



City of Sonora
Tuolumne County
"Queen of the Southern Mines"
94 N. Washington Street
Sonora, California 95370
www.sonoraca.com

Area Code 209

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Opera Hall/Redevelopment-Grants	532-7725
City Engineer	532-1867

Date: July 29, 2022

To: Parking and Traffic Commission

From: Gerard J. Fuccillo, City Engineer

Subject: **City Engineer Comments to Parking and Traffic Commission Agenda Items
August 2022**

1. Parking and Traffic Commission Item 1- Consideration of a Request to add Stop Signs to the intersection of Bradford Avenue and Norlin Street.

See the email from David Goldenberg attached to the agenda in regard to a request for consideration of installing a Stop sign at the intersection of Norlin and Bradford. To clarify the request from the description of the problem, I feel that the request is to add stop signs on Bradford Avenue at Norlin Street in both directions to facilitate traffic on Norlin trying to cross or make a turn onto Bradford Avenue.

Attached is an aerial photo of the intersection from Google maps for your reference. It is noted that Norlin Street, at the intersection of Bradford Avenue, is already Stop controlled in both directions as a minor local street entering a collector street. Bradford Avenue is not Stop controlled and there is a marked crosswalk crossing Bradford on the west side of Norlin Street.

In reviewing this matter in the field, I believe that the main problem at the intersection is the visibility of a vehicle headed northbound on Norlin trying to make a turn onto Bradford or crossing Bradford. A vehicle stopped at the stopbar on Norlin heading northbound is virtually invisible to eastbound and westbound vehicles on Bradford due to parking and vegetation near the corner and the stopped vehicle itself cannot see oncoming vehicles on Bradford Avenue. The north leg of Norlin Street heading southbound has more visibility due to it being uphill from Bradford and with less parking and vegetation at the corners.

Placing stop signs on Bradford Avenue without addressing the visibility problem would be hard to justify. The one stop sign on the southwest corner would even be blocked by parked vehicles. Traffic volume-wise, it will be hard to meet normal warrants unless the stop sign resolves a safety problem. If a stop sign is warranted in one direction on Bradford, it should be put in both directions. I do feel that stop signs on Bradford could be problematic to enforcement, and might even increase driver frustration for traffic coming from Washington Street.

Recommendation:

I would recommend that the City address the visibility problem prior to considering the stop signs. Perhaps see if the increase in visibility works for the safety of both vehicles and pedestrians. The visibility problem will require that the two parking spaces on Bradford at the Southwest corner be removed along with a lowering of the vegetation along the City Parking Lot at the corner. One parking space on Bradford at the Southeast corner should also be removed.

We should consider putting pedestrian crossing signs on at the Southwest and Northwest corners of the intersection to advise Bradford traffic of the pedestrian crossing.

I would recommend that Parking and Traffic Commission members drive their vehicle northbound on Norlin Street from Linoberg Street and stop at the stopbar at Bradford. I think you will see how invisible your vehicle is to the unseen vehicles traveling on Bradford in both directions.

2. Parking and Traffic Commission Item 2. Consideration of a Request for Enforcement of a KEEP CLEAR zone for sidewalk access in front of 375 S. Shepherd St., Sonora

See the agenda request by Gary Anderson attached to the agenda with photos of the area of concern. The applicant is requesting that the City enforce the marked Clear Zone at the base of a stairway as a no parking zone.

As I remember, the Clear Zone at the base of the stairway from the wall and sidewalk constructed by the City in the late 1980's was intended to be a No Parking zone for the safety and convenience of the public using the stairway to the street. It is recommended that the City do whatever is necessary to be able to enforce the presently marked clear zone as a no parking zone.



Gerard J. Fuccillo
City Engineer
City of Sonora



Madeline County Clerk

W Jackson St

S Norlin St

Bradford Place
Inn & Gardens

Bradford St

W Jackson St

Bradford St

New Hope Community
Church of the Nazarene

Chesney Accountancy,
CPA INC

W Jackson St

Bradford St

Central Sierra Planning

S Green St

Mother Lode
Ombudsman

Bradford St

S Norlin St

S Green St

Bradford St

S Norlin St

S Green St

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