

Rancho Bernardo Joint Traffic/Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes April 24, 2006
Prepared By George Cooke

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Co-chair Richard Katz. The following Committee members were present: George Cooke, Dick Walker, co-chair Robin Kaufman, Richard House, Jerry Coats, Andrea Thomas, Martin Lave, and Alethea Altenbern. Also present were Community Guests: Hal Altenbern, Linda Clark, Patti Tassi, Jack Tassi, John Kabella, Greg Sabbatini, Jacqueline Sabbatini, and Michael Knapp. The meeting was held in the 2nd floor conference room at the San Diego National Bank.
2. The minutes from the March 27, 2006 meeting were approved, with the note to correct the spelling of Dick Katz in item #8.
3. Residents Remarks – Escala Drive - Several residents from Escala Drive attended the meeting to discuss problems that are occurring with heavy traffic and speeding as more drivers are using Escala Drive for a detour while the West Bernardo / Pomerado Bridge is down. John Kabella was the spokesperson for the group. Discussion points with the residents and committee members included speeding, the use of RSVP, the need for temporary speed signs, the need for enforcement, the topic of speed humps, traffic calming ideas, yard signs, and what can be done to help. Suggestions included making phone calls for more enforcement. One of the questions was whether Escala Drive is defined as a collector street in the RB Community Plan. (Note: a subsequent review of the RB Community Plan shows Escala Drive identified as a “2-lane collector” which would probably disqualify it for speed humps.) Robin Kaufman will follow up on this and see what can be done for signs and more enforcement. Also, George Cooke and Robin will talk with Gustavo Dallardo of Caltrans on Tuesday morning to see what Caltrans can do to help with signage and enforcement.
4. Residents Remarks – Villa Ladera freeway noise – Michael Knapp, a resident on Avenida Nobleza (behind El Torito in Bernardo Heights), raised the issue of freeway noise that seems to be worsening with the freeway expansion. Committee members described the process that Caltrans went through with the community when the freeway project was being planned, including the public hearings and criteria for sound walls. George Cooke will follow up by giving Michael a copy of the sound related section from the Environmental Report.
5. Limited Parking in Oaks North – Irv Sherman gave the committee a heads up that there are discussions occurring within the Oaks North Homeowners Association about overnight parking on some of the streets, and whether there are particular procedures the traffic committee would like to follow. They will come back to the traffic committee when they have more specifics on the problem areas and some proposed solutions.

6. Parking Advisory Board Meeting Update – Dick Walker reported that the meeting was called off due to the lack of a quorum..
7. Traffic congestion on Iberia Place at Bernardo Center Drive – Robin Kaufman gave an update on this issue. The City has put in a request to look at the proposal to fill in the 36 foot gap with red-curbing, but the question of reviewing the ingress and egress at the shopping center would be a different matter. Dick Walker recommended that they also implement a “Keep Clear” painting in the roadway.
8. Sav-on Update – Robin shared a letter dated April 3 that the committee had received from Mary Murphy Rice, Senior Property Manager for the Towne Center area. The letter indicated that, according to their research into original conditions for approval, they are legally unable to grant any non-emergency public access to their property along Acena Drive. However, they are ok with the proposal for stop signs on Acena at Obispo. Following discussion and questions by the committee, it was recommended that a letter be sent back requesting details and copies of the “recorded plat, easements, and covenants” that form the basis for their conclusion. Dick Katz will follow up.
9. Update on pedestrian crossing time on Bernardo Center Drive at Bernardo Plaza Drive – Robin Kaufman reported that City Traffic Engineering has referred the request to Frank Yates of the Signals Division. There has been no response yet, but when it comes, Robin will be sure to include George Cooke and Jerry Coats on the site visit.
10. Stay Alive / Drive 25 – Robin Kaufman showed an example of a sign that could help slow down drivers in residential streets. Although this is a “non-uniform sign”, we would like to explore the ways that it could be implemented.
11. Other Items – There was discussion of water that seems to always be in the road in the Bernardo Cetner Drive / Rancho Bernardo Road intersection by the AM/PM station. One of the committee members suggested that it is related to a broken sprinkler system at the old Post Office.
12. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next meeting will be at 7:00 PM, Monday, May 22, 2006, in the 2nd floor meeting room at the San Diego National Bank, located at 16789 Bernardo Center Drive.