

March 7, 2006

Honorable Chairman and Members of the
Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting of
March 15, 2006

CYPRESS AVENUE PARKING PROBLEMS, NORTH OF 8TH STREET

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Public Works Commission hold a public meeting with residents of Cypress Avenue to hear comments regarding parking problems and consider proposals from staff to resolve these problems.

Summary:

The City has received numerous complaints from residents of Cypress Avenue, which is a cul-de-sac street north of 8th Street, terminating at Clark Field. The complaints are that parked vehicles are obstructing accessibility to the street. These complaints are similar to those received from residents of Loma Drive. The problem arises from multi-family residences and apartments with associated heavy parking demands and the lack of street curbing to properly define parking spaces. As a result, residents park parallel to the street where there are curbs and perpendicular elsewhere, often extending into the roadway.

The street is 28 feet wide (where there is curb) and allows parking on both sides. In the few locations where there is curb on both sides of the street, when cars are parked on both sides of the street, there is a clear aisle width of approximately 14 feet. Staff believes that this aisle width works well for this cul-de-sac street. The problem of accessibility occurs where cars extend beyond this, reducing that clear aisle width. Parking Enforcement personnel have issued warnings to vehicles parked in this manner but the problem persists. The problem for Parking Enforcement is that there is no clear demarcation of what constitutes a violation.

Recommended option: Staff recommends striping a 14-foot wide travel lane (centered within the public right-of-way) using 4-inch white lines as lane edge striping along the entire length of street. This will provide very clear demarcation for Parking Enforcement personnel to enforce any vehicle parking over this line. It will also give equal benefit to both sides of the street for parking.

Staff recommends that the Commission receive public comment on the above option and if no better ideas are presented, direct staff to take this to Council for final approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard D. Morgan, P.E.
Director of Public Works/City Engineer