



County of Santa Cruz⁰³¹³

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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TOM BURNS, AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR

November 9, 2000

Agenda: November 21, 2000

Board of Directors
County of Santa Cruz Redevelopment Agency
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Traffic Impact Reduction Program Status

Dear Members of the Board:

In March of 1999, your Board approved a series of recommendations regarding establishing a Pilot Program for reducing the impact of cut-through traffic and speeding on neighborhood streets within the Live Oak--Soquel Redevelopment Project Area. The purpose of this letter is to provide a status report on that program.

As Board members may recall, since the 1999 action establishing this program, the Agency experienced a series of staff changes, which forced us to focus available staff resources on major capital improvement and housing projects. With the little staff time available for this program, we were able to solicit community nominations for streets to evaluate, hire a consultant to assist us in reviewing nominated streets, and continue to evaluate the effectiveness of these measures in other communities.

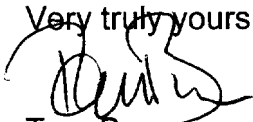
One of the things that has become apparent through that analysis is that many of the traditional "traffic calming" measures may have limited effectiveness on many of our local streets. The majority of the complaints we have received from neighborhoods have been related to traffic speeding, rather than cut-through traffic. Unfortunately, of the traffic calming measures which address speeding, many work only on streets that are part of traditional grid roadway systems. The most common measure to address excess traffic speeding on non-grid streets, such as exist throughout most of Live Oak and Soquel, is the installation of speed bumps (or similar devices) and increased traffic enforcement. Since your Board has already established a program for financing and installing road bumps, it was not the intention of the Agency's Pilot Program to alter the approach for financing those measures.

That said, by early next year we anticipate the Agency's staffing to be at a level where we can begin to explore the range of options available for the pilot program in more depth. At that time, we will be able to identify streets where speeding issues can be addressed with

measures other than speed bumps and other situations where cut-through traffic is the major concern. Once these streets have been identified, we will conduct meetings with the affected neighborhoods and develop a plan, in conjunction with Public Works, for your Board's consideration. Most likely such a plan would be completed by late summer.

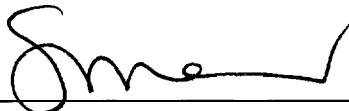
It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board, as the Board of Directors for the Redevelopment Agency, accept and file this report and direct the RDA Administrator to return with a further status report on this program on or before September 18, 2001.

Very truly yours,



Tom Burns
Redevelopment Agency Administrator

RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello
Redevelopment Agency Director

cc. RDA
Public Works

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