

April 11, 2006

Honorable Chairman and Members of the
Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting of
April 19, 2006

CYPRESS AVENUE NORTH OF 8TH STREET - PARKING PROBLEMS

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Public Works Commission hear public comment regarding parking problems on Cypress Avenue north of 8th Street and support installation of the following improvements:

1. Four-inch wide white striping on both sides of Cypress Avenue to designate a 14-foot wide travel way; and
2. STOP signs on both sides of 8th Street at Cypress Avenue.

Summary:

Cypress Avenue is a cul-de-sac north of 8th Street, terminating at Clark Field. The City has received complaints from residents that parked vehicles are obstructing accessibility to the street. The problem arises from multi-family residences and apartments with associated heavy parking demands and the lack of street curbing properly defining 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 vehicles 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. 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 issue for Parking Enforcement is that there is no clear demarcation of what constitutes a violation.

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 beginning approximately ninety (90) feet north of the 8th Street intersection which would be continuous to the cul-de-sac. This would provide very clear demarcation for Parking Enforcement personnel, allowing them to enforce ticketing any vehicle parked over this line. It would also provide equal benefit to both sides of the street for parking purposes. The existing three parking stalls with "T & L" markings on the east side, and red curb on the west side, would remain within the first ninety (90) feet, maintaining a 20-foot clear travelway near the intersection.

Staff also recommends the installation of new STOP signs on 8th Street at Cypress Avenue to improve the safety of vehicles exiting Cypress Avenue (as proposed by Commissioner Beste). Sight distance is limited due to the steepness of Cypress Avenue north of the intersection. The STOP signs on 8th Street would also help reduce vehicle speeding which also has been a concern expressed by many residents in the area.

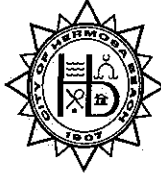
Staff recommends that the Commission receive public comment on the above recommendations then direct staff to take this to Council for final approval.

Attachment: Notice of Meeting

Respectfully submitted,



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



City of Hermosa Beach
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

IMPORTANT NOTICE

AT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2006 AT 7:00 P.M., THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION WILL BE CONSIDERING THE FOLLOWING ISSUE THAT WILL AFFECT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

CYPRESS AVENUE NORTH OF 8TH STREET PARKING PROBLEMS

The Public Works Commission will hear public comments regarding parking issues on Cypress Avenue in and around the intersection with 8th Street and review Staff recommendations for installation of the following improvements:

1. Four-inch wide white striping on both sides of Cypress Avenue to designate a 14-foot wide clear travel way; and
2. STOP signs on both sides of 8th Street at Cypress Avenue.

This Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 1315 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254.

ALL PERSONS interested are invited to participate and speak at this hearing at the above time and place. All written testimony by any interested party will be accepted prior to or at the scheduled time on the agenda for the matter.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION contact Richard Morgan, Director of Public Works/City Engineer at (310) 318-0211 (or email rmorgan@hermosabch.org).

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