staff performed a site evaluation. The posted speed limit is 35 mph. Currently, red curb is not provided at the bus stop. As a result, when vehicles park at the bus stop, buses are forced to stop in the travel lane which causes traffic congestion, safety concerns and access issues for persons with disabilities. The length of the curb for the bus stop between “B” Avenue and the driveway apron of 222 E. Plaza Boulevard is approximately 72 feet. Staff recommends painting this entire section of curb red for “No Parking” to allow buses to pull adjacent to the curb to safely load/unload passengers. This would result in the loss of three parallel parking spaces.

The nearby residential and commercial properties on the south side of Plaza Boulevard have available off-street parking. Staff sent letters to area residents inviting them to attend the Traffic Safety Committee Meeting.

Committee Member Coyote asked if red curbing should have been installed when the bus stop was originally installed.

Mr. Manganiello stated that MTS cannot paint red curb without approval from the City.

Harry Ross, resident living on “D” Avenue, and Treasurer for Knights of Pythias stated that they do not wish to lose parking in front of their building as it will create a hardship to elderly members of the club. They currently meet in the evenings on the first and third Mondays and Tuesday, with dinner functions once a month. The hall is rented out on Sundays, and occasionally on Saturdays.

He further stated that this bus stop is not used frequently, and there is a bus stop at Plaza Boulevard and "D" Avenue.

Committee members asked if the parking lot to the rear of the building is used.

Mr. Ross stated that the lot is kept chained and is not opened.

Committee members stated that the parking lot at the rear of the lot should be opened and used by the Knights of Pythias members during events. The loss of parking due to the proposed red curbing for the bus stop would be mitigated by opening the lot during events.

Chairperson Howrey-Colmenero asked if the bus stops at Plaza Boulevard and National City Boulevard, and Plaza Boulevard and "D" Avenue serve the same route as the subject bus stop at Plaza Boulevard and "B" Avenue. This may be an opportunity to consolidate the bus stops.

Mr. Slotman with MTS stated that MTS standards are for bus stops along common routes to be located no more than 1,000 feet apart. The distance from National City Boulevard to "D" Avenue is over 1,300 feet.

Mr. Manganiello stated that the City recently received a \$2,500,000 grant for pedestrian enhancements on "A" Avenue, and removal of this bus stop would be in conflict with the grant requirements.

Action: Motion by Quintero, seconded by Garcia, to install 72 feet of red curb "No Parking" to enhance safety and access at the eastbound bus stop located on the south side of E. Plaza Boulevard east of "B" Avenue.

Carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howrey-Colmenero, Reclosado, Garcia, Quintero, Coyote.

1. ITEM NO. 2013-11

REQUEST FOR RED CURB "NO PARKING" IN THE VICINITY OF 1349 E. DIVISION STREET TO ENHANCE SAFETY AND ACCESS AT THE EXISTING MTS BUS STOP.

BY: M. SLOTMAN, MTS

Mr. Manganiello summarized the staff report.

Mr. Matt Slotman, Transit Operations Technician for the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), has requested red curb “No Parking” at the westbound bus stop located in front of 1349 E. Division Street to enhance safety and access for passengers.

Staff performed a site evaluation. The posted speed limit is 35 mph. Currently, red curb is not provided at the bus stop. As a result, when vehicles park at the bus stop, buses are forced to stop in the travel lane which causes traffic congestion, safety concerns and access issues for persons with disabilities. The length of the curb between the driveway aprons of 1349 and 1401 E. Division Street is approximately 67 feet. Staff recommends painting this entire section of curb red for “No Parking” to allow buses to pull adjacent to the curb to safely load/unload passengers. This would result in the loss of three parallel parking spaces.

Staff also confirmed that just west of the bus stop there is only 12 feet of curb between the driveway aprons of 1339 and 1349 E. Division Street. City design standards require a minimum of 20 feet for on-street parallel parking. Staff recommends painting the curb red as to discourage drivers from parking at this location and blocking residential driveways.

The adjacent residential properties have available off-street parking. Staff sent letters to area residents inviting them to attend the Traffic Safety Committee Meeting.

Chairperson Howrey-Colmenero asked if this was our curb, as she thought this was in the City of San Diego. She also asked if the other side of Division Street at the bus stop should be red curbed.

Mr. Manganiello confirmed that this location is under within National City’s jurisdiction. He also confirmed that staff would coordinate with MTS to evaluate the need for red curb at the bus stop located across the street.

Action: Motion by Coyote, seconded by Reclosado, to install 67 feet of red curb “No Parking” between the driveway aprons of 1349 and 1401 E. Division Street, and install 12 feet of red curb “No Parking” between the driveway aprons of 1339 and 1349 E. Division Street to enhance safety and access at the westbound bus stop located in front of 1349 E. Division Street.

Carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howrey-Colmenero, Reclosado, Garcia, Quintero, Coyote.

3. ITEM NO. 2013-13

REQUEST FOR CHANGES TO CURBSIDE PARKING AND PASSENGER LOADING ON E. DIVISION STREET ADJACENT TO EL TOYON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO ENHANCE SAFETY AND ACCESS.

BY: PRINCIPAL V. SILVA

Mr. Manganiello summarized the staff report.

Ms. Veronica Silva, Principal of El Toyon Elementary School, located at 2000 E. Division Street, has requested changes to curbside parking and passenger loading on E. Division Street adjacent to the school to address issues related to student drop-off/pick-up, lack of handicap parking, traffic congestion, and safety. Ms. Silva's primary concern is regarding safety of the students. She stated that some parents illegally park in red curb "No Parking" zones at the signalized "T" intersection of E. Division Street and "T" Avenue, often blocking the primary school crosswalk, to pick-up/drop-off their children. She also stated that when school buses drop-off/pick-up students on the south side of the intersection it is difficult to see students in the crosswalk.

In addition, Ms. Silva has requested handicap parking in front of the school. While handicap parking is provided in the staff parking lot, the lot is closed to the public for security reasons. Therefore, disabled persons visiting the school are in need of accessible parking. She has received complaints from parents about this issue. The City Council's Disabled Persons Parking Policy allows for provision of on-street handicap parking adjacent to schools.

Staff evaluated conditions in front of the school during the AM and PM school peaks and confirmed the issues presented by Principal Silva. Following the site evaluations, staff met on-site with Principal Silva to discuss changes to curbside parking and passenger loading to address these safety concerns.

Staff's recommendations, which are supported by Principal Silva, are summarized below.

Staff recommends the following changes to curbside parking and passenger loading on E. Division Street adjacent to El Toyon Elementary School to address issues related to student drop-off/pick-up, lack of handicap parking, traffic congestion, and safety:

- 1) Convert 25 feet of unrestricted parallel parking to red curb "No Parking" just west of the intersection of E. Division Street and "T" Avenue to enhance visibility at the school crosswalk;

- 2) Convert 40 feet of “3-Minute Passenger Loading” to two blue curb handicap parking spaces, west of the proposed red curb;
- 3) Convert 70 feet of “3-Minute Passenger Loading” to red curb “No Parking, School Bus Only”, west of the proposed blue curb handicap parking;
- 4) Convert 145 feet of unrestricted parallel parking to “3-Minute Passenger Loading” (restricted from 7:00AM-9:00AM and 1:00PM-4:00PM, Monday-Friday) just east of the intersection of E. Division Street and “T” Avenue.

Committee Member Garcia asked how we can ensure that the passenger loading areas and school crosswalks are used correctly.

Mr. Manganiello stated that new signage will be installed, the changes will be outlined for parents in the school newsletter, and outreach will occur through the City’s Safe Routes to School Program.

Action: Motion by Coyote, seconded by Reclosado, to convert 25 feet of unrestricted parallel parking to red curb “No Parking” just west of the intersection of E. Division Street and “T” Avenue to enhance visibility at the school crosswalk; convert 40 feet of “3-Minute Passenger Loading” to two blue curb handicap parking spaces, west of the proposed red curb; convert 70 feet of “3-Minute Passenger Loading” to red curb “No Parking, School Bus Only”, west of the proposed blue curb handicap parking; and convert 145 feet of unrestricted parallel parking to “3-Minute Passenger Loading” (restricted from 7:00AM-9:00AM and 1:00PM-4:00PM, Monday-Friday) just east of the intersection of E. Division Street and “T” Avenue.

Carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howrey-Colmenero, Reclosado, Garcia, Quintero, Coyote.

## **VII OTHER BUSINESS**

None

## **VIII PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION**

None

## **IX COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS / CITY STAFF**

Chairperson Howrey-Colmenero asked that the faded blue handicap space in front of St. Mary's Church on "D" Avenue at E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street be re-painted. Mr. Carrillo stated that he would re-paint the blue curb.

Mr. Manganiello congratulated Committee member Roberto Garcia on his appointment to the Planning Commission. He stated that Mr. Garcia will continue to serve on the Traffic Safety Committee until his term ends in September.

## **X ADJOURNMENT**

Action: Motion by Coyote, seconded by Quintero, to adjourn to the next regularly scheduled Traffic Safety Committee meeting on July 10, 2013.