



MEMO TO TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Agenda Topic on the Transportation Commission Agenda

From: Hether Hill

Meeting Date: July 1, 2024

Topic: Staff Communications

Below are summaries of relevant correspondences received by City Staff since the last TC meeting.

From: Tara Smith <tsmith@meridiancity.org>

Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 10:42 AM

To: Josh Jones <jjonesmthome@gmail.com>

Cc: Trevor Weitzel <tweitzel@meridiancity.org>; Caleb Hood <chood@meridiancity.org>

Subject: RE: Baraya Subdivision

Good morning Josh,

I apologize for the delay in responding. I'm going to be out of the office for several weeks for a surgery, and have a lot of things needing to get ready for my absence. I do remember communicating with your wife on this issue. I'm aware ACHD conducted a speed and volume study in April of last year on S. Baraya, but that it did not meet the criteria for traffic calming measures at that time. I have reached out to my contact at ACHD again recently to gain some insight into the issue from their perspective but have not heard back yet. However, I know ACHD does, at times, work with neighborhoods to install calming measures even when criteria is not met, via resident petitions.

What I believe to be part of the issue is the placement of the stop sign itself. S. Baraya is the main drag through there, while Balance Rock ends at a T intersection at this time. Typically, at a T intersection, the road that is ending is required to stop/yield to the street that continues. When they add to the subdivision in the future, I'm certain the plan is to extend Balance Rock on to the west, as evidenced by the spur road, but for now, the issue could be motorists are disregarding the sign because they don't believe they should have to stop. I see this in other areas of my job as well...if the average citizen doesn't understand or see the relevance in a law, they don't tend to follow it. So one of the questions I posed to my ACHD contact is why isn't the stop sign on Balance Rock instead? My best guess is they were likely trying to slow down straight through traffic on S. Baraya, or they were complying with the City codes that govern the length a neighborhood street can be without a curve or stop sign. It all goes to controlling speed, however, I'm a far cry from a traffic engineer.

I know this is a frustrating situation for you and it may take a collaboration of efforts to find a solution, but in the meantime, for my part, I have assigned an officer to pay that intersection some attention. He was out there yesterday morning for about an hour and will visit it as time allows to see if we can curb some of the issue. However, enforcement is very temporary as you well know, because we simply cannot be there all the time. Since I will be out of the office after tomorrow, I have included

my Corporal, Trevor Weitzel, on this email so he is in the loop and can be your contact if something else comes up.

Thank you!

Tara Smith | Traffic Sergeant

Meridian Police Department

1401 E. Watertower St., Meridian, Idaho 83642

Phone: 208-846-7397 | Fax: 208-846-7366



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From: Josh Jones <jjonesmthome@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2024 8:29 PM

To: Tara Smith <tsmith@meridiancity.org>

Subject: Baraya Subdivision

External Sender - Please use caution with links or attachments.

Ma'am,

My name is Josh Jones, and I am reaching out regarding a traffic issue at the corner of Baraya St and W Balance Rock Dr. My wife, Hannah Jones, has previously emailed you concerning the frequent violations at this stop sign. The problem has escalated, and now it's a daily occurrence, posing a significant risk, especially with many children playing in our neighborhood.

Several residents, including myself, are in discussions with the city about installing speed bumps at stop signs to enhance safety. However, in the meantime, we are urgently requesting the presence of an officer at this intersection occasionally to enforce the stop sign.

I have numerous videos documenting these violations—approximately 100 currently, with at least 15 more recorded daily. I am willing to share these videos if it helps address the issue and improve safety.

We understand that there are larger issues to handle, but your support in this matter would be greatly appreciated by our entire community.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent safety concern.

Sincerely,
Josh Jones

From: Chelssie Oates <chelssieh23@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2024 5:57 PM

To: Caleb Hood <chood@meridiancity.org>; Trevor Weitzel <tweitzel@meridiancity.org>

Subject: Baraya subdivision stop sign issue

External Sender - Please use caution with links or attachments.

Dwar officer,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Chelssie, and I serve as the Vice President of the HOA Board for our subdivision. I'm reaching out to you regarding an issue brought to my attention by one of our homeowners, concerning instances of stop sign violations in our community.

I understand that you've been working closely with them to address these concerns, and as a board member, I'm keen to discuss potential solutions with you. Recently, I've been in communication with AcHD, and they've indicated limitations in implementing changes to the current traffic control measures, including stop signs, speed bumps, painted lines, and even the possibility of installing a four-way stop sign.

Before I proceed with formal correspondence to AcHD, outlining our desired revisions, they've advised us to have a representative assess the site in question. Hence, I'd appreciate the opportunity to converse with you beforehand to ensure alignment in our approach.

If convenient, could you please reach out to me via phone or email at your earliest convenience? Your insights and expertise would be invaluable in navigating this matter effectively.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Warm regards,

Chelssie

Cell: 208-921-0844
