



Agenda Item # _____

Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Richard Thompson, Director of Community Development
Rob Osborne, Management Analyst

DATE: February 15, 2005

SUBJECT: Uphold the Parking and Public Improvements Commission Recommendation to Approve a Request for Removal of a Stop Sign on 21st Place at Blanche Road

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Council pass a motion to approve the Parking and Public Improvements Commission recommendation to:

- Approve removal of the stop sign on eastbound 21st Place at Blanche Road
- Paint a "Yield" pavement marking on 21st Place
- Maintain the white limit line on 21st Place
- Adopt Resolution No. 5964

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

Installation of the measures suggested by the PPIC would cost approximately \$300 and could be accomplished through existing Public Works programs and budgets.

BACKGROUND:

The City recently received a petition requesting removal of the existing stop sign on eastbound 21st Place at Blanche Road. The owners of the property adjacent to the stop sign feel the sign is not necessary and physically impedes access to their garage. Because space on the alley is limited, there is not a place to locate the sign where it would not impede access and still be enforceable. The request was reviewed by the Parking and Public Improvements Commission at a public meeting on January 27, 2005.

DISCUSSION:

As described in the attached staff report, the Traffic Engineer does not object to removing the stop sign. The California Vehicle Code requires drivers exiting an alley or approaching a T-shaped intersection to yield to traffic on the cross street. A "Stop" or "Yield" sign is therefore not required. The Traffic Engineer feels removing the stop sign will not impact the level of safety at the

intersection and that the condition created would be similar to that at numerous other alley-type intersections in the City.

The only public testimony received at the Commission meeting was provided by the authors of the petition. The Commission agreed with the Traffic Engineer's findings and voted unanimously to recommend the following:

- Approval of the request to remove the stop sign
- Installation of a "Yield" pavement marking on the 21st Place roadway
- That the white limit line on 21st Place be maintained

The Traffic Engineer has no objection to the "Yield" marking or maintaining the limit line.

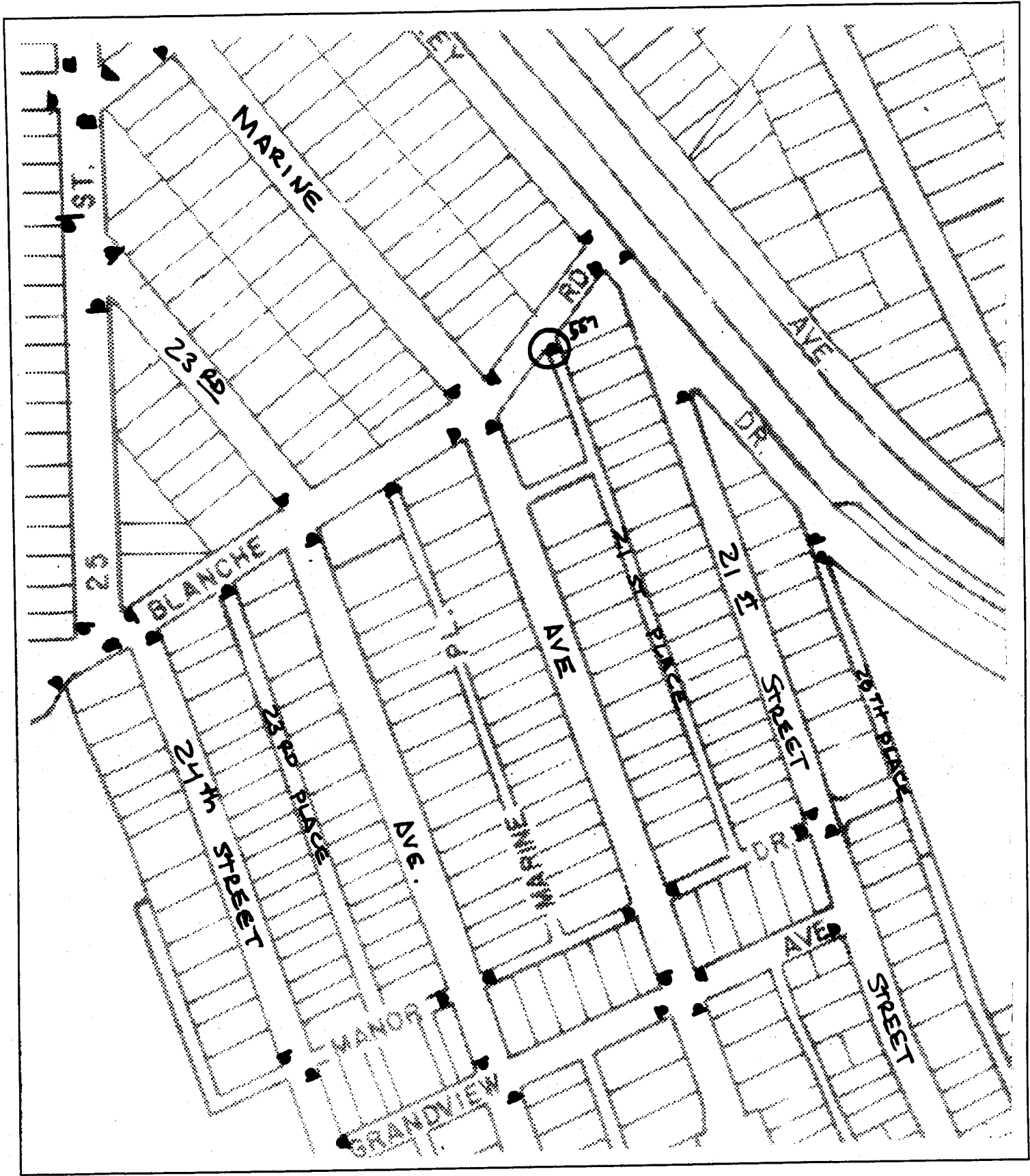
Should the Council decide to approve removal of the stop sign, adoption of the attached Resolution No. 5964 would make the necessary amendment to the City's Traffic Resolution.

Meeting notices were sent to all properties on the subject block of 21st Place.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. **APPROVE** the recommendations of the Parking and Public Improvements Commission.
2. **REMOVE** this item from the Consent Calendar and provide staff with direction.

- Attachments:
- A. Area map
 - B. Resolution 5964
 - C. Excerpt from PPIC minutes of 1/27/05
 - D. PPIC report dated 1/27/05, with attachments
 - E. Meeting notice, 2/1/05



City of Manhattan Beach
 Department of Community Development

21st PLACE AT BLANCHE ROAD

VICINITY MAP

RESOLUTION NO. 5964

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 21 (THROUGH STREETS AND STOP INTERSECTIONS) OF RESOLUTION NO. 2715 (THE TRAFFIC RESOLUTION)

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That Section 21 (Through Streets and Stop Intersections) of Resolution No. 2715 of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DEFINING AND ESTABLISHING CERTAIN STREETS AND PARTS OF STREETS IN THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH AS ONE-WAY STREETS, THROUGH STREETS AND STOP INTERSECTIONS. RAILROAD GRADE CROSSINGS, NO PARKING AREAS, DIAGONAL PARKING ZONES, NO STOPPING ZONES, TRUCK ROUTES, COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PROHIBITED STREETS AND WALK STREETS

passed and adopted on the 19th day of November, 1968, shall be amended by adding the following:

Boulevard Stops:

Deletes:

	<u>Intersection</u>	<u>Entrance</u>
21t-35,	21 st Place at Blanche Road	Westerly

SECTION 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall make this Resolution reasonably available for public inspection within thirty (30) days of the date this Resolution is adopted.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 15th day of February, 2005.

- Ayes:
- Noes:
- Absent:
- Abstain:

Mayor, City of Manhattan Beach, California

ATTEST:

City Clerk

2. Request for Removal of Stop Sign - 21st Place at Blanche Road

Traffic Engineer Erik Zandvliet presented the staff report relative to a petition from residents of 557 21st Street requesting removal of the existing stop sign on 21st Place at Blanch Road due to the fact the existing stop sign pole prevents full use of their driveway. He reviewed staff's analysis of the request, stating that based on low traffic volumes, adequate sight distance for motorists on 21st Place approaching Blanch Road and yield requirement at the alley intersection, removal of the existing stop sign and legend is recommended.

Audience Participation

Damien Stevens, 21 Street, stated that he and his wife own the property where the stop sign is located and talked of the difficulty they have in accessing their driveway and garage due to the location of the stop sign. He noted that the submitted petition contains signatures of residents supporting the removal of the stop signs and asked that the Commission support the request.

Discussion

The Commission held discussion with staff on this item with Traffic Engineer Zandvliet clarifying that the limit line can remain and the roadway painted STOP can be replaced with YIELD.

Action

A motion was MADE and SECONDED (Saunders/Lesser) to approve staff's recommendation to remove the stop sign on 21st Place at Blanch Road and instruct staff to keep the limit lime and change the roadway wording to "YIELD".

AYES:	Ackland, Lesser, Lang, Chairman Saunders
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Osterhout
ABSTAIN:	None

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

TO: Parking and Public Improvements Commission

FROM: Richard Thompson, Director of Community Development
Robert D. Osborne, Management Analyst

BY: Erik Zandvliet, Traffic Engineer

DATE: January 27, 2005

SUBJECT: Request to Remove Stop Signs
21st Place at Blanche Road

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Commission recommend removal of the existing stop sign on 21st Place at Blanche Road.

BACKGROUND:

In November 2004, Mr. and Mrs. Damian Stevens, residents of 557 21st Street, submitted a petition requesting removal of the existing stop sign on 21st Place at Blanche Road. The petition states that the existing stop sign pole prevents full use of the driveway behind 557 21st Street.

DISCUSSION:

21st Place is a 20-foot wide alley through a residential area that provides north-south access to driveways fronting 21st Street and Marine Avenue. 21st Place does not have curbs, gutters or sidewalks. 21st Place is stopped at Blanche Road to the north and tees into Manor Drive to the south without a stop sign. Blanche Road is a two-lane major local street that carries over 3,000 vehicles per day. It connects with Rosecrans Avenue to the north and Valley Drive to the south. Blanche Road has curb, gutter and sidewalks on the west side only. The speed limit is 25 mph on Blanche Road and 15 mph on 21st Place. The intersection of 21st Street and Blanche Road is located in a single family residential area. Parking is prohibited on the south side of 21st Place and the west side of Blanche Road.

The traffic collision history between January 1, 1997 and December 31, 2001 was analyzed for the intersection. According to City records, there have been no traffic collisions reported near the intersection during this five-year period. No collision patterns were identified.

Field observations were made at the intersection during peak travel periods. Traffic volumes on 21st Place are approximately 250 vehicles on a typical day. This volume is very low, and would not justify stopping all directions at the intersection. Visibility is satisfactory for drivers on 21st Place approaching the intersection. The view of pedestrians in the sidewalk is also sufficient.

By law, drivers exiting an alley must yield to all drivers on the cross street if no stop sign is posted.

Multi-way Stop Signs: The State of California has established guidelines for the installation of stop signs. These criteria have been widely accepted and are used by the City of Manhattan Beach. Multi-way or all-way stop controls are generally recommended when one or more of the criteria are satisfied.

A stop sign warrant checklist is attached to this report that indicates that stop signs are not necessary at this intersection based on adequate sight visibility and low traffic volumes. Further, the California Vehicle Code requires all drivers exiting an alley or approaching a “tee” intersection to yield to all other traffic on the cross street. As such, “Stop” or “Yield” signs or markings are not required. It is expected that removal of the existing Stop sign would not change the overall traffic safety at this intersection. This condition is very similar to numerous other alley-type intersections throughout the City.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the low traffic volumes, adequate sight distance for motorists on 21st Place approaching Blanche Road and yield requirement at alley intersections, the removal of the existing Stop sign and legend on 21st Place at Blanche Road is recommended.

Meeting notices were sent to all properties within 300 feet of the subject intersection.

EHZ:

ATTACHMENTS

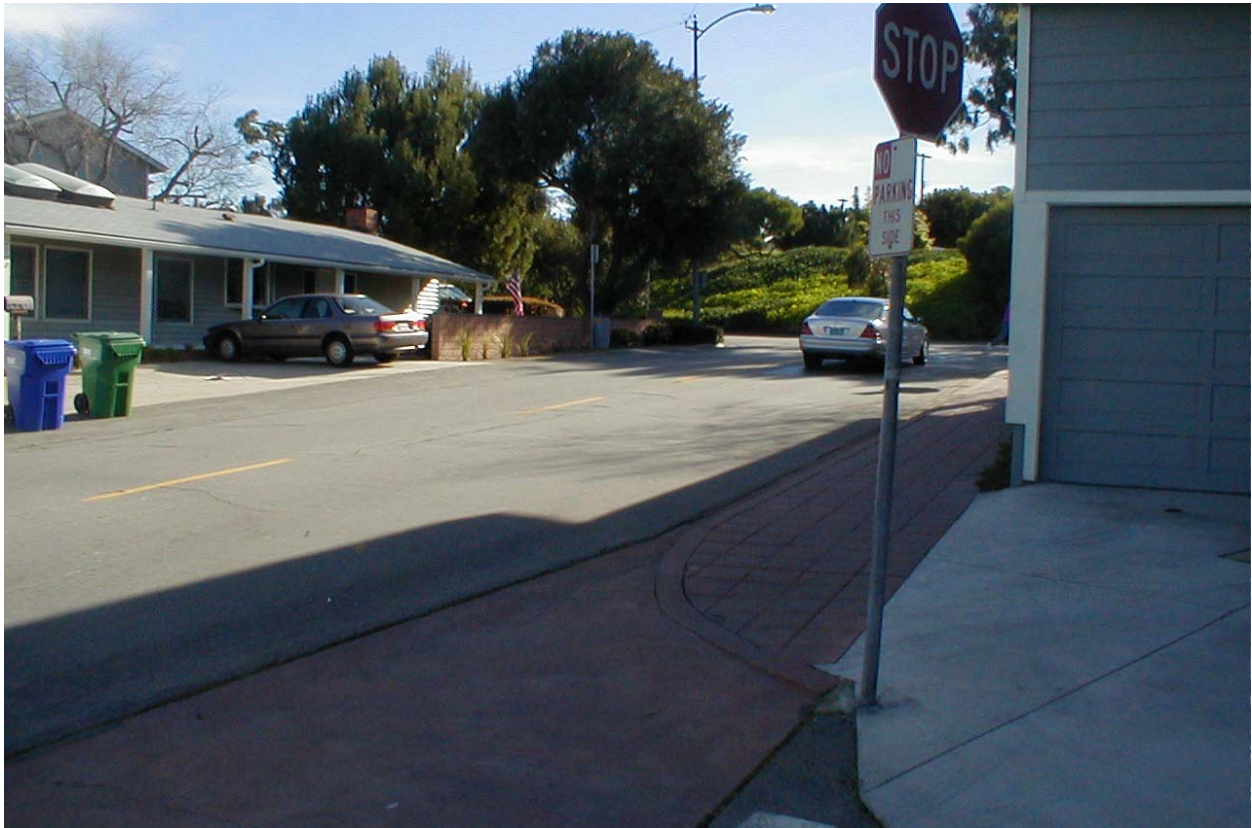
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21st Place at Blanche Road Looking East



21st Place at Blanche Road Looking Northbound



21st Place at Blanche Road Looking Southbound



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Telephone (310) 802-5000 FAX (310) 802-5001

February 1, 2005

***** PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE *****

Re: Request to Remove Stop Sign -21st Place at Blanche Road

Dear Resident/Property Owner:

On January 27, 2005, the Parking and Public Improvements Commission reviewed a petition requesting removal of the existing stop sign on eastbound 21st Place at Blanche Road. The Commission voted to recommend approval of the request, subject to a "YIELD" marking being installed on the roadway.

The City Council will review this recommendation at a public meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2005. The meeting will be held in the City Council Chamber, 1400 Highland Avenue, and will begin at 6:30 p.m. Any comments you might like to make at the meeting would be welcomed.

The issue will be on the portion of the agenda known as the "Consent Calendar", meaning that it will not automatically be discussed. If it is not requested to be discussed by either a member of the audience, a City staff person or a Councilmember, the recommended action will be approved without discussion. At a point at the beginning of the meeting the Mayor will ask the audience if they would like any items to be removed from the Consent Calendar. If you do not agree with the recommended action for this item, be sure to request that it be removed at that time. It will then be discussed during the portion of the agenda entitled "Items Removed from the Consent Calendar", toward the end of the meeting.

If you have any questions or would like any additional information, please call me at 802-5540.

Sincerely,

Rob Osborne
Management Analyst
Community Development Department