

MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL  
BANNING, CALIFORNIA

02/27/18  
REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Banning City Council was called to order by Mayor Moyer on February 27, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. at the Banning Civic Center Council Chamber, 99 E. Ramsey Street, Banning, California.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:	Council Member Andrade Council Member Franklin Council Member Peterson Council Member Welch Mayor Moyer
COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:	None
OTHERS PRESENT	Rochelle Clayton, Deputy City Manager Kevin Ennis, City Attorney Stephen Badgett, Interim Electric Utility Director Tim Chavez, Fire Battalion Chief Heidi Meraz, Community Services Director Patty Nevins, Community Development Director Art Vela, Public Works Director/City Engineer Phil Holder, Police Captain Jennifer McCoy, Purchasing Manager Ted Shove, Economic Development Manager Sonja De La Fuente, Deputy City Clerk Laurie Sampson, Executive Assistant Leila Lopez, Office Specialist

The Invocation was given by Merle Malland, Police Chaplin. Council Member Welch led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

The City Attorney provided the following report on Closed Session: Mayor Moyer opened the closed session items for public comments. Seeing none, closed public comment. City Attorney Kevin Ennis listed the items on the closed session agenda, which included: 1) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Healing Garden Remedies, Inc. vs. City of Banning, Riverside County Superior Court Case No. RIC 1714764. The case was dismissed. 2) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Cali Emerald Care, Inc. vs. City of Banning, Riverside County Superior Court Case No. RIC 1717418. The case was dismissed. 3) CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government

Code Section 54956.8: Property description: APN: 541-141-005, located in the vicinity of the intersection of San Gorgonio Avenue and Williams Street. City Negotiator Alex Diaz, Interim City Manager and Ted Shove, Economic Development Manager – Negotiating Parties: Robert Rochelle; Under Negotiation: Price and Terms. Direction was given to the City's negotiators with no final reportable action.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE / ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS

##### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ellen Carr shared that the Animal Action League was at the Community Center February 19-20 and 60 cats and dogs were spayed or neutered. They will be back March 27-28, and appointments can be made by calling (760) 366-1100. She also expressed concern regarding her 31 day utility bill, and asked about the monthly charge variance between water and electric.

Laura Leindecker, Vice President of the Banning San Gorgonio Pass Area Chamber of Commerce, shared about an event they will be holding on March 24<sup>th</sup> (see Exhibit "A").

Ann Price invited all out to help clean up Lion's Park on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in preparation for Banning Pass Little League's Opening Day.

Jerry Westholder shared that he believes the City has the highest electric rates in the state and that Banning residents have a median income of \$35,000 per year.

Jim Price announced Banning Pass Little League's Opening Day is on March 10<sup>th</sup> at Lion's Park at 10:00 a.m.

Inge Schuler thanked the Council for including the Mill's Act information on the Agenda. She also asked about the monthly fee on the utility bills and how it changes according to the number of days in the billing cycle. She asked for clarification in regard to the City's logo, as she has noticed some items with the Proud History, Prosperous Tomorrow tagline and thought it had been changed back to Stagecoach Town USA. Finally, she asked what the current pension liability was for the City.

Seeing no further comments, Mayor Moyer closed public comment.

##### CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

##### ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS

Council Member Peterson had nothing to report.

Council Member Welch:

- The RTA Board met Thursday and honored Riverside County's 5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor Marion Ashley for his 15 years of service. He will not be running for re-election.

Council Member Franklin:

- Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) met and discussed new construction on I-15 over the next couple of years.
- The Water Alliance will meet on February 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Banning City Hall in the Large Conference Room to discuss strategies for the future affordability of water.
- On March 7<sup>th</sup> the Downtown Ad-Hoc Committee will hold a workshop with Business owners and will work with the Chamber of Commerce to coordinate a community workshop in the future. The Ad-Hoc Committee will ask City Council at the next meeting to direct staff to explore a food court idea for City property.
- The Disaster Survival Expo will be held on April 28, 2018 at Banning City Hall. Dr. Lucy Jones, Glen Pomeroy, Team Rubicon, and the County will be speakers and the event will be free to the community.

Council Member Andrade:

- The Downtown Ad Hoc Committee is excited to bring forth the ideas Council Member Franklin mentioned.

Mayor Moyer:

- On March 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. there will be an open forum for the Riverside County Supervisor candidates at Sun Lakes. The public is invited, but must contact him or Council Member Welch to get your name at the gate for admission.
- The I-10 Bypass Town Hall Meeting will be in April.
- Community Action Partnership is offering free tax preparation services (see Exhibit "B").
- The Receiver for the former Banning Business Center has sold the property and escrow will last 45 days.

**REPORT BY CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Ennis did not have anything to report.

**REPORT BY CITY MANAGER**

Deputy City Manager Clayton did not have anything to report.

## CONSENT ITEMS

1. Minutes – Special Meeting – 2/13/18 (Workshop)

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes from the February 13, 2018 Special Meeting of the Banning City Council (Workshop)

2. Minutes – Special Meeting – 2/13/18 (Closed Session)

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes from the February 13, 2018 Special Meeting of the Banning City Council (Closed Session)

3. Minutes – Regular Meeting 2/13/18

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes from the February 13, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Banning City Council

4. Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants Issued in the Month of January 2018

Recommendation: Approve and Ratify

5. Capital Improvement Project Update

Recommendation: Receive and File

6. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance 1513 – Recreational Vehicles, Recreation Trailers, and Utility Trailers Parking

Recommendation: Ordinance 1513 Pass its 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

7. Resolution 2018-19 Repealing and Superseding Resolution 2017-116, Approving Amendment No. 1 Revisions to the E-Procurement Management Software Solution Services Agreement with PlanetBids, Inc.

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2018-19

Mayor Moyer opened the consent items 1 through 7 for public comment. Seeing none, closed public comment.

**Motion Welch/Franklin to approve Consent Items 1 through 7. Motion carried, 5-0.**

## REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Council Member Peterson recused himself due to a potential conflict of interest.

1. Resolution 2018-20, Approving Amended and Restated Agreement for the Reverter of Real Property Pursuant to Purchase and Sale Agreement

Economic Development Manager Ted Shove presented the Staff Report as contained in the Agenda packet.

The Mayor opened the item for public comment. Seeing none, closed public comment.

**Motion Andrade/Welch to adopt Resolution 2018-20, approving the Amended and Restated Agreement for the Reverter of Real Property Pursuant to the Purchase and Sale Agreement. Motion carried, 4-0, with Council Member Peterson not voting.**

2. Resolution 2018-18, Approving the General Plan Annual Progress Report for Calendar Year 2017

Community Development Director Patty Nevins presented the Staff Report as contained in the Agenda packet.

Council Member Franklin asked some questions and offered suggested amendments as follows:

- Page 27, Policy 4 – the City participates in RCTC meetings regarding transportation.
- Page 38, Policy 4 – Program 4.B – the City approved and will implement online registration for community services programs.
- Page 59, Policy 1 – the City attends RCA meetings.
- Page 81, Policy 2 – Program 2.F – the City has designated the Disaster Survival Expo a City Signature Event. We cooperate with the County Emergency Management Department to host local CERT courses.

Council Member Peterson asked what the purpose of a General Plan is, as he doesn't think it is adhered to because the General Plan has been changed with various projects.

Director Nevins explained that it is used as a guide, but may be amended at the Council's discretion when an applicant makes such requests, which they are entitled to.

Council Member Andrade asked if this item had to go back to Planning Commission for approval of the recommended changes.

Director Nevins explained that the Council is able to make the recommended changes.

The Mayor opened the item for public comment. Seeing none, closed public comment.

**Motion Franklin/Andrade to adopt Resolution 2018-18, approving the General Plan Annual Progress Report for Calendar Year 2017 with recommended amendments. Motion carried, 4-1, with Council Member Peterson voting against.**

3. The Mills Act Program, an Economic Incentive Program in the State of California for the Restoration and Preservation of Qualified Historic Buildings by Private Property Owners

Community Development Director Patty Nevins presented the staff report as contained in the Agenda packet.

Mayor Moyer asked if this item would fall under the Community Development Department. Director Nevins confirmed that it is and advised that staff is looking for direction from the Council.

Council Member Andrade asked if there would be a cost to the City.

Director Nevins explained that the City would forego some property tax revenue.

There was some discussion regarding how the program may work.

Director Nevins advised that more research would be required before bringing back, and explained that she would like direction to move forward with additional research.

Council Member Franklin recommended partnering with the Historical Society to see if they have this information already.

Mayor Moyer opened the item for public comment. Seeing none, closed public comment.

**There was a consensus of the Council in support of moving forward with additional research.**

4. Options for the City of Banning's Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueling Facility

Public Works Director Vela presented the Staff Report as contained in the Agenda packet.

Council Member Peterson asked about an article he read in the Record Gazette regarding the City of Beaumont obtaining funds for their project.

Council Member Franklin suggested partnering with the Banning Unified School District to get funds to help with the project.

Director Vela explained that there was an agreement with the Banning School District related to a fueling facility, however no agreement has been located related to the CNG facility.

Council Member Welch explained that Beaumont's City busses have taken on the burden of transporting the school children, as Beaumont Unified School District had done away with school busses. So, this may be why they qualify for more funding.

Council Member Franklin will check with RCTC at the next meeting regarding funding.

Council Member Andrade recommended working with Banning Unified School District to see if additional funding can be obtained.

Mayor Moyer opened the item for public comment.

Kerry Mariner with Banning Unified School District asked if this item could be tabled and that it be taken to the 2x2 meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup> to see what options are available in regard to grants and working together.

Cathy Bagnara with Banning Unified School District explained that the School District has had a relationship with the City since 1996 (a 25 year agreement) related to use of the fueling station.

Seeing no further comments, the Mayor closed public comment.

**Motion Welch/Andrade to continue this item to the second meeting in March.  
Motion carried, 5-0.**

5. Electric Utility Audit Request for Proposal (RFP)

Deputy City Manager Rochelle Clayton presented the Staff Report as contained in the Agenda packet.

Council Member Franklin expressed some concern with the amount of analysis being done and if \$55,000 would cover it.

Council Member Peterson recommended Christy White Associates based upon his review of the proposals.

The Mayor opened the item for public comment.

Jerry Westholder asked if the auditors would be checking to be sure the amount of electricity used matches the amount charged. He also feels Christy White would be the best choice.

Deputy City Manager confirmed that it is included in the scope of work.

Seeing no further comments, the Mayor closed public comment.

**Motion Franklin/Peterson to move forward with the final evaluation phase. Motion carried, 5-0.**

6. Resolution 2018-22, Approving the Employment Agreement for the Position of Electric Utility Director

Deputy City Manager Rochelle Clayton presented the Staff Report as contained in the Agenda packet.

Council Member Andrade expressed concern with the starting salary step being high and also wanted to be sure the City wouldn't be responsible for relocation fees.

Council Member Peterson expressed concern with the Council not being aware of the terms of the contract prior to it coming to a regular City Council Meeting. He asked that the exact hours the Director would work be added instead of generally Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. He also would like six months of severance removed from the contract.

Council Member Welch explained that the Council approves salaries and benefits for management and the City Manager negotiates contracts with Directors.

Mayor Moyer believes the Council generally approves the contract prior to it being brought to a regular meeting.

The Mayor opened the item for public comment.

Jerry Westholder recalls a policy being put in place about five years ago related to Council's approval of contracts. He also feels that the City is paying its employees three times more than the average citizen.

Seeing no further comments, the Mayor closed public comment.

Mayor Moyer asked for the severance to be adjusted to three months maximum in the contract prior to the Interim City Manager signing.

According to Government Code Section 54953(c)(3) the Mayor reported a summary of compensation and benefits to be received by the Electric Utility Director.

**Motion Moyer/Franklin to Adopt Resolution 2018-22, affirming the appointment of Thomas Miller as Electric Utility Director, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the Employment Agreement between the City of Banning and Thomas Miller for the position of Electric Utility Director effective February 18, 2018 with the recommended change. Motion carried, 3-1-1, with Council Member Peterson voting against and Council Member Andrade abstaining.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Resolution 2018-14, Approving a 12-Month Extension of Time for Tentative Tract Map (TTM) 36939

Community Development Director Nevins presented the Staff Report as provided in the Agenda packet.

Council Member Andrade asked why construction hasn't started.

Director Nevins explained they are working on obtaining permits from other agencies and it is time consuming. Tentative Maps do seem to take some time for various reasons.

Pete Pitassi with Diversified Pacific explained that all of the final engineering has been completed, it has been through plan check, and is currently awaiting permit issuance.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing. With no comments from the public, he closed the public hearing.

**Motion Welch/Peterson to adopt Resolution 2018-14, approving a 12-month extension of time for TM 36939. Motion carried, 5-0.**

2. Resolution 2017-112, Approving the 2017 Engineering and Traffic Survey and Ordinance 1516, Re-Establishing Prima Facie Speed Limits throughout the City of Banning and Amending Ordinance 1449.

Public Works Director Vela presented the Staff Report as provided in the Agenda packet.

Council Member Moyer explained that it doesn't seem right that if 85% of the people are breaking the speed-limit law the limit is increased.

Council Member Franklin suggested traffic calming measures be implemented. Especially near schools and in highly residential areas.

Director Vela will attempt to implement such measures and reminded everyone that the law requires a lower speed limit near schools when children are present.

The Deputy City Clerk read correspondence related to this item (Exhibit "C").

There was some discussion about potential stop signs or signals along Wilson.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing. With no comments from the public, closed the public hearing.

**Motion Peterson/Franklin to adopt Resolution 2017-112, approving the 2018 Engineering and Traffic Survey. Motion carried, 4-1 with Council Member Andrade voting against.**

The Deputy City Clerk read the title of Ordinance 1516.

**Motion Peterson/Franklin to waive further reading of Ordinance 1516. Motion carried, 4-1 with Council Member Andrade voting against.**

**Motion Peterson/Franklin Ordinance 1515 pass its first reading. Motion carried, 4-1 with Council Member Andrade voting against.**

The Mayor recessed the Regular City Council Meeting and called to order a scheduled meeting of the Banning Utility Authority.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Board Member Andrade  
Board Member Franklin  
Board Member Peterson  
Board Member Welch  
Chairman Moyer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

#### REPORTS OF OFFICERS

1. Resolutions 2018-03 UA and 2018-21, Authorizing the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2018 Mid-Year Budget Adjustments

Deputy City Manager Clayton presented the staff report as contained in the Agenda packet.

Council Member Peterson asked about the \$7 million rate stabilization fund. Manager Clayton explained that because there were no adjustments to the fund it was not included in the budget adjustments.

There was some discussion related to the budget.

Chairman Moyer opened the item for public comment.

Jerry Westholder shared his concern with hiring a new position in the Electric Department prior to the Electric Utility Director being hired.

Seeing no further comments, the Chairman closed public comment.

**Motion Peterson/Welch to adopt Resolutions 2018-03 UA and 2018-21, authorizing the FY 2017-2018 Mid-Year Budget Adjustments. Motion carried, 5-0.**

The Mayor adjourned the joint meeting of the Banning City Council and Banning Utility Authority and called to order a scheduled meeting of the Banning Utility Authority.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Board Member Andrade  
Board Member Franklin  
Board Member Peterson  
Board Member Welch  
Chairman Moyer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

#### REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Resolution 2018-02 UA, Approving an Agreement in the Amount of \$134,096 with L.O. Lynch Quality Wells & Pumps, Inc. for the Repairs to Wells and Pumps.

Public Works Director Vela presented the Staff Report as contained in the Agenda packet.

Council Member Andrade asked if these are drinking wells. Director Vela confirmed that they are.

The Mayor opened the item for public comment. Seeing none, closed public comment.

**Motion Franklin/Peterson to adopt Resolution 2018-02 UA, approving an agreement in the amount of \$134,096 with L.O. Lynch Quality Wells & Pumps, Inc. plus a 10% contingency. Motion carried, 5-0.**

The Mayor reconvened the regular City Council Meeting.

#### ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Council Member Peterson would like Council to consider a one-year moratorium of fees charged to new small businesses.

Council Member would like to know what fees have been received in the last year.

Council Member Franklin asked when the fee study would be done. Deputy City Manager Clayton expects it to go to the Budget & Finance Committee on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Franklin and the Downtown Ad-Hoc Committee would like staff to bring back the request to move forward with exploring an eatery project.

**ADJOURNMENT**

By common consent the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 P.M.

Minutes Prepared by:



---

Sonja De La Fuente, Deputy City Clerk

These Minutes reflect actions taken by the City Council. The entire discussion of this meeting can be found by visiting the following website: <https://banninglive.viebit.com/player.php?hash=OtaF2uZa2Giu> or by requesting a CD or DVD at Banning City Hall located at 99 E. Ramsey Street.

# EXHIBIT A

Banning, San Gorgonio Area

**Exhibit "A"**

Chamber of Commerce Presents:



# "Community Spring Day Event"

Spring Celebration - March 24, 9:00am - 1:00pm

Nicolet Middle School, field

101 E. Nicolet - Banning, CA

FREE  
EVENT



FREE  
EVENT

## "Children's Games, Scavenger Egg Hunt, Food"

"1 Lucky Winner" weekend Camping to - Silent Valley



McDonald's Event Sponsor



Spring Celebration Retail Sponsor  
**Landeros Furniture  
SUPERSTORE**  
We're priced to go & here to stay!

**IEHP**  
A Public Entity  
Inland Empire Health Plan

**DIAMOND HILLS**  
CHEVROLET BUICK GMC



Nicolet Middle School - 101 E. Nicolet, Banning, CA 92220 [the field]

contact BSGPA Chamber of Commerce-Carol 951.524.3516

# EXHIBIT B



**County of Riverside  
Community Action Partnership**



## **GET YOUR TAXES DONE FREE!**

**If you earned less than \$66K in 2017 and had no business losses or rental income you qualify!**

Items to bring to get your taxes done for free:

Identification – No Copies

- Driver's License
- California ID
- Military ID
- Social Security Cards – For you and all dependents you can claim.

Income and Earnings

- W-2 Forms
- 1099 Forms
- Self-Employment Income
- Unemployment Income

Education Expenses

- 1098-T Forms
- Receipts for Books

Childcare Expenses

- Proof of Childcare Expense

Health Insurance Expenses

- 1095 Forms A, B or C
- Exemption Notification
- Out of Pocket Medical Expenses

If you purchased or own a Home

- 1098 Statement
- HUD-1 Form

Miscellaneous

- Charitable Contributions
- Vehicle Registration
- Work Related Expenses

Reminders:

- Bring previous year's tax documents.
- For Direct Deposit, you must bring a direct deposit form from your bank with routing and account numbers or bring a blank check.

[www.capriverside.org](http://www.capriverside.org)



For more information call Community Action Partnership at (951) 955-4900.

## COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP VITA/EITC PROGRAM

## FREE TAX PREPARATION SITES

\*\*\*\*SITES OPEN JANUARY 26, 2018\*\*\*\*

www.capriverside.org

CITY	NAME OF SITE	ADDRESS	HOURS OF OPERATION	APPOINTMENT REQUIRED
Beaumont	Albert Chatigny Community Center (Beaumont)	1310 Oak Valley Parkway Beaumont, CA 92223	Tuesday & Thursday 9 am to 1 pm	Appt Only (951)769-8539
Blythe	Blythe Community Center	445 N Broadway Blythe, CA 92225	Monday through Thursday 9 am - 1 pm <b>Closed 2/12 &amp; 2/19</b>	Appt Only (760) 921-5080
Corona	Hope Through Housing Corona Del Oro Apts	680 W 2nd Street, Corona, CA 92882	Wednesday 4 pm - 7 pm Saturday 9 am - 3 pm	Appt & Walkin (951)551-4053
Desert Hot Springs	Desert Hot Springs FRC	14291 Palm Drive Ste 108 Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240	Wednesday & Thursday 9 am - 3 pm	Appt Only (760)288-3313
Highgrove	Highgrove Library	530 Center St., Riverside, Ca 92507	Saturday 10:30 am - 2 pm	
Indio	Martha's Village	83791 Date Ave, Indio, CA 92201	Friday 4 pm - 7 pm Saturday 9 am - 4 pm	
Indio	Catholic Charities	83-180 Requa Ave Ste 9B Indio, CA 92201	Wednesday & Thursday 9 am - 12 pm	
Jurupa Valley	Louis Robidoux Library	5840 Mission Blvd. Jurupa Valley, CA 92509	Saturday 10:30 am - 3:30 pm	
Lake Elsinore	Lake Elsinore Senior Center	420 E. Lakeshore Dr. Lake Elsinore, CA 92530	Tuesday & Wednesday 9 am - 3 pm	Appt Only (951)328-1575
Lake Elsinore	Vick Knight Community Library	32593 Riverside Dr, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530	Saturday 10:30 am - 3:30 pm	
Mead Valley	Charles Meigs Senior Center (Mead Valley)	21091 Rider St Perris, CA 92570	Thursday 9 am - 1 pm	Appt Only (951)210-1587
Mecca	Mecca WIC Office	91275 Avenue 66 Mecca, CA 92554	Tuesday 9:30 am -3:30 pm	
Moreno Valley	Moreno Valley Library	25480 Alessandro Blvd, Moreno Valley, CA 92553	Tuesday 3 pm - 7 pm Saturday 10 am - 3 pm	
Norco	Norco Community College	2001 3rd St, Rm IT 202 Norco CA	Saturday 8:30am - 12:30pm <b>Closed 2/10, 2/17 &amp; 4/14</b>	
Palm Springs	Desert Aids Project	1695 North Sunrise Way Palm Springs, CA 92262	Wednesday & Thursday 9 am - 1 pm	
Perris	Perris Valley FRC	2055 N. Perris Blvd C-1 Perris, Ca 92571	Friday & Saturday 10:30 am - 3:30 pm	
Riverside	Cesar Chavez Community Center	2060 University Ave. Riverside, CA 92507	Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 3 pm - 6 pm	
Riverside	Riverside City College	4800 Magnolia Ave. Riverside, CA 92506	Friday 3 pm - 7 pm Saturday 9 am - 3 pm <b>Closed 2/16 - 2/19 &amp; 3/30 - 3/31</b>	
Riverside	Casa Blanca Library	2985 Madison St. Riverside, CA 92504	Friday & Saturday 10:30 am - 3:30 pm	
San Jacinto	Mt. San Jacinto College	1499 N. State St. San Jacinto, CA 92583 BLDG 100 ROOM 111	Saturday 9 am -3 pm <b>Closed 2/10, 2/17 &amp; 4/14</b>	

For more information call Community Action Partnership at (951) 955-4900.

Revised 1/10/2018

# EXHIBIT C

## Exhibit "C"

RECEIVED

JAN 19 2018

Per City Clerk's Office/88

**Donald E. Smith**  
55 N. 8<sup>th</sup> St  
Banning, CA 92220  
(951) 849-4521 FAX (951) 849-4244

January 19, 2018

Banning City Clerk  
Banning City Council

Re: Resolution 2017-112 Traffic Study

Dear Mayor, Council and City Clerk:

I have reviewed the proposed resolution, traffic study and recommendation and support the recommendation to continue the matter. I support the recommendation because my first reaction to the report is: "You have to be joking."

The traffic study recommendation is to increase the speed limit on 17 of 44 sections of road. This is a recommendation to increase the speed limit on 38% of these roads. Why? Because people are currently speeding on them.

There are a few of these recommended increases on which I need to comment and voice my objection.

First, the report suggests increasing the speed limit on Westward Ave. between Sunset and San Gorgonio from 35 to 45 miles per hour. As you are aware, you have the ability to not set the speed at the 85 percentile if there are extenuating circumstance to justify a lower speed. There are 2 schools and one unbuilt school site on Westward. It is a residential neighborhood (no businesses) with on street parking. It is a street where people back out of their driveways onto the street. It is a street on which people ride their horses. It is the street on which the High School cross country team practices most days and children walk to school. It is simply a bad decision and would be unsafe to increase the speed limit on Westward. What the city should do is enforce the current speed limit.

Lincoln from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Street is also a residential street without sidewalks where the residents park on the street, walk on the street and have to back their cars out of their driveways onto the street. Its width varies. Once again it is not a safe spot to increase speed limits

Wilson Street has had several accidents over the years and is also a residential street with residents parking in front of their houses and backing in to the street from Highland Home Road to Blanchard yet the report suggests increasing the

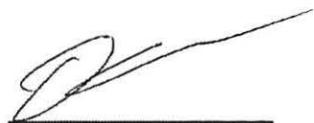
speed to 50 from Highland Springs to Highland Home and from Sunset to 16<sup>th</sup>. The speed limits on Wilson should remain as is with more enforcement.

Finally increasing the speed limit on Ramsey between 22<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> where people are turning right and left into businesses and turning right and left out of the businesses' driveways would add to an already challenging traffic area.

There are probably justifications to deny many of the other increases as well but these are the increases that jumped off the page to me.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues. I will be out of town on 2/23 at the Fair but hope you find justification for not raising the speed limits in these areas.

Very Truly Yours



Don Smith