



Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Mark Danaj, City Manager

FROM: Marisa Lundstedt, Community Development Director

DATE: July 30, 2015

SUBJECT: Supplemental Information for Agenda Item #6 – Adopt Resolution No. 15-0046 to Install Stop Signs on Pacific Avenue at 23rd Street as Recommended by the Parking and Public Improvements Commission.

On June 25, 2015, the Parking and Public Improvements Commission (PPIC) held a public meeting to discuss the Traffic Engineer's evaluation supporting stop signs in all directions. Attachment 2 of the staff report for RES 15-0046 is currently a placeholder for the Draft PPIC Minutes for the aforementioned meeting. Attached are the Draft Minutes, not yet approved by the PPIC due to the cancellation of the July 23, 2015 meeting.

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
PARKING AND PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMISSION
DRAFT MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
June 25, 2015**

06/25/15-2 Consider a Request for All-Way Stop Signs at Pacific Avenue and 23rd Street

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet gave his presentation and recommended that the Commission approve a motion to recommend that the City Council adopt a resolution to install stop signs in all directions at the intersection of Pacific Avenue and 23rd Street.

Chair Lipps opened the Audience Participation.

Audience Participation

Helen Onusconich, 2405 Pacific Avenue, stated there has been more than one car totaled in front of her home because of cars speeding down Pacific Avenue. She explained it is not safe for her to pull out of her driveway because of the speeding cars. She asked the Commission to approve the stop signs for safety.

Akiko Maeda, 804 23rd Street, explained she really didn't like the thought of having a stop sign, but in this case she felt it was really needed for safety. She said when she tries to pull out of her driveway, the large trees that have grown over the years blocked her view to see the oncoming cars. She stated she didn't want to see the trees cut down and felt the stop signs would help.

Marcie Pettigrew, 2400 Pacific Avenue, expressed that she was in favor of the stop signs. She said that drivers on Pacific Avenue pick up speed because of the hill and that creates a safety problem.

Stephanie Resley, Manhattan Beach Resident, felt that putting in stop signs was not addressing the problem because speed was the issue. She thought that speed bumps should be used not only on Pacific Avenue, but on other streets where drivers are speeding though the neighborhoods. She explained that she doesn't like speed bumps but they do slow cars down.

Tom Howatt, 2404 Pacific Avenue, said there is a speeding issue on Pacific Avenue. He explained that because of the hill cars pick up speed, which makes it very difficult for the residents to get out of their driveways. He said safety is the issue and he doesn't want to see anyone get hurt, and asked the Commission to approve the stop signs.

Ron Adams, 2310 Pacific Avenue, stated a stop sign is needed at the location because of the speeding and he was in favor of the stop signs.

Robin Chancellon, 2206 Pacific Avenue, said she was in favor of the stop sign on Pacific Avenue and 23rd Street and was pleased to read that the staff report recommended the approval of the stop signs. She asked the Commission to approve the stop signs because the traffic and speeding is getting worse, and it is a real safety issue.

Moon Bae, 2314 Pacific Avenue, explained she had always been concerned with the traffic on Pacific Avenue, but now with the speeding she has a problem pulling out of her driveway. She asked for stop signs at Pacific Avenue and 23rd Street.

Chair Nicholson closed the Audience Participation.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner King said in the staff report there was no mention of any accidents at the location and asked if speed bumps would be appropriate on Pacific Avenue.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet explained there was no accident history, but not all accidents are reported to the City by the people involved for various reasons. He said speed bumps would not meet the criteria and wouldn't be safe because of the grade of the hill on Pacific Avenue. He said a speed awareness sign may help drivers slow down when they see how fast they are going.

Commissioner Fournier explained to the audience that stop signs are not the criteria used for reducing speed, and then ask Traffic Engineer Zandvliet to explain why.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet explained there are advantages and disadvantages to stop signs. He said some of the disadvantages are noise, pollution and the possibility of rear end accidents, but in this situation the justification for the stop sign is because of sight visibility restrictions.

Chair Lipps said he drove to Pacific Avenue and 23rd Street and watched the traffic and some of the residents trying to back out of their driveway, which at times was dangerous because of the sight line issue. He stated he thought there is a safety issue at the location and felt stop signs along with a speed awareness sign will help change driver habits to slow down. He said he is in favor of the stop signs.

Commissioner King asked if by adding the stop sign at Pacific Avenue and 23rd Street, it would cause drivers to take other streets.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet said it could create some additional traffic on the 23rd Street, but nothing very significant.

Commissioner Fournier commented that he agreed with what Chair Lipps said and is in support of the stop signs, but asked if staff could look at the possibility of removing any stop signs that may not be needed within the immediate area.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet said if the stop signs are approved for Pacific Avenue and 23rd he would do a follow up speed survey for the street segment between 23rd Street and Marine Avenue, which would give a status report of how things are going.

Chair Lipps stated he is in favor of any type of traffic calming measures in neighborhoods to help slow down the drivers who are speeding through them.

MOTION: Commissioner Fournier made a motion to recommend that the City Council adopt a resolution to install stop signs in all directions at the intersection of Pacific Avenue and 23rd Street. The motion was seconded by Commissioner King.

Ayes: King, Lipps and Fournier.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Nicholson.