

**TO:** James L. App, City Manager  
**FROM:** Doug Monn, Director of Public Works  
**SUBJECT:** Riverside Avenue, 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Streets  
**DATE:** March 20, 2007

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**NEEDS:** For the City Council to consider re-striping on Riverside Avenue from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Streets.

- FACTS:**
1. Three letters have been received from businesses in the 1100 block of Riverside Avenue expressing concerns of limited sight distance due to on-street parking and speeding on Riverside Avenue.
  2. The paved width of Riverside Avenue between 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets is approximately 56 feet. Existing striping consists of centerline delineation only. The speed survey indicates the typical speed is 37 miles per hour. With such wide paving available, traffic does not consistently run close to centerline.
  3. Two options to calm traffic have been identified. These options are; installation of angle parking and lane striping to slow through traffic and address downtown parking needs; and striping to channel traffic in an effort to reduce speed.
  4. An additional 42 parking spaces could be gained with diagonal parking on Riverside Avenue from 12<sup>th</sup> Street to south of 10<sup>th</sup> Street.
  5. An alternative plan proposes a center turn lane and edge line in order to channelize and slow traffic between 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets.

**ANALYSIS  
&**

**CONCLUSION:** The current striping on Riverside Avenue does not make efficient use of the extensive paved width of the street. Without lane channelization, traffic does not consistently conform to the centerline alignment and speeds up in anticipation of access to Highway 101. This makes access out of the businesses in the block very difficult. The combined effect of high speed traffic, wide paving and street side parking creates difficulties for drivers exiting adjacent businesses.

One approach to addressing the concerns expressed by the business owners would be the installation of angle parking on south bound Riverside Avenue. 42 extra parking spaces could be created. These spaces would be especially valuable for special events downtown. The angle parking could be protected with a white edge line which would push the south bound Riverside Avenue traffic closer to centerline. The overall scheme should help reduce speeds and provide the sight distance requested by the business owners.

As an alternative, a striping plan is offered that is intended to confine traffic to dedicated south bound and north bound lanes. The south bound through lane can be tightened to 11 feet in an effort to reduce speeds. The center turn lane is added to make more

efficient use of the paved width and to provide easy access into the properties. There are a significant number of turning movements out of the businesses to north bound Riverside Avenue. The center turn lane would facilitate these turns.

Approximately 500 feet south of 10<sup>th</sup> Street, the curb line on Riverside Avenue transitions to a more narrow paved width. It is recommended that this location be used to transition any new striping pattern to the existing configuration.

At their meeting of October 27, 2006, the Streets and Utilities Committee recommended the center turn lane option. The Committee expressed concerns of angle parking conflicting with truck use of Dewar's and other businesses on the block and conflicts with through traffic on a higher speed collector route.

**POLICY**

**REFERENCE:** Caltrans Traffic Manual

**FISCAL**

**IMPACT:** The estimated cost of re-striping either scheme is \$2,000.

- OPTIONS:**
- a. Recommend to the City Council striping of Riverside Avenue to include the placement of a center turn lane from 12<sup>th</sup> Street to 500 feet south of 10<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - b. Recommend to the City Council the installation of angle parking on south bound Riverside Avenue from 12<sup>th</sup> Street to approximately 500 feet south of 10<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - c. Amend, modify or reject the above options.

Prepared by: John Falkenstien, City Engineer

Attachments (4):

- 1) Letter from Vaughan Surveys
- 2) Letter from Baker Wine and Grape
- 3) Letter from Paso Robles Association of Realtors
- 4) Striping Plan from URS

**VAUGHAN SURVEYS, INC.**

1101 Riverside Avenue • Paso Robles, CA 93446  
(805) 238-5725 • FAX (805) 238-5835

May 26, 2006

City of Paso Robles  
Public Works Department  
Attn: John Falkenstien  
1000 Spring St.  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

Subject: Sight Distance Traffic Study, Driveway at 1101 Riverside Ave., Paso Robles

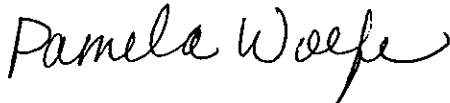
Dear John:

I am writing this letter to make you aware of a traffic safety issue that has always been problematic, but lately has become in need of an immediate solution.

There is limited sight distance while exiting our parking lot due to vehicles parked curbside along Riverside Avenue. To be able to see properly, one must creep out to an unsafe distance into Riverside Ave. In doing so, on more than a handful of occasions, each of our employees have come close to being in an accident. With the addition of the Park n' Ride recently, and the new restaurant "Cool Hand Luke's" opening soon, more traffic than before will be using the driveway.

We hereby request that the City of Paso Robles review this issue and work to resolve the problem.

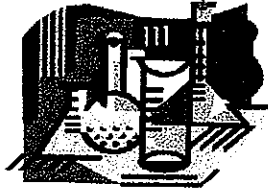
Respectfully Submitted,



Pamela Wolfe  
Vaughan Surveys, Inc.

# BAKER WINE & GRAPE ANALYSIS

1101 Riverside Ave.  
Suite C  
Paso Robles, CA 93446



Phone: 805-226-8386  
Cell: 805-674-6876  
E-mail: [baker@bwga.net](mailto:baker@bwga.net)  
[www.bwga.net](http://www.bwga.net)

Paso Robles

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Dr. Brenda Baker  
TTB certified chemist

June 1, 2006

JUN 05 2006

Planning Division

City of Paso Robles  
Public Works Department  
Attn: John Falkenstien  
1000 Spring St.  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

Subject: Sight Distance Traffic Study, Driveway at 1101 Riverside Ave., Paso Robles


Dear John:

I am writing this letter to make you aware of a traffic safety issue that has always been problematic, but lately has become in need of an immediate solution.

There is limited sight distance while exiting our parking lot due to vehicles parked curbside along Riverside Avenue. To be able to see properly, one must creep out to an unsafe distance into Riverside Ave. In doing so, on more than a handful of occasions, I've come close to being in an accident. With the addition of the Park n' Ride recently, and the new restaurant "Cool Hand Luke's" that just opened, more traffic than before will be using the driveway.

We hereby request that the City of Paso Robles review this issue and work to resolve the problem.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Brenda Baker  
Owner  
Baker Wine & Grape Analysis



Paso Robles  
JUN 15 2006  
Planning Division

May 31, 2006

City Of Paso Robles  
Public Works Department  
Attn: John Falkenstien  
100 Spring Street  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

RE: Sight Distance Traffic Study, Driveway at 1101 Riverside Avenue, Paso Robles

Dear John,

I am writing this letter to make you aware of a traffic safety issue that has always been problematic, but lately has become in need of an immediate Solution.

There is limited sight distance while exiting our parking lot due to vehicles parked curbside along Riverside Avenue. The problem has been aggravated by non-permitted businesses using street parking for ride share purposes. To be able to see properly one must creep out to an unsafe distance into Riverside Avenue. In doing so on more than a handful of occasions, each of our employees have come close to having an accident. With the addition of the new restaurant "Cool Hand Luke's" now open, more traffic than before will be using the driveway.

We hereby request that the City of Paso Robles review this issue and work to resolve the problem. We believe that a bike lane, a limited time period for parking, or a fifteen-foot red curb adjacent to driveways would greatly help the issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Cynthia Fisher*

Cynthia Fisher  
President  
Paso Robles Association Of Realtors®



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