

Rancho Bernardo Joint Traffic/Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes September 25, 2006
Prepared By George Cooke

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Co-chair Dick Katz. The following Committee members were present: Robin Kaufman (co-chair), Kathy Keehan, Alethea Altenbern, Hal Altenbern, Richard House, Patti Perna, Jim Denton, Marty Lave, and George Cooke. Also present were Steve Denny (City Traffic Engineering) and Donna Hartings (Pomerado News). A large number of community residents were in attendance to address various topics. The meeting was held in the 2nd floor conference room at the San Diego National Bank.
2. The minutes from the August 28, 2006 meeting were approved with the following corrections: Item #1 – “Andres Thomas” should be “Andrea Thomas”. Item #4 – “Maienscein” should be “Maienschein”, “Check Kenney” should be “Chuck Kenny”; “it down’t” should be “it doesn’t”; “Dick Warden complemented” should be “Dick Warden complimented”. Item #15 – “No parking sings” should be “No parking signs”.
3. Residents Remarks – Several residents from Bernardo Hills addressed the committee with an issue of compression traffic cutting through their residential neighborhood to avoid congestion at the intersection of Rancho Bernardo Road at Pomerado Road. Bob Harter of 12604 Parish Road was the spokesperson for the group. He also distributed a written report to the committee which included a thorough description of the issue along with photographs and recommended solutions. The solutions presented were to install an all-way stop at the intersection of Parish Road/Court and Cresta Drive OR speed humps. There was considerable discussion with residents and committee members, and with Steve Denny of City Traffic Engineering. The consensus was that the all-way stop was a possibility, but that the speed humps would be problematic due to the requirements. To expedite the request, a motion was introduced by George Cooke to put this item on the October 19 agenda for the Rancho Bernardo Planning Board. The motion was seconded by Patti Perna, and passed by a vote of 9-to-1. The residents were invited to bring the issue to that meeting.
4. Residents Remarks – Virginia Reeve reported that lighting is insufficient and that there is speeding on Paseo Lucido.
5. RB Trails V-Tech Signs – Bob Schulze provided an update on this issue from last month’s meeting. He reported that he attended the Trails HOA meeting and asked Mr. Silva when they can discuss the wording for the new survey, but they wouldn’t discuss it. He is asking the committee to ask that the “illegal poles” be taken down at HOA expense. Discussion by committee members questioned whether the City shouldn’t be enforcing this. A motion by Marty Lave was withdrawn. A motion was introduced by Kathy Keehan and seconded by Jim Denton to send a letter to City Code Compliance asking for enforcement, with copies to the HOA and Brian Maienschein. The motion was approved 10-0.

6. Update on No Parking Restrictions by the City – Steve Denny addressed the committee and gave an official update on the “No Parking Restrictions”. He said that signs are not appropriate simply to deal with a nuisance. A finding of safety needs to be made (with accident counts), or with identification of deficiency in the road design. He said there is no safety finding on the Calle Vivienda issue. This also applies to the overflow parking from Waterbridge on Westwood streets. Steve will continue to work on this. We need to request for a re-evaluation of parking limit criteria. We’ll also need to justify by standards and safety. Patti Perna pointed out that this may be a city-wide problem that starts with the Planning Department. Kathy Keehan introduced a motion to write a letter to Brian Maienschein asking for clarification of policy for parking regulation and saying that we need a way to enforce parking in the community. The motion was seconded by Jim Denton and, following discussion, was approved by a vote of 9-1.

7. Parking Restrictions on Poblado and Botero Dr. – A Waterbridge resident, Dexter Oliver, addressed the committee to give the perspective of Waterbridge residents on this issue. He explained that the developer still controls the Board at Waterbridge and that there is a grass roots effort among Waterbridge residents to try to force change at the HOA. They’re going door to door to get 100 residents to their HOA meeting on September 27. They have a proposal to redesign the parking configuration at Waterbridge. 50 vehicles a night are currently spilling over into the adjacent neighborhoods. They want to force the HOA to have a parking consultant brought in. He expressed the frustration of Waterbridge residents and that they emphasize with their neighbors in Westwood. Cindy Buzzell, an Oculito Road resident, raised questions of safety, trash, noise, and illegal parking that is taking place. She thanked Dexter Oliver for taking the initiative in Waterbridge. The Waterbridge owners (an LLC) refused to come to the meeting invited by Brian Maienschein. (Waterbridge was formerly known as the Vellagio Apartments, and there are still about 40 units being rented as apartments.) Jim Steinberg, a Westwood resident, raised additional questions. The committee expressed its appreciation to Dexter Oliver for his efforts. He is asking for us to hold off on recommendations for parking until they can have a chance to work on it. Dexter’s wife, Tina, said that there are not enough parking spaces allocated. Dexter is asking the LLC for an overview of the Parking Allocation Plan. Patti Perna made a motion but withdrew it. Following discussion, Kathy Keehan suggested that we have a Public Forum in lieu of next month’s traffic meeting, and that we should get a larger room for it. Robin Kaufman announced that we will do that next month, and that there will be a special announcement made when she gets a larger meeting place lined up. A motion was made by Jim Denton, and seconded by Kathy Keehan, to table this question until the Public Forum is held. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0.

8. Bike Lane for Paseo Lucido AND Paseo Lucido Speeding – Jim Denton introduced this as a multi-faceted issue. He reported that Parking and Speeding are both problems on this street. One need is for a double left turn lane onto Bernardo Heights Parkway from Paseo Lucido. Another possibility is to implement Tom Reid’s decorative pavement design at the west end of Paseo Lucido where it reenters Bernardo Heights Parkway. Or, we could put a bike lane on the whole Paseo Lucido. (Night lighting is another problem.) Tom Reid said that he has photos of speeders hitting parked cars. A motion was made by Jim Denton, and seconded by Patti Perna, to ask the City for a reevaluation of the intersection for dual left turns. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0. Another motion was made by Kathy Keehan, and seconded by George Cooke, to implement bike lanes in both directions on Paseo Lucido between Bernardo Heights Parkway and BH Parkway (west end) for safety reasons. The motion passed with 9 in favor, none opposed, and one abstention.
9. No Parking Signs on the South Side of Rancho Bernardo Road from Acena to Bernardo Oaks – Following discussion, it was decided to have this issue discussed at the Public Forum that will be planned for next month.
10. Update – Bernardo Center Drive/Bernardo Plaza Dr. – George and Robin described the background on this issue. Steve Denny will look into it.
11. Savon Update – Kathy Keehan reported on her research into the permits issued for this development. From 1980, it said, “No access to the development from Acena”. From January 1982, residents didn’t want the wall to be open (even for pedestrian access). 1980 findings concluded that they should not have an entrance or exit at that location from Acena, and there was reference to “the wall”. Steve Denny said that he will look into this.
12. Update on Lomica V-Tech sign – Robin reported that the resident has agreed, and the installation of the V-tech sign on Lomica will go ahead. Also, the installation of the V-Tech sign on Avenida de Los Lobos is going ahead.
13. Other – George reported that an unsigned flyer had been distributed on some streets in High Country West expressing opposition to the new stop signs. Whoever that is can bring their concerns to the local community group (HCW HOA board meeting). George also reported on a recent traffic violation incident that was picked up on the HCW security cameras.
14. Other – Linda Barnett, a resident from Las Floras, described problems on Publieto, where students are picked up and dropped off for school. She said there is a safety problem with kids crossing between cars, double parking, etc.
15. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm. There will be a Public Forum held in lieu of the next meeting, which would normally be at 7:00 PM, Monday, October 23, 2006. There will be a special announcement.