

Memo

To: Greg Fish, Fire Chief

From: Kevin Taylor, Parking Workgroup Facilitator

Subject: Meeting Report

Date: February 1, 2021

The Parking Workgroup of the Fire Chief's Association Public Safety Taskforce has met twice since our January 8, 2021 full taskforce meeting. In addition to all fire agencies, representatives from the California Highway Patrol, Lompoc Police Department, Sheriff's Office, 1st District Supervisor Williams Office, and Public Works are participating in the workgroup.

The objectives of the workgroup are:

1. Develop and implement parking restrictions that maintain community member egress and emergency vehicle ingress on roadways at all times.
2. Develop and implement Red Flag parking restrictions in the most high-risk areas of our communities to preserve evacuation routes and emergency vehicle access routes.

We determined during our initial meeting that our workgroups objectives could be accomplished through three routes:

1. Administrative Level – authorized by the Public Works Director, includes edge line stripping and limiting parking to one side of the street.
2. Policy Level – authorized by the Board of Supervisors (BOS), usually by Resolution. More significant parking modifications like restrictions during Red Flag events falls into this category. Similar requirements apply in the City of Lompoc and City of Santa Barbara.
3. Emergency Level – the BOS appointed the Director of Public Works Parking Commissioner for the duration of the current pandemic emergency. The Parking Commissioner has designated several areas as 2-hour parking to alleviate ingress/egress issues in several areas of the county. These areas can be expanded or reduced at the discretion of the Road Commissioner.

The Administrative process includes neighborhood outreach because any change to street parking arrangements significantly impacts the existing neighborhood character. Any changes proposed in the Coastal Zone will also require Coastal Commission approval.

In our two meetings, each jurisdiction was encouraged to identify areas in their community that may benefit from one or all of the remedies identified above. These issues, potential remedies, and action required are summarized below.

City of Lompoc – RV street parking; Council action in mid-January likely solved this challenge. Consider Red Flag parking restrictions near the riverbed (Lompoc City Council and Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors Resolution).

Santa Barbara County Fire – Mission Canyon area Red Flag Parking restrictions near Tunnel trailhead; already prohibited by Board Resolution, working with Public Works on signage improvement.

Bucket Brigade on behalf of several neighborhood associations – East and West Camino Cielo; Red Flag Parking restrictions. Roadway maintained by County Roads but owned by Las Padres National Forest (LPF). Working to determine process in the LPF to limit and/or restrict parking during Red Flag.

Montecito Fire – High road system of East Mountain, Park Lane, Bella Vista; edge line stripping (Administrative). Trail head parking areas; Red Flag parking restrictions (Resolution Amendment). Riven Rock, from East Mountain to Hot Springs; parking one side only (Administrative). Eucalyptus, Humphries, and Miramar Roads; parking one side only (in effect from emergency Roads Commissioner action, seeking Administrative change to make one side of street parking permanent; may involve County recovering lost roadway easement space as neighborhood is likely encroaching).

Our next Parking Workgroup meeting will be scheduled after receiving direction from the taskforce.