

Sunday, March 18, 2007

Honorable Mayor and City Council

Planning Commission *(note from City Clerk's Office: should be Public Works Commission)*

The March 21st, 2007 Planning Commission*(note from City Clerk's Office: should be Public Works Commission)* meeting will address issues related to traffic issues on 16th street west of Pacific Coast Highway (16th street). In as much as I am out of state please consider this document and attachment as my testimony for the Commission meeting on the above issue.

The 16th street residents are opposed to movement of parking to the north side of the street for the following reasons and facts:

FACT 1

The 24 hour fitness center generates a large amount of noise after the 10 pm city quiet time because patrons leave at all hours and stand outside by the parked vehicles and carry on loud conversations. Because this noise is across the street on the South side of 16th street as it is currently this noise is not a big disturbance for the residents. If you move the parking to the north side of the street this noise will be moved to within 15 feet of bedroom windows. See note A on the attachment. No one has come forth to offer to pay for upgrading our windows for sound proofing. Kind of sad when the city of Hermosa Beach makes its residents pay a steep price trying to solve a problem of the city's making.

FACT 2

At note B on the attachment one can see that vehicles exiting the Pavilion parking garage will be turning west into a lane without being able to see into the lane they are entering. Sort of dumb isn't it. This applies if they make either a left or right turn. Children going the Valley View school use sidewalk to walk to and from school. When the CUP was approved not even require the Pavilion to put exit mirrors so the people walking must now dodge cars exiting. Vehicles exiting must pull into the path of west bound traffic to see if a vehicle is entering at the same time.

6a Supplemental Information

FACT 3

On attachment note A and note E one can see that the Commodore residents must exit their parking garages which are sub level of the street into the traffic of 16th street. For almost a year we have been requesting that the city help reduce the speed of traffic west bound on 16th street. The condo residents will not be able to see traffic coming from their left because the city is planning on moving the parking to the north side of the street which will block drivers views of west and east bound traffic. **If a resident is killed or injured because of this foolish move then it will be the city of HB's fault.**

FACT 4

On the attachment note that VON's 18 wheelers will no longer be able to make the turn from their unloading area into east bound 16th street lanes. They currently use the entire street and often go up against the north curb when making the swing east bound. The City will force the trucks to exit westbound going downhill on 16th street and making the tight turn on Ardmore (either east of west). We are sure you will be receiving a large number of calls from them once the parking is moved.

FACT 5

Moving the parking does not address the issues concerning the egress and ingress to the Pavilion parking structure and the bottleneck in the street from 5 pm through 8 pm every evening at that garage. Seems like the City just wishes to bow to the wishes of the owner of the Pavilion. How about requiring him to make changes if you wish the residents to give up their peace and quiet.

FACT 6

Find some way to reduce the number of vehicles using 16th street as a short cut to downtown Hermosa Beach. The street has way too many vehicles on it for a one block street.

WHAT ARE SOME ALTERNATIVE CHANGES FOR THE STREET

The following suggestions have been submitted several times before but we do not give up easy:

- 1, Allow vehicles exiting the Pavilion parking structure (at attachment point B) to only make a left turn. They will be able to see vehicles east bound on 16th street. This will help reduce noise and speed on the street.
2. Do not allow vehicles westbound at (at attachment point E) to make a U turn into the Von's unloading area.
3. Do not allow eastbound vehicles to make a left turn into the Pavilion parking structure. Stopping this alone would reduce the evening congestion on the street.

4. Require the Pavilioni owner to change the entrance and exits of the parking structure to move entering cars from the street. The design is a mess and the residents can not believe that the city allowed the design to be approved.
5. Place some type of speed controls on the street.
6. Require mirrors on the Pavilion exits before some school child or senior is injured.
7. Keep the parking on the south side of 16th street. Do not make the residents pay a price for the installation of the traffice light at PCH and 16th street. This will also keep 18 wheeler traffic off of Ardmore.
8. Make public the traffic count study for 16th street West of PCH and allow the residents to study it before having another public meeting. It appears that the West 16th traffic counts are secret.

Respectively,

Ron Miller

Attachment:

