



Land Park Community Association

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December 3, 2015

Councilmember Steve Hansen
District Four
City Hall – Fifth Floor
915 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

John F. Shirey
City Manager
Sacramento City Hall
915 I Street, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Traffic Speeds and Cross-Walk Safety on Land Park Drive

Dear Councilmember Hansen and Mr. Shirey:

On behalf of the Land Park Community Association (LPCA) and the Land Park Schools Foundation (LPSF), as well as the entire Land Park neighborhood community, we write to encourage the City to take steps to attend to and better control traffic speeds on Land Park Drive, particularly on weekdays when school is in session. This is an important safety issue for our community, especially for the families whose children attend California Middle School, Crocker Riverside Elementary School, Holy Spirit School, and CK McClatchy High School.

As you know, Land Park Drive is a significant arterial road through the Land Park neighborhood. As such, it handles high traffic volumes, including significant weekday commuter traffic. It handles not only neighborhood traffic, but a significant volume of cut-through traffic, which can access Land Park Drive from Interstate 5 via Sutterville Road. Further, between 11th Avenue (to the south) and Broadway (to the north), Land Park Drive is quite wide. The street's width, its long stretches without a controlled intersection, and its role as a north/south commute route cause many drivers to succumb to a sense of impatience and haste.

On the long stretch of Land Park Drive between 11th Avenue (to the south) and Vallejo Way (to the north) there are four marked but uncontrolled cross-walks (at 11th Avenue, at 8th Avenue, at Weller/Cordano Way, and at Robertson Way adjacent to California Middle School). Many families who live *east* of Land Park Drive send their grade school children to Crocker-Riverside Elementary School or Holy Spirit School, which are *west* of Land Park Drive. Many families who live *west* of Land Park Drive send their



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children *east* across Land Park Drive to California Middle School and McClatchy High School. For those students who walk or bicycle to any of these four neighborhood schools, crossing Land Park Drive has become perilous. Though the cross-walks are marked, the road at those crossings is wide. Indeed, it is common to see impatient drivers swing into the middle turn lane to accelerate and pass drivers who slow or stop to allow children to use the cross-walk.

Many residents and parents have recently noticed that, on the stretch of Land Park Drive that runs through a residential portion of the neighborhood and past California Middle School (i.e., between 13th Avenue and Vallejo Way), many drivers proceed at rates of speed higher than the 30 mph posted limit, and at rates incompatible with the presence of young children trying to cross to get to school. Many drivers do not slow down, much less stop, as children and families try to use the crosswalks to make their way to school.

For these reasons, we ask the City to address the situation. As a threshold matter, we would appreciate it if you would ask the Sacramento City Police to place traffic patrol officers alongside Land Park Drive periodically, particularly before and after school, to create visibility and to encourage drivers to be more attentive to posted limits. It would be beneficial if drivers could see that the posted speed limits are enforced.

Second, we ask the City to identify and implement steps that can enhance pedestrian safety in crossing Land Park Drive at the four marked but uncontrolled cross-walks. For example, we believe that installing pedestrian-actuated flashing lights for one or more of these cross-walks would dramatically increase safety for students and other pedestrians.

We appreciate your attention to these matters of public safety.

Very truly yours,

Kenneth C. Mennemeier
President, Land Park Community Association

April Meszaros
Interim President, Land Park Schools
Foundation

cc: LPCA Board members (by email only)
LPSF Board members (by email only)
Lt. Pamela Seyffert
Sgt. Matt Armstrong