



Staff Report E-2

To: City of Imperial Traffic Commission

From: Lisa Tylenda, Planner

Date: July 17, 2020

Subject: Traffic concerns at the intersection of Fonzie Avenue and Cancun Drive.

Background:

Staff received a request from a resident to evaluate the above referenced location, in order to formulate possible mitigation measures regarding the rising safety concerns. These concerns are regarding pedestrian safety, speeding, and visibility from residents, at this intersection. The ideal mitigation for the resident, is the placement of a three-way stop.

Currently, the intersection between Cancun Drive and Fonzie Avenue are not controlled. Sidewalks are provided at all approaches to the intersection, there are no marked crosswalks, and there are no parking restrictions at the approaches of the intersection. On July 8, 2020, the Traffic Commission recommended the placement of a stop sign on Cancun Dr.

Analysis:

The Development Review Committee explored various traffic and safety mitigation measures regarding the intersection of Cancun Drive and Fonzie Avenue.

The following Development Review Committee members studied the item:

- Public Services Director, Jackie Loper
- Parks Superintendent, Tony Lopez
- Imperial County Fire Representative, Andrew Loper
- Community Development Director, Othon Mora
- Imperial Police Chief, Leonard Barra
- Planner, Lisa Tylenda

The Development Review Committee (DRC) has based the recommendation on the following guidelines from the “Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)” as follows:

Section 2B.04, “Right of Way at Intersections”, of the CA-MUTCD states that “In addition, the use of YIELD or STOP signs should be considered at the intersection of two minor streets or local roads where the intersection has more than three approaches and where one or more of the following conditions exist:

- The combined vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian volume entering the intersection from all approaches average more than 2,000 units per day
- The ability to see conflicting traffic on an approach is not sufficient to allow a road user to stop or yield in compliance with the normal right-of-way rule if such stopping or yielding is necessary
- Crash records indicate that five or more crashes that involve the failure to yield the right-of-way at the intersection under the normal right-of-way rule have been reported within a 3-year period, or that three or more such crashes have been reported within a 2-year period
- Section 2B.07, “Multi-way Stop Application”, of the CA-MUTCD stipulates that multi way stops to be considered as an option on “Locations where a road user, after stopping, cannot see conflicting traffic and is not able to negotiate the intersection unless conflicting cross traffic is also required to stop.”
- YIELD or STOP signs should not be used for speed control.

Staff’s findings are as follows:

- The CA-MUTCD defines minimum requirements for traffic volumes, pedestrian volumes, and bicycle volumes to warrant an all-way stop controlled intersection. Based on field observations, the intersection of Fonzie Ave and Cancun Drive would not meet these minimum volume requirements. Currently, there is not a recent traffic study available for the area.
- Utilizing the Statewide Incident Traffic Reporting System and the City’s database, a review of the collision history at the intersection was conducted for a three-year period. Reports show that there have not been any collisions, citations, or traffic violations reported for that intersection.
- Based on field observations, there are limited “visibility” obstructions at the intersection for drivers “exiting/turning” onto Fonzie Avenue off of Cancun Drive.

Staff Recommendation:

Based on these findings, staff do not recommend installation of a three-way stop sign at Fonzie Ave. and Cancun Dr.

Location Map:

