

TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021
MINUTES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission was called to order by Chair Abelson on April 20, 2021, at 6:34 p.m. The meeting was held in a virtual setting, via Zoom.

ROLL CALL: Leonna DeWitt, Public Works Assistant

Present via

Zoom: Chair Abelson, Commissioner Dunlap, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Hughes and Commissioner Liu

Absent: Councilmember Jon Primuth, Council Liaison

Staff Present: Shahid Abbas, Public Works Director, Garrett Crawford, Acting Deputy Public Works Director and Leonna DeWitt, Public Works Assistant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Liu led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Public Comment

1. Erik Wochna expressed concern with the traffic on Orange Grove Avenue and the merging one lane south of Columbia St. She (check name – Erik vs. “She”) suggested the Commission consider a traffic study to assess the traffic.
2. Craig Erickson expressed concern with the traffic and safety issues on Ramona Avenue. He supports staggered school start times and removal of the drop off location for Holy Family Church.
3. Sophia Taylor expressed concern about the dangerous traffic on Orange Grove Avenue between Columbia St. and the 110 Freeway. She has requested a traffic study be completed.
4. Joanne Nuckols expressed support for further discussion regarding preferential parking with each neighborhood and suggested reviewing policies from other cities such as Beverly Hills.

The Commission agreed to reorganize the agenda and discuss Item 3 first.

ACTION ITEMS

3. Proposed Stop Signs on Meridian Avenue at Oak Street, Pine Street and Maple Street

ADPWD Crawford gave a brief presentation on this item.

Discussion ensued regarding establishing criteria and a policy for stop signs, the cost for the stop signs, and a budget for other calming devices (rubber bulbouts, chokers).

Public Comment

1. Susan Sulsky expressed support for this item.
2. Lisa Zahra expressed support for this item.
3. D.W. Shane, as part of SMART Families expressed support for this item.
4. Denise Philley expressed support for this item.

5. Paul Wood expressed support for this item.
6. Joanne Nuckols expressed support for this item.
7. Jason J Wallace expressed support for this item.

A motion was made to receive and file the Rock E. Miller & Associates report. (Liu, Hughes 5-0)

The Commission recommended not to install an all-way stop at Meridian Avenue at Pine Street, but to proceed with the extension of red curb as recommended in the report, with appropriate notification to the affected property owners. (Hughes, Fisher 5-0)

The Commission recommended that staff request a supplement report for Meridian Avenue at Oak Street to include more information on his determination of inadequate sight distance, the percentage of drivers not yielding to pedestrians, and up-to-date accident data. (Abelson, Hughes 5-0)

The Commission recommended not to proceed with a stop sign at Meridian Avenue and Maple Avenue at this time. It was recommended that the City to proceed with the installation of red curb on the east side of Meridian Avenue and provide appropriate outreach to the affected property owners. (Abelson, Hughes 5-0)

The Commission recommended that staff request that Mr. Miller evaluate the impact of potentially removing the existing marked crosswalk at Maple Avenue in order to encourage more students to use the marked crosswalk at Oak Street.

2. Minutes of the Regular Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission on March 16, 2021 -
Minutes approved as amended. (Hughes, Fisher; 5-0)

COMMISSION LED DISCUSSIONS

4. SR 710 Mobility Improvement Projects Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Abelson reported that the Committee is waiting on a draft scope from staff for the study of the SR 110 Fair Oaks Interchange. Commissioner Fisher talked with Yoga Chandrum from the firm HNTB, who developed an engineering design concept for the Loop Ramp with some modifications to the design that might be more acceptable to Caltrans.

5. COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Dunlap reported they have been meeting weekly and providing updates on the current scope of work for bollards. The preliminary scope and cost estimate should be presented to the City Council in May.

Discussion ensued regarding the budget, safe streets signage and devices on residential streets, and long-term improvements, such as the closing of Meridian between Mission St. and El Centro, as well as re-configuring Mission St.

6. Discussion of Local Return Measure M projects (staff to provide update)

ADPWD Crawford briefly reported that the City has been unsuccessful with contacting the City of San Marino regarding the improvements on Garfield Avenue. Chair Abelson commented that Shahid has made contact with San Marino regarding the proposed new traffic signal at the intersection of Garfield Avenue and Monterey Road. San Marino suggested that the City proceed with a warrant analysis and if warranted, they would present it to their City Council.

Discussion ensued regarding other potential projects such as Columbia Street at Orange Grove; Huntington Drive at Fremont Avenue; Fremont at Monterey Road; Stoney Drive and Lohman Lane and Diamond St. at Lyndon Street.

ADPWD Crawford commented that there had been contact with the City of Pasadena regarding the proposed projects at Columbia Avenue at the border of the Cities of Pasadena and South Pasadena.

Chair Abelson requested a list of all of the projects for the next meeting.

7. Fremont Avenue Projects

Chair Abelson requested this be on the agenda to keep track on the development of a list of projects to be implemented with the \$6 million grant and any other funds. ADPWD Crawford shared that there was nothing new, but that there would be message boards as part of the overall project. Commissioner Dunlap requested traffic accident data for the street.

COMMUNICATIONS

8. City Council Liaison Communications

No Comments.

9. Commissioner Communications

Commissioner Liu commented regarding a resident on Orange Grove Avenue, south of Columbia who is suggesting that the City look into installing “merge ahead” signs. He stated that would have a summary on the Preferential Parking before the next meeting.

Commissioner Hughes thanked everyone for the UUT and sales tax. With the Budget being approved, she wants to understand the funding sources that will be available for all of the mobility and transportation projects for the upcoming fiscal year.

Commissioner Abelson commented on the Ramona NTMP will be added to the agenda to keep track of it. He also commented on the “Preferential Parking Policy,” and that staff would be following up and investigating policies in other cities. Commissioner Dunlap and Liu agreed to be the lead in this effort. Chair Abelson mentioned Arroyo Drive, Arroyo Square and Columbia Street near city limits, as areas where water collects and sits. He inquired as to staff’s awareness of the issue and whether it could be addressed without major cost.

10. Staff Liaison Communications

Acting Deputy Director Crawford provided an update on the location of Orange Grove Avenue south of Columbia. Staff has a temporary design to install additional signage and bots dots to alert drivers to the lane merging situation. He updated the Commission on the Rogan Funds. RFPs have been received and the City has invited the top few candidates to participate in interviews. Once a candidate is selected, the staff will present the proposed candidate to the City Council for award. ADDPW Crawford announced that the new Deputy Public Works Director will be starting soon and will be introduced to the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission of the City of South Pasadena at a meeting held on May 18, 2021.

DocuSigned by:

Larry Abelson

184E14A5E1D641E

Lawrence Abelson, Chair

—



PUBLIC COMMENT
MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMISSION MEETING

April 20, 2021

Item No.	Name	Document	Date Received
GC	Erik Wochna	E-mail Public Comment	4/18/21
3	Ron Rose	E-mail Public Comment	4/19/21
3	Susan Sulsky	E-mail Public Comment	4/19/21
3	Kris Curry	E-mail Public Comment	4/19/21
3	Lisa Zahra	E-mail Public Comment	4/19/21
GC	Janna Philpot	E-mail Public Comment	4/19/21
3	D.W. Shane	E-mail Public Comment	4/19/21
3	Julie Riley	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21
3	Denise Philley	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21
3	Paul Wood	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21
GC	Craig Erickson	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21
GC	Sophia Taylor	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21

GC	Joanne Nuckols	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21
3	Joanne Nuckols	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21
3	Jason Wallce	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21
GC	Christopher Kramsch	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21
3	Sally Takeda	E-mail Public Comment	4/20/21

From: Erik Wochna
Sent: Sunday, April 18, 2021 10:56 PM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Re: Public Comment re: Orange Grove Traffic s of Columbia

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This is general public comment, which may be read at the meeting

Hello,

Along with some of my neighbors, I wanted to urge the City and this commission to consider a traffic study to assess to the impact that traffic on the 200 block Orange Grove Ave is having on the community. Over the past month, we have witnessed several-near collisions with cars merging to one lane south of Columbia. In one instance, a motorist drove over the curb and on our parkway to speed ahead of another. The merging poses a great deal of risk to people utilizing the sidewalk, which our family and neighbors frequently use.

Thank you for your consideration,

Erik J. Wochna | Managing Attorney | Inland Empire



Agoura Hills / Concord / Encino / Fresno / Inland Empire / Long Beach / Orange County / Oxnard / Sacramento / San Diego / San Francisco / San Jose

Please be advised that I do not accept service by e-mail without prior written agreement pursuant to CCR 10205.6(c).

NOTICE: This electronic email (including attachments) is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. [2510 - 2522](#), sections, is

confidential and may be legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any retention, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. Please reply to the sender that you have received the message in error, then delete it. Thank you - Albert and Mackenzie, LLP

P Go Green! Please do not print this e-mail unless it is completely necessary.

From: Ron Rosen
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 7:30 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Stop Signs on Meridian and Oak and Meridian and Maple

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear MTIC Commissioners:

We need stop signs at Meridian and Oak and Meridian and Maple. Those are the only things that will make people stop at these locations and will slow down traffic. In spite of the blinking crosswalk, cars often do not stop for people at Meridian and Oak who are trying to cross the street. If you stand at that intersection for several minutes, you will see that.

Speed limit signs, lines on the street, etc do not slow traffic the way stop signs will.

Public Works seems willing to spend money on every possible tool but stop signs. This is absurd. Stop signs actually make people slow down and stop. Nothing else does. Public works' view of this is not only wrong, but a waste of taxpayer money.

Please approve stop signs at Meridian and Oak and Meridian and Maple.

Ron Rosen

From: Susan Sulsky
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 10:46 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Support for Agenda Item #3: Proposed Stop Signs on Meridian Avenue at Oak Street, Pine Street and Maple Street

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Meeting Date: April 20, 2021
From: Susan Sulsky, 2013 Meridian Avenue
Please read out at meeting

Dear Commissioners,

It is with great anticipation that on the Agenda for the April 20, 2021 meeting I read:

Item #3. Proposed Stop Signs on Meridian Avenue at Oak Street, Pine Street and Maple Street

This has been a long time coming, and as a resident of Meridian Avenue for over 20 years, I sincerely believe that it is an important step to make Meridian Avenue a safer route for the many residents and school age children that access these routes to walk and/or bike to the High School and Middle School; as well as those students that cross Meridian to walk to Monterey Hills Elementary School.

I am grateful to the Public Works Department for making a number of improvements to Meridian Avenue over the past year. **However, there** is no question that, for a variety of reasons and rationales, Meridian Avenue has not been earmarked for substantial improvements. The stop signs will enhance the work that was begun by the PWD, and can be the beginning of other opportunities to enable safe access for all users.

Your recommendation to approve these stop signs will be an equitable solution to make Meridian Avenue as safe as other streets in the City that are used as routes to neighborhood schools. Safety is the only precedent that should be considered in making your decision.

Thank you.

Susan Sulsky

From: Kris Curry ·
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 10:57 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Stop sign at Oak and Meridian

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I cannot voice my support of this stop sign loudly enough. For 7 years my daughter and her friends have had to cross this intersection to get to middle and high school, while speeders and distracted drivers barrel across the crosswalk at deadly speeds. They disregard the flashing lights, and the number of close calls these children have had is terrifying. This street should not be used as a 'faster' cut through from Alhambra and points south because there are no stop signs and street lights, as it currently is being used. Its a recipe for a child to get killed by an automobile.

There is zero justification for not putting a single stop sign on this street. Please vote now to install one without delay.

Sincerely,

Kris Curry

From: Lisa Zahra
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 11:14 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Agenda Item #3, for public comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,

My name is Lisa Zahra, and I have lived on Meridian Ave. near Oak Street for 15 years. I am commenting on Agenda Item #3 and would like my comments to be read aloud during the MTIC meeting.

The community has desperately needed a stop sign at Meridian/Oak for as long as I have been here, and probably much longer. In my opinion, it is one of the most dangerous intersections in the city, and is heavily used by children walking to and from school. The flashing lights are only effective in stopping cars some of the time. And since this is the beginning of a straightaway, people speed up, or check their phones while they drive this area. A stop sign will make it so much safer for pedestrians and prevent a tragedy at this intersection. I also think a second stop sign at Meridian/Maple would do a lot to deter speeders (and there are many) and help pedestrians, on Meridian. Please, finally, do the right thing, and install these stop signs on Meridian.

From: Janna Philpot
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 2:00 PM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Wider Sidewalks on Mission

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing in support of wider sidewalks on Mission. This would be a huge improvement in the walkability and charm of our downtown. I would love to see it incorporated along with a protected bike lane, benches, planters and greenery, and diagonal parking. Restaurants wanting to use it for patio dining should be able to, but even if they don't just having additional green space and space to "be" would be a delightful addition to our community.

Thank you,
Janna Philpot
Resident of South Pasadena

From: D.W. Shane
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 9:53 PM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Cc: Garrett Crawford; Leaonna Dewitt; Lawrence Abelson; Sean Joyce; Tamara Binns; Jon Primuth; Joanna Hankamer
Subject: MTIC April 20 Public Hearing: Agenda No. 3: Meridian Stop Signs: Public Comment: Please Read Out Loud at Meeting

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear MTIC Chair and Commissioners:

SMART Families strongly support the installation of three-way stop signs at the intersections of Meridian/Oak and Meridian/Maple. We are pleased that in his peer review, Mr. Rock Miller agrees with us. Mr. Miller notes that at Meridian/Oak: “Based upon the unique intersection geometrics, the marked crosswalk, and the street usage further to the east, there is ample justification to conclude that all-way stops are appropriate for this location.”

For Meridian/Maple, he states: “The high turning volume, sight distance limitations of parked cars, and the marked crosswalk are suitable special justification to consider an all-way stop at the location.” **SMART Families** also note that neighbors (especially school-age children) who reside above Meridian on streets such as Bonita, Oneonta, and Summit routinely access the public stairway from Bonita leading down to Meridian, and then use the Meridian/Maple crosswalk.

Overall, we worry about our children’s safety in crossing Meridian while walking to or from either the high school or the middle school now that hybrid learning has begun.

Please recommend to the City Council that these two intersections receive three-way stop signs for the safety of our residents who walk, bicycle, and drive on Meridian.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

SMART Families



The resolution is presented to MTIC on behalf of the following 126 residents:

Delaine W. Shane	Aislinn Meza	Lorenzo Herrera
Russell Shane	Ron Rosen	Demarco Herrera
Sara Shane	Suzy Campeau	Desiree <u>Berreras</u>
Susan Sulsky	Greg Campeau	Jim Dowd
Jason Wallace	Sam Burgess	Sheila Rossi
Wendy Kim	Jan Marshall	Linda Esposito
Sally Takada-Teer	Kit Bellamy	Billy Reed
Sean Teer	Nancy Michler	Elizabeth Friedman
Evan Takeda-Teer	Michelle Hammond	Emily Beaghan
Noah Takeda-Teer	John <u>Vandercook</u>	James Beaghan
Denise Philley	Peggy O'Leary	Georgia Beaghan
Paul Wood	Karen Donaldson	Joanne Nuckols
Linus Wood	<u>Vaishalee Mehta</u>	Tom Nuckols
Wende Lee	Stephanie Stern	Caleb Smith
Robert Lee	Johan Garcia	Betsy Smith
Jon Healey	Aidan Garcia	Richard Petty
Margot Healey	<u>Fayven Lee</u>	Lisa Petty
Kim Carlson	Andy Lee	Jonathan Eisenberg
Brock Carlson	Zachary Lee	Linda Nguyen
Owen Carlson	Derrick Lee	Elizabeth Bagasao
Peyton Carlson	Kristen Swift	Kris Curry
Ryder Carlson	Mark Swift	Rich Fox
Claire Gibbs	Josh Shepard	Dusty Fox
<u>Tajla Marin</u>	Lisa Zahra	<u>Nanci Batelaan</u>
Rolando Marin	Glen Duncan	William Gibson
Alfred Meza	Eduardo Herrera	Jeff Tran
Tani Meza	Ava Herrera	Eve <u>Rubell</u>

Lauren Black	Nick Scarpa
Alan Ehrlich	Lisa <u>Shetler</u>
Stephanie Ehrlich	Kelly Higgins-Paulsen
Justin Ehrlich	Kirsten Jones
Banjong <u>Muninnomas</u>	Jeffrey Olney
Esther Huang	Dawn Tull
Margie <u>Menza</u>	Barbara Sutton
Jeff <u>Mullican</u>	Bonnie Kingry
Florence Chun	Lauren Child
Amber Haley	Krista Cocke
Patrick Haley	Roman Ogawa
Katrina <u>Lowstuter</u>	Oliver Wang
Nathan <u>Lowstuter</u>	<u>Taleen Mitchell</u>
Jerilyn Schmidt	<u>Annat dror Sanchez</u>
Gregory Chun	Jerilyn Schmidt
Beatrice Chun	Helga Kuhn
Jacob Chun	Francoise McCullough
Harrison Chun	Pat Rodriguez-Holguin
Joanne <u>Hevler</u>	
Madeleine Horton	
Melissa Lien	
Erin Chase	
Ann Gillespie	
Shannon Kumagai	
Deborah <u>Malafronte</u>	
Ken Rivers	
Ken Wu	

From: Julie Riley
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 7:29 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Agenda Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear MTIC,

This is a public comment for Item 3. My name is Julie Riley. I live at 1700 Meridian Avenue, close to the intersection of Oak Avenue. I am writing in support of the idea of installing an all-way stop sign at this intersection. As the Rock E. Miller peer review of the original traffic study noted, Meridian is a collector street and there is an urgent need to control left-turn conflicts from Oak to Meridian Avenue. Pedestrians are not adequately protected from cars speeding south on Meridian Avenue.

Just last weekend, a vehicle knocked down and destroyed the sign in the middle of the street intended to warn motorists of people crossing the street. I found the original traffic study to be flawed because it did not acknowledge that motorists routinely exceed 40 mph at this juncture of Meridian and the traffic study appeared to stop its data collection at 5:45 p.m each day. It also noted only one accident, which is not likely to be the case if another period of time were studied.

Meridian and its feeder streets are often suggested as the quickest ways through South Pasadena on WAZE and other map applications. This speed for motorists comes at the expense of residents' safety. We should at least start with installing a 3-way stop sign at Meridian/Oak and continue to study the traffic patterns to determine whether additional measures are necessary.

Thank you,
Julie Riley

Sent from my iPhone

From: Denise Philley
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 8:36 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Agenda Item #3: Meridian Stop Signs

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Date: April 20, 2021

To: South Pasadena City Council
MTIC

Re: Agenda Item #3

THE FOLLOWING COMMENT SHOULD BE READ ALOUD

The first time I attended a Council meeting in January, 2020, to ask for the installation of stop signs at the Meridian intersections of Maple and Oak, was in reaction to a recent spate of auto collisions at Maple, a few steps from my home. Two of those happened within a 24-hour period. There have been several more accidents since then.

I've parked my car on Meridian for 6 years and my home office faces the street, so I'm intimately familiar with the habits of Meridian drivers. It's common to see speeding, frustrated honking by drivers waiting for cars to park or pull out of driveways and side streets, and motorists blatantly ignoring pedestrians. Also a frequent walker, when I pass or cross at the Oak intersection, I see cars breeze through the crosswalk, ignoring the flashing lights and signs, more often than not. It's a frequent source of complaint among my neighbors.

Meridian Avenue is simply not safe. A residential street frequented by dog walkers, schoolchildren, parents with strollers — and motorists who have no impetus to slow for any of them.

The best, most direct way to control the flow of traffic here is to force drivers to come to a full stop every few blocks, just like traffic is controlled on Marengo. You can't speed on Marengo, you shouldn't be able to speed on Meridian.

Thank you.

From: woodcutcabin
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 10:04 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Agenda Item #3: Meridian Stop Signs

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Date: April 20, 2021

To:
South Pasadena City Council - MTIC

Re:
Agenda Item #3

THE FOLLOWING COMMENT SHOULD BE READ ALOUD

I have lived on the 2000 block of Meridian Avenue (between Bonita & Valley View) since 2015. I use Meridian as a pedestrian, driver and cyclist.

To highlight the perpetual issues we face on our street, I have personally witnessed numerous car smashes, including 4 within the last few months on our block alone.

Last year I actually saw an overturned car in an accident 100 yards from our house - IN A 25 MPH ZONE.

In September 2019 I was hit on my bicycle close to Meridian / Oak by a car actually U-Turning in front of me. This led to a life threatening injury and hospitalization.

In my opinion ALL of these issues might have been avoided if motorists are FORCED to stop at both Meridian / Oak and Meridian / Maple.

Whilst the city's efforts (at Meridian / Oak) are appreciated, we are still experiencing speeding motorists at every hour of the day as they cut through between Monterey and Kendall and those motorists show no signs of slowing. In fact, as a driver along Meridian, intentionally at 25 MPH I am often / usually tailgated by someone trying to get past me at unreasonable speeds.

It is very clear that these behaviours will not change until action is taken by the city to force drivers to make a full and complete stop at those mentioned key junctions on our Avenue. It's my hope that residents' testimonials and experience will finally result in action that will enable real change.

From: Craig Erickson
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 10:33 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Ramona Avenue Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan Ad Hoc Committee-Public Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Craig Erickson
Ramona Avenue Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan Ad Hoc Committee
Please read the comment during the meeting.

I live at 1545 Ramona Ave, on the corner of Ramona and Oak. I watch every morning and afternoon as the cars for Holy Family line up down Ramona and cause traffic and safety issues in the neighborhood. I have reviewed the November 2019 Traffic Management Plan. While it does suggest some reasonable solutions. It does nothing to address the root of the problem. None of these solutions will reduce the traffic flow. The root of the problem is all the traffic from the Holy Family drop off. There also needs to be better enforcement of drop off at the High School.

I believe that the simplest and most cost-effective solution is to stagger the start times and take away the Holy Family drop off, especially since 90% of the students are from outside South Pas. They should utilize the 75 spots in their other lot. Their reason for not doing this is the students having to cross Fremont. Students at every other school in the district cross busy streets every day. Not only is there a traffic light, but they can move the nice lady who watches the driveway to the Fremont/Oak intersection to act as a crossing guard.

While they are overly concerned with the safety of their students, they don't seem to have the same concern for the other students and residents of the neighborhood. The parents have a total disregard for the neighborhood and traffic laws. They are constantly making u turns and stopping in the crosswalks both on Ramona and Oak. The traffic back up, which runs from Oak all the way to Huntington, causes other drivers to lose patience and not make the safest driving choices.

This has been an ongoing problem for years, and the neighborhood is tired of waiting for a solution. The lineup of cars from outside the city, idling, polluting the neighborhood, disregarding traffic laws, and creating dangerous situations is unacceptable. We are asking that the subcommittee act post haste to eliminate this dangerous drop off and pick up at Holy Family School.

Thank you.

Craig Erickson

Joanne Heyler

Tom Nuckols

Joanne Nuckols

Andrew Berk

Gabriella Berk

Caleb Smith

Betsy Smith

Amber Haley

From: sophia taylor
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 11:05 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments; sophia taylor
Subject: General Public Comment for Tuesday April 20 City Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is Sophia Taylor. This email is for General Public Comment. I wish for my email public comment to be read aloud during the meeting.

I own a home at 310 Orange Grove Ave in South Pasadena. My family has lived on this property since 1979. I am commenting this evening because of the dangerous traffic on Orange Grove Ave. between Columbia St. and the 110 Freeway. This one-quarter stretch south of Columbia has for years been a very dangerous street in So. Pas. Cars land on our lawn, take out light posts, broken curbs etc. It's clear drivers cannot handle that curve heading south. I am always nervous when walking with my kids in front of my home.

I am requesting that a Traffic Study be completed. Following the Traffic Study, mitigation strategies can be implemented immediately. Something must be done to slow down the speed of traffic.

Thank you - Sophia Taylor

From: Joanne Nuckols
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 11:36 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: #1 Public Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read aloud.

The discussion at the March meeting about preferential parking hopefully will continue and be enhanced by a meeting with each neighborhood, separately or together, who have a parking district and find out the successes and failures. Without this knowledge from those living with the existing districts it's just speculation on the part of the staff and commission as to effectiveness of the current policies and what needs to change to make them more efficient for the purpose originally intended. Beverly Hills is another city, as well as Pasadena, that has an effective ordinance that serves the community.

Joanne Nuckols/
Representing the Ramona Ave Preferential Parking District, the first residential parking district in the city

Sent from my iPad

From: Joanne Nuckols
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 11:49 AM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: #3 Stop Signs

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read aloud

We thank Mr Miller for his recommendation for stop signs at Meridian/Oak and Meridian/Maple. We all urge you to recommend the same to the city council for the future safety of the neighborhood. The time is now to respond to all the comments and complaints and make Meridian a safer street for all and relieve the neighborhood's anxiety.

In addition to this last engineers reasoned analysis and recommendation to MTIC, former Transportation Commission Chairman Helgeson, a retired city attorney, stated to me that another criteria for consideration is antidotal evidence of safety issues and accidents. We all know there's plenty of evidence of both of those.

Please make the neighborhood safer and vote for stop signs at Meridian/Oak and Meridian/Maple.

Joanne Nuckols

Sent from my iPad

From: Jason J Wallace
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 12:02 PM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: MTIC April 20 Public Hearing: Agenda No. 3: Meridian Stop Signs:
Public Comment: Please Read Out Loud at Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

- 1) Jason Wallace & Wendy Kim
- 2) Agenda Item #3
- 3) I wish for my comment to be read aloud

My wife and I would like to express our urgent support of stop signs at the intersections of Meridian/Oak and Meridian/Maple.

We have lived on Meridian Avenue for a number of years, and each year that goes by we feel more unsafe on our own street. Each day we struggle to cross the street, park our cars, and back out of our driveway. We constantly face tailgating, honking, obscene gestures, and aggression, all while simply driving the speed limit on our way home. On top of that, back in November 2017 our friend's car was totaled by a speeding car, while just parked along the curb outside our house. Drivers simply do not take Meridian Avenue seriously, and it is only a matter of time before someone is seriously injured or killed due to the unsafe driving conditions that have been allowed to develop on our street.

We recognize that the City attempted to address the speeding traffic, dangerous intersections, and unsafe pedestrian conditions on Meridian Avenue through a multitude of other road improvements. However, it is clear to us and our neighbors that stop signs at Meridian/Oak and Meridian/Maple are by far the most effective and economical action the City can take to address our concerns and reduce the dangerous traffic on Meridian Avenue.

Please help us feel safe on our street and recommend to the City Council that stop signs are placed at these intersections.

Very respectfully,
Jason Wallace & Wendy Kim

From: Christopher Kramsch
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 12:34 PM
To: MTIC Public Comments
Subject: Line of cars Ramona

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello. I live at 1608 Ramona ave and am sick and tired of the line of holy family school cars sitting idle in front of my house 2 x per day all weekdays spewing their noxious fumes all over my kids who play in the front yard. This has got to stop!! I saw several kids walking to high school and middle school almost get run over several times as well from these cars jostling for position on my street. Please address at your meeting and ask them to park somewhere and walk their kids like all the other parents do at the public schools.

Chris kramsch
Sent from my iPhone