



**CITY OF NORCO
CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 23, 2016
Council Chambers, 2820 Clark Avenue, Norco, CA 92860**

CALL TO ORDER: 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Kevin Bash, Mayor, **Present**
Greg Newton, Mayor Pro Tem, **Present**
Robin Grundmeyer, Council Member, **Present**
Berwin Hanna, Council Member, **Present**
Ted Hoffman, Council Member, **Present**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Robin Grundmeyer

Clint Lorimore, Eastvale Council Member and Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) District 4 Representative, reminded the Council of the SCAG district election on April 4th at the County Administrative Center. Mr. Lorimore offered to meet with the Council Members individually to answer any questions and respectfully asked for their vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Traffic Study Review and Discussion. (Director of Public Works)

Director Chad Blais introduced David Roseman of Albert Grover and Associates, who has been working on all aspects of the traffic study. Mr. Blais presented a summary of the areas included in the traffic study – Hamner Avenue and Sixth Street, Second Street and Interstate 15, Hidden Valley Parkway and Hamner Avenue, and Crestview Avenue.

Hamner Avenue – Dual left turn lanes onto Sixth Street: Director Blais reported that in order to accommodate a dual left turn, an additional lane is needed on Sixth Street. The idea is to have two lanes that can turn right onto the I-15. Albert Grover & Associates is currently working on a proposal for this scenario. This issue would also require the City to obtain land on Sixth Street adjacent to Starbucks. Caltrans is also working on a plan to accommodate dual turn lanes onto the I-15. There is no cost proposal at this time.

Hamner Avenue – Dual left turn lanes onto Second Street: Director Blais report that the issues here are similar to those on Hamner Avenue and Sixth Street. Dual left turn lanes are warranted as there are traffic counts for them. A traffic signing and striping plan has been completed by Albert Grover & Associates. Dual left turn lanes are possible now but excessive vehicle weaving is expected on Second Street unless land for an additional lane is added by removing a portion of the parkway adjacent to Burger King. Caltrans is

currently looking at design options. Director Blais indicated that the cost is estimated at \$30,000 for the dual left lanes only.

Second Street – Sidewalk Improvement: Director Blais commented on the issue on the south east corner of Second Street and the I-15 northbound off-ramp, in which there is a berm that blocks the horsetrail. Director Blais indicated that Caltrans controls the off-ramp at the I-15. The total project cost is estimated at \$520,000. Caltrans has dedicated \$250,000 for sidewalk improvements. Improvements would likely coincide with the additional lane work on Second Street due to dual left turn lane from Hamner Avenue. The sidewalk would be pedestrian only due to Caltrans ruling for funding.

Hamner Avenue – Dual left onto Hidden Valley Parkway: Director Blais reported that the dual left turn lanes are possible without any additional road adjustments on Hidden Valley Parkway. The cost is estimated at \$55,000 and can be included in Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Measure A Capital Improvement Project.

Hidden Valley Parkway – Left turn lane into Hobby Lobby: Director Blais reported on the study of a left turn lane into Hobby Lobby from westbound Hidden Valley Parkway. This intersection is controlled by Caltrans. Caltrans agrees that the unprotected left turn lane into the Hobby Lobby parking lot has a blind spot from oncoming traffic due to median trees. Caltrans has tentatively agreed to provide a protected left turn lane into the parking lot. Director Blais reported that there is potentially no cost to the City.

Director Blais concluded his report and asked for questions from the Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Newton asked for a schedule of completion for the protected left turn lane at Hidden Valley Parkway. In response, Mr. Roseman indicated that staff is discussing the schedule with Caltrans but could be completed within a year. The installation could be extended to another budget cycle if more work is required.

Mayor Pro Tem Newton also asked if the dual lanes on Hamner and Hidden Valley Parkway would need to go to bid. Director Blais indicated that the project would go to bid and that staff could add it to the Capital Improvement Project budget for approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Newton commented on the Hamner Avenue and Second Street projects and that one project is not dependent on the other. Director Blais indicated that a dual project would be more beneficial as the City might be able to obtain more funding.

In regards to the dual left turn lanes on Hamner Avenue and Sixth Street, Council Member Hoffman asked if the City owned a portion of the property adjacent to Starbucks. In response, Director Blais indicated that it was conveyed back to the property owner.

Council Member Hoffman commented about the berm on Second Street. There was some discussion between Council Members and staff about there being no designated horsetrail

in that area. Director Blais stated that the berm is a safety concern since pedestrians must walk out on the street in order to get to the other side of the berm.

Director Blais continued his presentation to report on the North Drive and Crestview Drive traffic calming measures. He indicated that the goal is to develop measure that will reduce cut-through traffic and speed of vehicles using North Drive and Crestview Drive. Mr. Roseman reported that traffic counts were obtained over a 24-hour period, obtained turning movement counts, a speed radar was used to determine the rate of speed of traffic in the area, and accident information was obtained. All these factors were looked at to come up with the recommendations presented.

Director Blais presented existing traffic control conditions in the areas of North Drive, Crestview Drive, Mt. Shasta Drive, Mt. Rushmore Drive, and Eighth Street. Mr. Blais also presented the proposed all-way stop control improvements on Crestview Drive and Mt. Shasta Drive, and Crestview Drive and Eighth Street. He also proposed additional speed limit signs along Crestview Drive and North Drive. Mayor Bash asked what it would take to change the speed limit to 30 mph on North Drive. Director Blais indicated that the current traffic study did not recommend any changes to the current speed limit. Mr. Roseman stated that California law has become increasingly difficult to lower speed limits. The traffic study calls for making drivers aware of the speed limit and then taking measures to get motorists to slow down so that the speed limit may be lowered in the future. State law calls for setting the speed limit at what is called the "85th percentile." This is the speed in which 85 percent of the vehicles travel at or below. There was some discussion regarding enforcement. Lt. Briddick commented that the surveys are put on file with the courts. Every two weeks, the Sheriff's Department takes a comparative traffic study regarding traffic injuries in the City. The priority is always where the injury collisions are taking place. There have been no injury collisions or collisions in this area since the end of 2014. The Sheriff's Department is aware of the citizen complaints and Sheriff deputies have written over 300 citations on Crestview Drive and California Avenue.

Director Blais continued with the presentation of proposed improvements, including a "No Turn on Red between 4pm – 6pm" on the southeast corner of Crestview Drive and North Drive. Mr. Blais also proposed dynamic speed feedback signs on North Drive as well as protected-permissive left turn traffic signal improvements on Sixth Street and California Avenue. Mr. Blais commented on center island median improvements on North Drive such as cost effective visual elements to slow down traffic, roadway marking improvements, and rest-in-red traffic signal operation at North Drive and Crestview Drive.

Mayor Pro Tem Newton also commented on cut-through traffic on Seventh and Eighth Streets. Mr. Roseman indicated that the area was not specifically studied. There was discussion on the need to incorporate that area, and from California Avenue to Valley View Avenue. Council Member Grundmeyer expressed that she was astounded by the numbers noted in the traffic study and agrees that the other areas need to be looked at as well. Ms. Grundmeyer stated that the measures proposed are steps in the right direction.

In regards to the median improvements on North Drive, Mayor Bash and Mayor Pro Tem Newton commented on a gateway sign. Council Member Hoffman asked that staff look into composite speed tables for North Drive.

Marian Silverman Wyman, lives on California, expressed her concern regarding the danger of the traffic in the area, especially for those riding horses. Ms. Wyman suggested changing the speed limit on California Avenue.

2. New Bluff Reservoir Project Review and Discussion. (Director of Public Works)

Director Blais reported on a brief description of the project. The project consists of constructing two 1.2 million gallon reservoirs, adding boosters and chemical feed equipment, upgrading critical components and processes for the existing treatment plant, adding backup power for operation of boosters and the current treatment plant, and constructing a retention basin for collection of onsite run-off. Mr. Blais reported that there are currently four wells and all have some contamination to a degree and have hot water issues. This project would address the high water temperatures. Mr. Blais indicated that the project has several benefits. It provides additional reservoir capacity to allow better management of the water system, it upgrades critical treatment components which will improve overall efficiency of the existing treatment plant, improves blending of sources and overall water quality, and enables the reduction of current high temperature of the groundwater. This project mostly impacts the residents on Bluff. Mr. Blais briefly commented on the bolted tank option and the welded tank option.

Council Member Grundmeyer suggested notifying residents in the area prior to approval. Ms. Grundmeyer also asked if landscaping could be installed on the perimeter of the project. Director Blais stated that staff did not consider landscaping due to maintenance issues, but that it is an option. Council Member Hanna said he supports the project and prefers the bolted tank option. He and Council Member Hoffman also concurred with Council Member Grundmeyer regarding landscaping around the project.

There was some discussion between Mayor Pro Tem Newton and Superintendent Terry Piorkowski regarding long term maintenance for each tank option. Mr. Piorkowski indicated that a welded tank is preferred because they are glass infused which provides for rust and corrosion inhibition. It is also easier maintenance for graffiti abatement. A bolted tank also allows for easier expansion and lasts longer.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Bash adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.