

September 30, 2002

Honorable Chairman and Members of  
The Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting of  
October 16, 2002

**REQUEST FOR SPEED CONTROL ON 24<sup>TH</sup> STREET BETWEEN  
PARK AVENUE AND VALLEY DRIVE**

**Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Public Works Commission support Staff's recommendation to install warning signs that would potentially get the attention of some of the speeders and slow them down. Said advisory sign would include installation of Caltrans sign **W6 (Advisory Speed Plate)** or **W29 & 29A (Hill Symbol Sign with 8% Grade Plate)**.

**Background:**

A resident on 24<sup>th</sup> Street has written on behalf of himself and his neighbors expressing concern for traffic safety in their neighborhood requesting that the City examine alternatives to slow the traffic or divert some the commuters currently using 24<sup>th</sup> Street between Park Avenue and Valley Drive.

Staff has investigated the residents' concern. A speed survey was conducted and site analysis and observations were made. The speed survey indicates that although the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile of the speed survey conducted is below the posted speed limit of 25 mph, there are some drivers that speed through the street at speeds in excess of 30 mph. The field investigation revealed that the street is very narrow and steep and there is no place for any potential traffic calming. Moreover, the site distance may already be a potential problem with the cars heading uphill toward the intersection with Park Avenue.

**Analysis:**

Staff has investigated the concern of the residents. A speed survey was conducted and site analysis and observations were made. The speed limit on 24<sup>th</sup> Street is 25 miles per hour (mph). The speed surveys indicated that the average speed on the street was 18.12 mph, Ten-Mile-Pace was 12 to 21 mph and maximum-recorded speed was 46 mph. The speed survey was taken over three days covering the weekend. Weekend days are judged to be the busiest days in beach cities. There were 100-150 vehicles that were driving over 25 mph, 10-20 vehicles driving over 30 mph and 1 vehicle speeding over 40 mph. The speeding occurred in the early morning hours, which could indicate driving under the influence.

Based on the condition observed and the site geometric condition sighted, a non-intrusive solution may need to be implemented that will fit the situation. This solution may be in the form of installing some warning signs that would get the attention of some of the speeders and slow them down. The said advisory sign could include installation of Caltrans sign **W6 (Advisory Speed Plate)** or **W29 & 29A (Hill Symbol Sign with 8% Grade Plate)**. Additionally, police enforcement during the early morning hours could prove effective as well.

**Alternatives:**

1. Approve as recommended.
2. Send item back to Staff for further study.
3. Take no action.

Attachments:

1. Location Map
2. Resident's Letter

Respectfully submitted,

Concur:

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Ray Abassi, P.E.  
City Traffic Engineer

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Harold C. Williams, P.E.  
Director of Public Works/City Engineer

Concur:

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Michael Lavin  
Chief of Police