



MINUTES
ATHERTON TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 6:00 PM -
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 94 ASHFIELD ROAD

1.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL:

Council Members: Cary Wiest; Alternate Elizabeth Lewis

Committee Members: Committee Chair Larry Sweeney; Vice Chair John Ruggeiro
Gary Lauder, Michael Lempres, Mary Widmer

Meeting called to order at 6:01pm.

Council Member Wiest and Committee Members Lauder, Sweeney and Widmer present.

Committee Member Ruggeiro excused from the meeting.

Committee Member Lempres arrived at 6:03pm.

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of November 2013 meeting

Minutes approved without discussion.

3.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

3.1 Atherton Future Transportation Issues Subcommittee (AFTIS)

Per Committee Member Sweeney, a meeting has not taken place due to a quorum issue.

Council Member Wiest will ask City Attorney Bill Conners if the meeting can take place in a public setting with three members.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE: Open discussion items not on the agenda

There were no public comments or correspondence.

5.0 PRESENTATIONS:

There were no presentations.

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS:

6.1 OLD BUSINESS: (STATUS OF)

- a. Stop light – Selby/El Camino Real – G. Siebert

The City Council has directed Town staff to conduct further traffic studies to determine the feasibility of a traffic signal at this location.

City Council requested further analysis of the option to eliminate left turns at different times of the day or at all times, in cooperation with Caltrans and with input from Transportation Committee. They also requested that staff prepare a Scope of Work to examine speed and traffic issues on Selby Lane.

b. Encinal School -OK

c. Alameda/Stockbridge –OK

d. Hybrid Beacon – OK

e. Alameda/Atherton Avenue Roundabout proposal – The Transportation Committee is requesting the City Council to reconsider funding to prepare an RFP for a feasibility study for a roundabout at this location.

Public Comments:

Janet Larson, Atherton resident, is in support of a traffic signal for the children who cross the street.

Susan Speicher, Atherton resident, is in support of a traffic signal for the children who cross the street.

Claire Starry, Atherton resident, is against a traffic signal due to increased traffic concerns. However, she is in favor of flashing crosswalk lights.

Zach Whitman, Atherton resident, is against a traffic signal due to increased traffic concerns and the current traffic lights at 5th Avenue and Oakwood Boulevard. He is also concerned about possible acceleration noise on El Camino Real.

Ken Whyburn, Atherton resident, is against a traffic signal due to increased traffic concerns. However, he does support "no left turns" at the intersection of El Camino Real and Selby Lane.

b. Possible left turn lane from Encinal into the school – G. Siebert

Per City Engineer Siebert, the right of way on Encinal Avenue is not sufficient to add a left turn lane.

Sergeant Kockler discussed a proposed traffic improvement plan for Encinal School to try and resolve the current traffic issues during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up times.

c. Alameda/Stockbridge – Status – G. Siebert

Per City Engineer Siebert, work is scheduled to start next week on the intersection improvements, including trimming shrubbery, installing signs, and installing a flashing beacon.

d. Hybrid Beacon – G. Siebert

Per City Engineer Siebert, Public Works Director Michael Kashiwagi will be contacting CalTrans to talk about funding issues for the hybrid beacon.

If a traffic signal is installed at the intersection of El Camino Real and Selby Lane, then the recommendation to install the hybrid beacon at El Camino Real and Alejandra Avenue will be made.

e. Alameda/Atherton Avenue Roundabout proposal – G. Siebert

The Transportation Committee is requesting the City Council to look into the roundabout issue at the intersection of Alameda de las Pulgas and Atherton Avenue.

f. Transportation Meeting Schedule – quarterly vs. every other month

The Transportation Meetings will continue on an every other month basis.

6.2 NEW BUSINESS:

a. Consideration of a Stop Sign at Watkins and Railroad Tracks prior to Station Lane – G. Siebert

Per City Engineer Siebert, a stop sign is not recommended at this location.

City Engineer Siebert will notify the owners of property west of the intersection to request that they remove shrubbery which adversely affects sight distance.

City Engineer Siebert will look into shrubbery removal as a way of improving sight distances.

b. "KEEP CLEAR" pavement markings @ Heritage Court – G. Siebert

City Engineer Siebert recommended that the requested pavement markings be denied as the volume from the street is very low and that the adverse impact to the flow of traffic on Middlefield Road would outweigh the benefit to Heritage Court residents and might in itself create a worse traffic safety condition

This issue was determined not to be justified due to possible traffic problems on Middlefield Road.

This issue was tabled and the resident who requested this item will be invited to speak at a future Transportation Meeting.

c. Driver Awareness/Education – E. Flint

Chief Flint went over Engineering, Enforcement and Education as they relate to traffic safety.

Chief Flint went over the traffic question in The Athertonian, and stated a traffic question will be placed in all future editions of The Athertonian.

d. San Mateo County Corridor Project –G. Siebert

City Engineer Siebert went over the SMART Corridor Project.

Per City Engineer Siebert, the County Traffic Management System will operate the message signs and adjust traffic signal timing to allow better flow of traffic in case of a problem on Highway 101. The operations center is located in Redwood City.

More information on this program can be found online at: http://ccag.ca.gov/smart_corridor.html

e. Electronic sign – James Avenue – G. Siebert

Per City Engineer Siebert, the Town is continuing to explore this concept and has reached out to vendors for possible purchases.

Per City Engineer Siebert, the message sign on James Avenue was a "trial" sign which was loaned to the Town by the manufacturer.

This item is currently on the agenda for the Executive Staff Meeting.

7.0 STAFF REPORTS: None

There were no Staff Reports.

7.1 Police Traffic Unit

- a. Monthly Report for November 2013
- b. Monthly Report for December 2013
- c. Traffic Collision Statistics – 2013

The yearly Traffic Collision Statistics were discussed among the Transportation Committee Members.

The Transportation Committee Members asked for more information regarding the collisions listed on the Monthly Traffic Reports,. This information includes the type of collision and the time of the collision.

7.2 Public Works Updates

There was no Public Works update.

8.0 NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting will take place on March 11, 2014.

9.0 ACTION ITEMS FROM MEETING:

There were no additional Action Items discussed.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sgt. Anthony Kockler

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