

MISSION CANYON PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MC Residential Parking Strategy Subcommittee

Sept. 15, 2009 Meeting notes

Present: Staff: Rosie Dyste, , Vicki Parker; last half hour: Dace Morgan and Gary Smart from the Public Works Department and Peter Imhof
Subcommittee members: Jacqueline Hynes, Barbara Lindemann, Randy Reetz; Ray Smith for the last half hour

Meeting notes

Lindemann agreed to report to the full MCPAC on the subcommittee meetings held since the last meeting of the full committee. Dyste will include the notes in the committee's pre-meeting packet.

Mission Canyon Parking Policy

The subcommittee reviewed the policy draft that staff had prepared. Dyste will make the suggested revisions to present the draft to the MCPAC at the Sept. 23 meeting.

Subcommittee members favored recommending a 4' "clear zone" on both sides of the roads for safe passage of pedestrians and bicyclists, room for cars to pull-over in emergencies, better sight lines, and safe exit from parked cars.
(Subsequent discussion with staff from the Public Works Department [see notes below] led to the conclusion that the clear zone idea is not feasible in the immediate future, but recommended it as a long-term goal.)

Staff noted that CIRC-MC7 needs to be revised because the County does not actively abate illegal encroachments. Rather, officials respond to complaints.

The subcommittee then chose the materials to be included in the meeting packet for the Sept. 23 meeting of the MCPAC: maps and data from the department's study of parking patterns in the Mission Canyon Heights area.

Staff report on parking on Foothill Rd.

Dace Morgan, Deputy Director of Transportation and Gary Smart, Traffic Engineer from the Public Works Department attended to respond to questions and report on the parking decisions for the Caltrans project area of Foothill, Route 192.

In response to questions, Smart said that according to law, anything outside of the paved road may be used for parking. The clear zone only needs to be kept clear of permanent structures such as trees and walls. Therefore, it would be very difficult to enforce a no parking policy in any clear zone established in the Mission Canyon Heights area without additional paving.

Parking in the CALTRANS project area of Foothill Rd (Route 192).

The charge from the Board of Supervisors to the county's ad hoc committee was to determine areas of safe parking within the CALTRANS project area. Gary Smart did the necessary research. In light of the study the ad hoc committee recommended that "no parking on pavement" signs be posted, and then to see where people found a place to park. Instead, county staff decided to forego the signs and to mark out the areas where parking would be safe. The criteria used were: 6' distant from any driveway and not to obscure any reflector lights. The result was 17 feasible parking spaces instead of the 22 originally identified. Those spaces have been marked off by minimal striping. CALTRANS gave the County encroachment permits to establish the parking, and will put out the "no parking" signs.

Subcommittee members protested that the Community Plan specified that there would be no parking on Foothill Rd., and expressed concern that future Board adoption of MCPAC recommendations would similarly be overturned, resulting in decisions contrary to the wider public safety because of pressure from immediate neighbors.

When asked for her recommendations to the MCPAC as it addresses traffic and parking issues, Dace Morgan replied that the committee should establish universal criteria that can be applied throughout the area without consideration of how they affect any individual or household.

Uncorrected notes submitted by Barbara Lindemann