AGENDA: AUGUST 8, 2006

July 27, 2006

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SUBJECT: MULTI-WAY STOP SIGNS ON HARKINS SLOUGH ROAD AT THE PAJARO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE

Members of the Board:

On May 16, 2006, your Board directed the Public Works Department to install temporary multi-way stop signs on Harkins Slough Road at the intersection of the new Pajaro Valley High School entrance. Your Board also requested a report back on or before August 22, 2006, regarding the operation of the stop signs with possible recommendations for the permanent installation of the signs. Public Works, in consultation with the school district, California Highway Patrol, and the City of Watsonville’s Police and Public Works Departments, believed this to be an immediate necessity to evaluate the traffic operations before school ended for the summer. The new high school is expected to experience additional traffic during the fall semester due to enrolling students that will be old enough to drive. Therefore it was imperative to evaluate the stop signs before the new school year began in order to avoid traffic conflicts and to provide congestion relief.

The multi-way stop signs and associated striping were installed before the end of the school year and the traffic operations were observed by staff to determine the effectiveness of the new traffic operations. Staff from the school district and the city’s Public Works Department also reviewed traffic operations during the morning and afternoon peak periods. The traffic operations appeared to be better than previous operations in the area based upon comments from school and city staff, the California Highway patrol, and the school administration. It is the opinion of all involved that the stop signs should become permanent. We will continue to observe the intersection for traffic operations and safety issues and report any recommended changes to your Board, if necessary.
It is therefore recommended that the Board of Supervisors take the following action:

1. Consider adopting the attached ordinance in concept for the installation of multi-way stop signs on Harkins Slough Road at the Pajaro Valley High School entrance.

2. Place the ordinance on the next available agenda for final adoption.

Yours truly,

THOMAS L. BOLICH
Director of Public Works

Attachment

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:

County Administrative Officer

copy to: Public Works

David Koch, City of Watsonville
Pajaro Valley School District
ORDINANCE NO. ___

ORDINANCE AMENDING SUBDIVISION H. OF SECTION 9.28.030 OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CODE RELATING TO STOP INTERSECTIONS

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz does ordain as follows:

SECTION I

Subdivision H. of Section 9.28.030 of the Santa Cruz County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

H. 1. Harkins Slough Road at Pajaro Valley High School entrance;
2. Hathaway Avenue and Mark Avenue;
3. Highland Way, and:
a. Mt. Bache Road,
b. Spanish Ranch Road;
4. Hilltop Road and Cornwell Road/Valera Drive.

SECTION II

This Ordinance shall take effect on the 31st day after the date of final passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this __________ day of ____________________, 2006, by the following vote;

AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES: SUPERVISORS
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

Chairperson of said Board

ATTEST:

Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:

Assistant County Counsel

Distribution: Public Works Department
County Counsel
ORDINANCE NO. ___

ORDINANCE AMENDING SUBDIVISION H. OF SECTION 9.28.030 OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CODE RELATING TO STOP INTERSECTIONS

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz does ordain as follows:

SECTION I

Subdivision H. of Section 9.28.030 of the Santa Cruz County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

H.1. Harkins Slough Road at Pajaro Valley High School entrance;
21. Hathaway Avenue and Mark Avenue;
32. Highland Way, and:
a. Mt. Bache Road,
b. Spanish Ranch Road;
43. Hilltop Road and Cornwall Road/Valera Drive.

SECTION II

This Ordinance shall take effect on the 31st day after the date of final passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this __________ day of _____________________, 2006, by the following vote;

AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES: SUPERVISORS
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

Chairperson of said Board

ATTEST: ____________________
Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:

Assistant County Counsel

Distribution: Public Works Department
County Counsel