

CITY OF COSTA MESA**INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

TO: ALLAN ROEDER, CITY MANAGER

FROM: PETER NAGHAVI, MANAGER
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES 

DATE: APRIL 25, 2007

SUBJECT: NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CALMING PROGRAM STATUS

Town Hall Meeting

On April 5, 2007 the Transportation Services Division conducted a Town Hall meeting to present the process of development of a "Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program". Notice of the meeting was mailed citywide to over 43,000 addresses. Attendance at the meeting, conducted at the Neighborhood Community Center, was approximately 250-300 residents.

In preparing for the Town Hall meeting, staff researched past traffic studies conducted both citywide and within specific neighborhoods. This enabled the preparation of display boards to show historical data as well as similarities in traffic conditions across the City. Display boards were also prepared to show typical residential traffic concerns and how staff routinely responds to those concerns. Other display boards depicted the various types of traffic calming measures implemented in other communities, including the pros and cons of each measure. In all a total of 23 display boards were prepared and exhibited with staff available at six different stations to assist residents with needed information.

Staff also visited other cities to view traffic calming devices, took photos and videos. Working with the City's video production staff, a streaming video, with dialog describing the devices, was presented at the meeting.

A power point staff presentation followed along with the order of display boards, beginning with an overview of past traffic studies and the typical types of traffic control measures that are applied in response to neighborhood traffic issues and concluded with presentation of typical traffic calming techniques that have been applied in other California communities and could possibly be considered for application in Costa Mesa.

Following a very beneficial question and answer period, those in attendance were advised that, over the next 8 to 10 months, Transportation Services Division staff would be contacting Homeowners Associations (HOA) and other interested resident groups to schedule additional meetings for further focused discussion of each neighborhood's traffic issues. The focused meeting process would enable staff to gain additional input from a broader cross-section of residents before formulating a traffic calming program. Staff also advised that the final steps in the process would include another citywide Town Hall meeting early in 2008 to present a draft of

the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program and receive additional public comments before presenting the draft program to the City Council.

The meeting was supplemented with distribution of a survey form to each attendee in order to gather data on specific concerns and general opinions regarding traffic calming measures that may impact resident circulation, noise, or related issues. Additionally, immediately following the meeting, the survey form was posted on the City's website along with an overview of the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program concept including various types of traffic calming measures under consideration.

Follow-up Community Meeting

Following the Town Hall Meeting, Council Member Katrina Foley invited staff to make an abbreviated version of the same presentation to the Mesa Del Mar HOA at their annual meeting on April 18, 2007. Participation at this meeting was not part of the anticipated focused meetings that staff plans to schedule with residents.

Next Steps – Schedule of Activity

- Assemble input gathered from Town Hall Meeting, survey forms, and related correspondence. Schedule: Ongoing.
- Schedule focused neighborhood meetings. Schedule: 8 months.
- Develop draft Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Guidelines. Schedule: 2 to 3 months.
- Final Town Hall Meeting to present details of the draft guidelines. Schedule: Spring 2008.
- Present draft Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Guidelines to City Council. Spring 2008.

Since conducting the Town Hall meeting, approximately 120 survey forms as well as 25 letters have been received regarding the traffic calming program. Surveys continue to arrive on a daily basis. Staff is logging all survey responses as well as other related correspondence and is preparing to contact HOA and interested resident groups to schedule the follow-up focused meetings.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact me at extension 5182.

c: William J. Morris, Director of Public Services
Dennis Johnson, Assistant Engineer