

**Draft Minutes from Advisory Traffic and Safety Board
Regular Meeting of March 13, 2007**

TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDERS

- 1. PK-95.1 (2007-0177) “No Parking” within the right-of-way on the north side of Childress Avenue from Rochester Road (M-150) westerly Three Hundred (300) feet.**

Paul Shumejko explained the TCO was for proposed parking restrictions along Childress, which is in section 15 of the City off Rochester Road. As part of the background Mr. Shumejko read the Staff Report. “We have received occasional reports over the past year concerning on-street parking along Childress Avenue just west of Rochester Road (M-150). The City has been monitoring this situation and has taken photos to record the parking occurrences. The issue stems from the overflow parking resulting from business operations at the Hertz Rental, located at 546 S. Rochester Road, needing more parking spaces than are currently available on-site.

Overflow parking onto Childress has resulted in impendance of traffic and often times blocked access to the existing fire hydrant. The parking conditions occur throughout the week and many of the vehicles appear to be rental vehicle inventory. Under normal circumstances and general light traffic, occasional on-street parking would occur and not require parking restrictions. However, we have recently observed conflicts with the parked vehicles on the north side of Childress that have at times impeded the sight distance for vehicles entering and exiting the driveway, and also creating confusion for vehicles entering Childress from Rochester Road. Due to the increase in both traffic volumes and on-street parking demands in the area due to the Hertz Rentals’ business operations and their insufficient on-site parking, the City desires to install “**No Parking**” signs along the north side of Childress from Rochester Road to approximately 300 feet west of Rochester Road.

The action requested is that the Traffic and Safety Board support having TCO No. PK-95 issued, and that the Board recommend the City Council approve the TCO until rescinded or superseded.”

Chairperson Colling opened up the matter for discussion by the Board.

Mr. Moore asked if there had been any communication between the City and the Hertz Rental Company. Mr. Shumejko replied only the notification of tonight’s meeting through mailing them an agenda. Mr. Moore asked if they had spoken to them regarding the parking problem or the plans for the no parking zone. Mr. Matich said they had talked to them before they had moved into the site at a preliminary concept meeting. At that time they showed the City a site plan that showed auxiliary parking behind the building and between there and the gas station. There was some discussion about whether they would improve and expand the site, and the City wanted to make sure there was adequate on-site parking. That was the last the Engineering Department heard from

them. Apparently they went ahead and bought the site without making the modifications, and they did not have to come back to the City to make any improvements because they didn't change the footprint of the building.

Mr. Schneck asked although there was not a change in the building footprint, was there a change in use seen during site plan review that would generate more traffic? Mr. Shumejko explained there had not been a formal site plan review. He remembered parking concerns being brought forward at the preliminary concept plan meeting with them about two and a half years ago. He explained that after that we never received an actual site plan submittal.

Chairperson Colling added that they hadn't come before the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) for a variance.

Chairperson Colling asked what the original zoning on the property was, and what the former business had been. He was told it had been a vacuum cleaner store, and Mr. Matich remarked at that time they hadn't had any traffic or parking issues. National Auto Glass and Mirror is at the south side of Childress and Rochester Road, and they have a paved parking area on the side and park within their property.

Mr. Blackstone stated that he felt that as a courtesy someone from the City should go to Hertz and talk to the manager and say, "We have a problem here, and we will put up "No Parking" signs that will affect you. Do you have another plan?"

Chairperson Colling asked when the notices for the meeting were mailed out, and Mr. Shumejko said last week. Mr. Matich related that Ordinance Officers from the Building Department have gone out there and talked to them about the parking situation. They advised them they couldn't park in opposite directions, couldn't block the fire hydrant, or park in front of the pathway closer to the intersection. So there have been discussions with them regarding the parking violations.

Mr. Shumejko remembered an incident where a car knocked over a speed limit sign, and another customer called the City stating they got a flat tire from the base of the post. They didn't hear anything further after the business had their concept meeting, and all of a sudden they have started getting calls.

Mr. Moore asked if the "No Parking" zone is put in and the business starts parking cars on the north side of the building on the grassy area, is there going to be a problem with that? Mr. Shumejko responded that he thought the grade would work for parking and from a traffic standpoint it would be fine, but he was not sure if there were other issues.

Mr. Moore thought the parking restrictions would definitely put a damper on their business, and that they had a logical location with the car dealerships right across the street. Chairperson Colling said he understood his concern for the business, but they had chosen a small site for a car rental agency. The ordinance officers had talked to them about the situation, and they had received notification of this meeting. He felt that the

Board's responsibility was not to the business, but to the general safety and welfare of the community. If their parking is causing the issues that have been documented here, it needs to be addressed.

Mr. Brown thought they had the square footage on their lot. In the aerial photograph included in the packet it shows eight vehicles in the lot. He thought the site has the space they could make use of for parking if it is allowed by ordinance. He was not sure if there were restrictions on how much of a lot could be used for parking. Chairperson Colling advised they would have to take that up with the Building Department to see if it would require a permit. Mr. Brown speculated they haven't done that or gone to the expense of creating additional parking because no one has put any pressure on them to do so. He felt the parking restrictions would do that.

MOTION by Moore, seconded by Brown, in the matter of **PK-95**, the Advisory Traffic and Safety Board **supports** having TCO No. PK-95 issued, and **recommends** that the City Council approve the TCO until rescinded or superseded

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Absent: Buiteweg