



Office of Councilmember
Max Anderson, District 3

CONSENT CALENDAR
October 10, 2006

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmember Max Anderson

SUBJECT: Traffic Mitigation Measures

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution approving the entire plan of nine traffic calming circles, initially installing five of the nine. Construction of standard traffic circles (the same type as those already constructed on neighboring streets) would occur at the intersections of California & Fairview, California & Harmon, California & Prince, Ellis & Fairview, Ellis & Harmon, Ellis & Woolsey, King & Woolsey, King & Harmon and King & Fairview.

BACKGROUND:

Pedestrian safety is an issue of increasing concern in the City of Berkeley, especially for populations who are particularly vulnerable such as the disabled, seniors and children. Risks to these populations could be significantly reduced by safety improvements. After a lengthy review and public consultation process, nine projects were developed. At the request of community members who were involved in the public consultation, a survey was sent out to ascertain support for each individual measure. A majority of residents (over two-thirds) in the areas in close proximity to these planned traffic circles have completed surveys requesting these devices. Accordingly, it is the purpose of this resolution to fund pedestrian safety improvements such as traffic circles.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The proposed mitigations would best serve the neighborhoods, are demonstrably popular with the residents and conform to the established pattern of area-wide traffic mitigation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

\$100,000 estimated cost for the first five (5) circles. Funds are available from the \$200,000 approved in the second year of this bi-annual budget. The other commitments on this \$200,000 budget that we are aware of are \$15,000 for a bulb out on Solano Avenue and \$20,000 for a traffic-calming circle at the intersection of Oregon and Mathews. The Department of Public Works will request the carry over of approximately \$150,000 from previous years budgets for the purpose of neighborhood traffic calming projects, resulting in over \$200,000 still being available for traffic calming this year if the carry over request is approved.

CONTACT PERSON: Councilmember Max Anderson, District 3, 510-981-7130.

RESOLUTION # - N.S.

APPROVING THE CONSTRUCTION OF TRAFFIC CIRCLES AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF CALIFORNIA & FAIRVIEW, CALIFORNIA & HARMON, CALIFORNIA & PRINCE, ELLIS & FAIRVIEW, ELLIS & HARMON, ELLIS & WOOLSEY, KING & WOOLSEY, KING & HARMON AND KING & FAIRVIEW.

WHEREAS, Councilmember Max Anderson asked the City Council to approve the construction of standard traffic circles at the intersections of California & Fairview, California & Harmon, California & Prince, Ellis & Fairview, Ellis & Harmon, Ellis & Woolsey, King & Woolsey, King & Harmon and King & Fairview; and

WHEREAS, a majority of residents (over two-thirds) in the areas in close proximity to these planned traffic circles have completed surveys requesting these devices; and

WHEREAS, 76% of those surveyed supported the enhancement of the neighborhood traffic management plan with the installation of more traffic calming circles; and

WHEREAS, 76% supported the installation of one or more of the nine new traffic calming circles; and

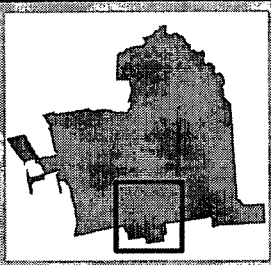
WHEREAS, the installation of traffic circles associated with the area-wide traffic calming plan would cost approximately \$100,000 for the first five circles. Funds for installation of the circles would come from the \$200,000 approved in the second year of this bi-annual budget. The Department of Public Works will request the carry over of approximately \$150,000 from previous years budgets for the purpose of neighborhood traffic calming projects, resulting in over \$200,000 still being available for traffic calming this year if the carry over request is approved; and

WHEREAS, the City Council re-affirm its commitment to implementing City and community plans regarding traffic calming; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Berkeley approves the construction of traffic circles at the intersections of California & Fairview, California & Harmon, California & Prince, Ellis & Fairview, Ellis & Harmon, Ellis & Woolsey, King & Woolsey, King & Harmon and King & Fairview.

Exhibits:

- A: Map of Area
- B: Survey
- C. Survey Results









LORIN DISTRICT

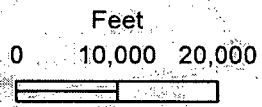
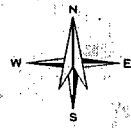
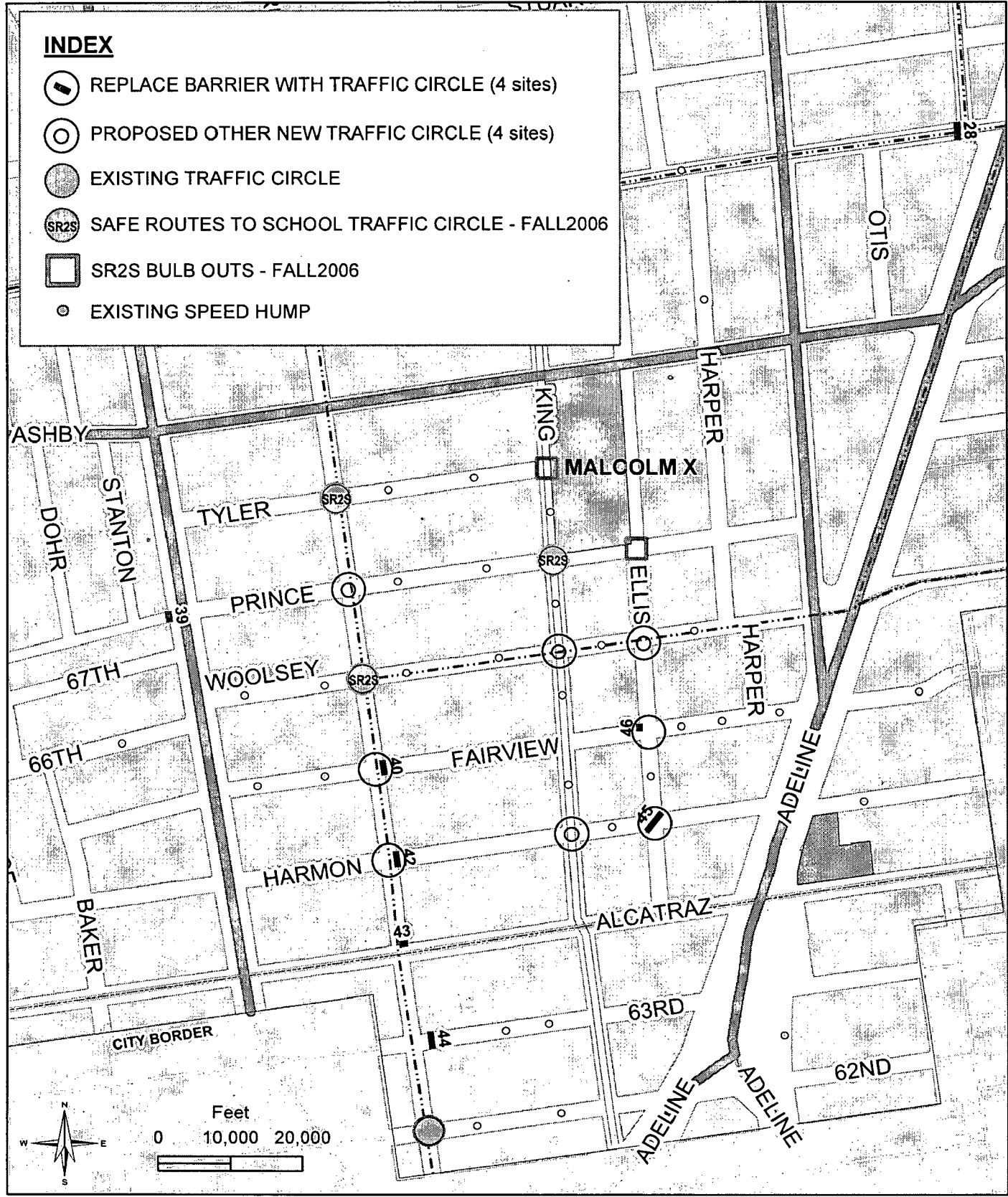
Exhibit A

TRAFFIC CALMING PROPOSALS

MAY 2006

INDEX

-  REPLACE BARRIER WITH TRAFFIC CIRCLE (4 sites)
-  PROPOSED OTHER NEW TRAFFIC CIRCLE (4 sites)
-  EXISTING TRAFFIC CIRCLE
-  SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL TRAFFIC CIRCLE - FALL2006
-  SR2S BULB OUTS - FALL2006
-  EXISTING SPEED HUMP





LORIN DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CALMING QUESTIONNAIRE

(M.L.KING JR. WAY; ADELIN STREET; ALCATRAZ AVENUE; SACRAMENTO STREET AND ASHBY AVENUE)

Dear Residents, Owners and Businesses:

Please see the plan on the back of this page, which is a proposal from your Neighborhood Association, Council member and City of Berkeley Transportation Division to enhance the neighborhood traffic management (traffic calming) plan.

There are a total of eight traffic calming circles proposed, four to replace existing barriers, and four at other local intersections. The level of funding for this project in the Lorin District is not predetermined. The project may have to proceed in two stages: four traffic circles in one year: the next four to follow when more funding becomes available.

The emergency services in Berkeley have been consulted. Both the Police and Fire & Emergency Services Departments have no objections to the plan, and strongly favor replacing existing barriers with traffic circles, providing the landscaping is kept low to protect sight lines. Both these emergency services departments have prioritized the four circles to replace the barriers as a higher priority (Stage I) than the other four circles.

PLEASE NOTE: Residents are required to maintain landscaping in the circles.

Please respond on or before August 3, 2006. You may return the questionnaire in one of the following ways:

By mail: 1947 Center Street-3rd floor, Berkeley, CA 94704
By fax: (510) 981-7060
By scan email: transportation@ci.berkeley.ca.us

Thank you for your participation in this questionnaire.

Sincerely,

Max Anderson
Councilmember, District 3

Peter Hillier
Assistant City Manager for Transportation

LORIN DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CALMING QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Do you support the enhancement of the neighborhood traffic management plan with the installation of more traffic calming circles?

Yes _____ No _____

2. Do you support the installation of one or more of the eight new traffic calming circles illustrated on the attached plan?

Yes _____ No _____

3. If the installation of traffic circles were to proceed in two stages, which four would you want installed first, and which could wait for the second phase?

No Barriers	1st	2nd	To Replace Barriers	1st	2nd
CALIFORNIA at PRINCE			CALIFORNIA at FAIRVIEW		
KING at WOOLSEY			CALIFORNIA at HARMON		
KING at HARMON			ELLIS at FAIRVIEW		
ELLIS at WOOLSEY			ELLIS at HARMON		

4. Do you have any comments or concerns you wish to express about neighborhood traffic management in the Lorin District?

PLEASE NOTE: Residents are required to maintain landscaping in the circles.

**LORIN DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD
TRAFFIC CALMING QUESTIONNAIRE**

We request a response on or before August 3, 2006. Please return this questionnaire in one of the following ways:

By mail: 1947 Center Street-3rd floor, Berkeley, CA 94704
By fax: (510) 981-7060
By scan email: transportation@ci.berkeley.ca.us

If you have any questions about how to respond to this questionnaire, please send your questions to any address above, or phone 981-7010.
Thank you for your participation.

fold here first

return address

<i>place stamp here</i>

City of Berkeley
Office of Transportation
1947 Center Street – 3rd floor
Berkeley, CA 94704

fold here second and seal

OPTIONAL: Please tell us the following (*your response will be kept confidential*)

Name: _____
Address: _____

LORIN DISTRICT TRAFFIC CALMING SURVEY							Updated as of 8/14/06			
Question #	Text	"Yes"	"No"	no answer provided	Total	% "Yes"	% "No"	% no answer provided		
1	Do you support the enhancement of the neighborhood traffic management plan with the installation of more traffic calming circles?	104	29	3	136	76%	21%	2%		
2	Do you support the installation of one or more of the eight new traffic calming circles illustrated on the attached plan?	103	28	5	136	76%	21%	4%		
3	If the installation of traffic circles were to proceed in two stages, which four would you want installed first, and which could wait for the second phase?	"1st priority"	"2nd priority"	no answer provided	Total	% "1st priority"	% "2nd priority"	% no answer provided		
	CALIFORNIA at FAIRVIEW	60	23	53	136	44%	17%	39%	Barrier	
	CALIFORNIA at HARMON	55	28	53	136	40%	21%	39%	Barrier	
	CALIFORNIA at PRINCE	51	29	56	136	38%	21%	41%		
	ELLIS at FAIRVIEW	50	30	56	136	37%	22%	41%	Barrier	
	ELLIS at HARMON	48	39	49	136	35%	29%	36%	Barrier	
	ELLIS at WOOLSEY	40	41	55	136	29%	30%	40%		
	KING at WOOLSEY	39	42	55	136	29%	31%	40%		
	KING at HARMON	34	46	56	136	25%	34%	41%		