

July 10, 2006

Honorable Chairman and Members of the
Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting of
July 19, 2006

STOP SIGN CONTROLLED INTERSECTIONS ON HERMOSA AVENUE

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Public Works Commission:

1. Consider requests from residents for additional STOP signs on Hermosa Avenue at 4th Street, 6th Street; and
2. Consider other locations for STOP signs as part of a master plan for the entire length of Hermosa Avenue.

Summary:

Hermosa Avenue presently has five traffic signal controlled intersections and nine four-way STOP sign controlled intersections between Herondo Street and 35th Street (see attached Area Map). In addition to the crosswalks at these traffic controlled intersections, there are marked crosswalks on Hermosa Avenue at 4th, 6th, 19th, 24th and 25th Streets. Since these are uncontrolled intersections staff has concerns for pedestrian safety similar to the concerns we have for the uncontrolled intersections on Pacific Coast Highway at 1st, 3rd and 4th Streets.

Over the past few years staff has received a number of requests for STOP signs at 4th and 6th Streets on Hermosa Avenue. Some very good reasons exist for considering the addition of these STOP locations. They include:

- Heavy pedestrian usage especially in the summer for accessing the beach area.
- Traffic tends to pick up speed in the long spacing between stops at 2nd and 8th Streets.
- Parallel parking in small spaces on Hermosa Avenue is difficult when traffic is traveling too fast.

In looking at the spacing between STOP controlled intersections, the same argument can be made for adding STOP signs at 19th Street. Staff would also recommend considering removing the crosswalk pavement markings at 24th and 25th Streets. These two are very close to each other and staff believes that it is safer to encourage crossings at 26th Street, which is STOP sign controlled.

If the Commission is supportive of the addition of STOP signage, staff will request a warrant analysis from our traffic engineering consultant and then come back to the Commission to hold a public meeting regarding this issue before taking to Council for final approval.

Attachment: Area Map

Respectfully submitted,

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