

City of Arcata Transportation Safety Committee

Annual Report to the City Council

Presented at the September 3rd, 2008 City Council Meeting

Committee Members:

Stan Elcock, Chair
Eric Wennerholm, Vice-Chair
Doug Boileau
Elias Elias (through 05/20/08)
Peggy Martinez (through 07/15/08)
Marguerite Powers
Christopher Rall

Staff Liaisons:

R. Charles (Doby) Class, Public Works Director
Morgan Kessler, Deputy Director Public Works/Assistant City Engineer
Monica Campbell, Public Works Administrative Assistant

The Transportation Safety Committee (TSC) was recreated by the City Council by adoption of Ordinance No. 1292 effective 6/18/99. The powers and duties of this committee are to review all transportation safety matters and make recommendations to the Council, commissions, or City staff as appropriate.

During the past year the TSC held eleven regular meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. This would equate to approximately 208 hours of volunteered time and at least 176 hours of City staff time.

One of the major attributes of the TSC is the oral communications portion of the meeting when citizens may discuss their safety issues/concerns before the TSC and staff. Numerous concerns were discussed which sometimes lead to a change or a better understanding by all of the reason why something is the way it is.

While most of the committee's time seems to surround the issues of traffic calming, bicycle and pedestrian safety issues and development review, these additional specific items were discussed and/or reviewed:

- Approved Policy on Placement of Speed Tables, Humps and Lumps
- Reviewed Current Projects: "K" Street; Samoa Blvd. Gateway; Safe Routes to School; Eureka/Arcata Trail Project; "Q" Street Subdivision; Foster Avenue Extension; Bike Lane Project; Janes Creek Meadows/Humboldt Bay Housing
- Discussed Eureka-Arcata Route 101 Corridor Project
- Reviewed/discussed Preliminary Parking Issues for Downtown Sidewalk Widening
- Discussed Potential Sales Tax Initiative for Roadway Enhancements
- Examined Bike Lane Project
- Detailed Prop 1B Funding Expenditures
- Reviewed 2008 STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program) Application
- Discussed the following Goals Set by Council
 - a. Additional Funds for Traffic Calming.
 - b. Input/Ideas for Supporting/Increasing Additional Public Transit Use with HTA & HSU.
 - c. Establish Design Standards on Policy Level for Better Designed

- Subdivisions and Roadways.
- d. Speeding Awareness and Enforcement.
- e. Partner with Green Wheels Organization for Brush Trimming
- f. Public Service Announcements - Possibly Assign a PSA Liaison
- Discussed measures to Relieve School Congestion and Surveyed Schools for Parental Participation
- Discussed 2008/2009 Budget
- Reviewed Pin Map approximately every three months using SWITTRS data
- Recommended Roadway Re-striping at Pacific Union School
- Reviewed and began implementation on Information for Public Service Announcements – PSA Liaison
- Reviewed Trillium Creek Project
- Discussed Samoa Blvd. Traffic Calming/Gateway Project
- Implemented Projecting Aerial Imagery during TSC Meetings
- Recommended Sidewalk infills in various location
- Participated in Bike to Work Week
- Recommended Traffic Calming Projects/Priorities (Funding Priorities)
- Discussed Safe Routes to School (SRTS) – 2008 Application
- Reviewed Traffic Studies
- Discussed Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) Grant Application
- Recommended “Bicycle Friendly Community” Sign Placement (2)
- Discussed Fickle Hill Traffic Calming – Use of HSIP (Highway Safety Improvement Program) Grant
- Learned about the Neighborhood Improvement Program (funding)
- Reviewed Safe Routes To School (SR2S) Toolkit (HumPAL)
- Expressed Support for Arcata Police Department Traffic Officer Position
- Continuously field complaints from citizens regarding speeding issues
- Implemented traffic calming progressive discipline (signage, feedback signs and perhaps implement temporary speed humps)

Next Year's Goals:

- Look at the possibility of a permanent bicycle library and determine liability issues
- Continue implementation of the Education and Awareness Campaign with Public Service Announcements - Possibly Assign a PSA Liaison, and continue to develop Traffic Safety PSA
- Updating the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan
- Addressing parking issues
- Relieving school congestion
- Continue to implement traffic calming measures
- Input/Ideas for Supporting/Increasing Additional Public Transit Use with HTA & HSU.
- Establish Design Standards on Policy Level for Better Designed Subdivisions and Roadways