

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

TO: Parking and Public Improvements Commission

FROM: Marisa Lundstedt, Director of Community Development
Erik Zandvliet, Traffic Engineer

DATE: January 22, 2015

SUBJECT: Consider a Request for All-Way Stop Signs at 8th Street and John Street

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Parking and Public Improvements Commission approve a motion to recommend that the City Council adopt a resolution to install stop signs in all directions at the intersection of 8th Street and John Street.

BACKGROUND:

In September 2014, the City received a request from a local resident for the installation of stop signs in all directions at the intersection of 8th Street and John Street. (Exhibit 1). The resident states that there was a recent collision and the absence of stop signs is a hazard. The intersection is currently stopped in the northbound and southbound directions of John Street.

DISCUSSION:

The intersection of 8th Street and John Street is located in a residential area west of Sepulveda Boulevard (Exhibit 2). Both streets are 30 to 32 feet wide two-lane local streets with a 25mph prima facie speed limit. There are two-way stop signs on John Street at 8th Street. Both streets are improved with curbs, and some sidewalks. Curb parking is allowed on both sides of both streets, except for street sweeping restrictions. Curb parking demand is generally light during the day to moderate at night. There is a vertical curve on the east leg of 8th and a downhill slope west of John Street. There is a cross-gutter on the east leg of 8th Street. (Exhibit 3) Pedestrian visibility is good in all directions.

Field Observations

Field observations were made on typical days during peak and non-peak periods. Field observations confirm higher traffic volumes on 8th Street and other physical characteristics at the intersection as noted above. Proper right-of-way is assigned by stop signs on John Street. Sight distance is fair from the north and south legs of John Street when stopped at the stop signs, except that the hill on 8th Street significantly restricts the view of approaching vehicles. Recurrent speeding was not observed on any of the approaching street segments or through the intersection because of the narrow streets and parked cars. The Traffic Engineer observed that most motorists on 8th Street are cautious when entering the intersection.

The traffic collision history between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2012 was analyzed for both intersections. According to City records, there have been no collisions reported near the intersection during this five (5) year period.

A vehicle volume count was conducted on November 19, 2014, on a typical school day. A summary of the peak hour and daily volumes are provided below:

VEHICLES DIRECTION	AM PEAK HOUR	PM PEAK HOUR	DAILY
Northbound (John Street)	35	34	419
Southbound (John Street)	<u>28</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>389</u>
Subtotal	63	69	808
Westbound (8th Street)	75	47	562
Eastbound (8th Street)	<u>73</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>841</u>
Subtotal	148	136	1,403
Intersection Total	211	205	2,211

Multi-way Stop Signs

The State of California has established guidelines for the installation of stop signs. These criteria have been widely accepted and are used by the City of Manhattan Beach. Multi-way or all-way stop controls are generally recommended when one or more of the State criteria are satisfied and indicate the existing traffic control devices are not sufficient to assign proper right-of-way or cannot be remedied through other means.

A stop sign warrant checklist was completed that indicates that multi-way stop signs are warranted at this intersection (Exhibit 4). This intersection has sufficient right-of-way controls with two-way stop signs, does not meet minimum traffic volumes and has no reported collision history. However, the sight distance of approaching vehicles is significantly restricted due to the crest in the roadway on 8th Street east of John Street. Drivers waiting at the stop signs on John Street may have difficulty seeing vehicles approaching on 8th Street in the westbound direction.

Stop signs in all directions would improve overall safety by ensuring that drivers have sufficient awareness of approaching vehicles before entering the intersection. No other traffic measures were identified that would improve the sight distance for stopped vehicles on John Street.

Public Notice

Residents and property owners within 500 feet of the intersection were notified by mail of the proposed stop sign request and were invited to give input to the Commission.

CONCLUSION:

Based on State guidelines, multi-way stop signs are justified at the intersection of 8th Street and John Street at this time. It is recommended that the Commission approve a motion to recommend

that the City Council adopt a resolution to install stop signs in all directions at the intersection of 8th Street and John Street.

- Exhibits:
1. Request for Stop Signs from Mr. Maurice Suh
 2. Aerial Photo and Location Map
 3. Site Photos
 4. Stop Sign Warrant Checklist

EHZ

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Work Order: 51910

Submitted on: 10/31/2014 2:23 PM

Customer: Maurice Suh

Department: , Phone:213.229.7260

Topic: Traffic Control Measures

Site:

Location: 8th Street & John Street

Priority: 3 Normal

Job Type:

Charge

Category:

Acct:

Assigned To: Nhung Madrid

From: Suh, Maurice [mailto:MSuh@gibsondunn.com] Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 11:12 AM To: David Lesser Cc: juliebsuh@verizon.net; Suh, Maurice Dear David – . . . [W]e are neighbors – we live at 865 8th Street. The reason for my email is that Julie spoke with you about our interest in putting in a stop sign at the intersection of John and 8th. We recently had a terrible accident that occurred directly in front of our home due to a speeding motorist, and we have many young children (including ours) on our street. The absence of a stop sign at that intersection is a hazard, and our neighborhood is in agreement. Julie indicated that you mentioned you could be of assistance in getting this done. Please let us know what steps we need to take in terms of Planning, neighborhood consent, and getting this agendized. We very much appreciate your assistance with this matter. Best, Maurice. Maurice M. Suh

Tasks (0,Total Labor Cost: \$0)

Materials (0,Total Material Cost: \$0)

Total Cost of Job: \$0

Employee	Date	Hours	Cost	Employee	Date	Hours	Cost

Item Number	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price

Follow-up Information

#1: 10/31/2014 2:23 PM - Message sent to customer by Nhung Madrid

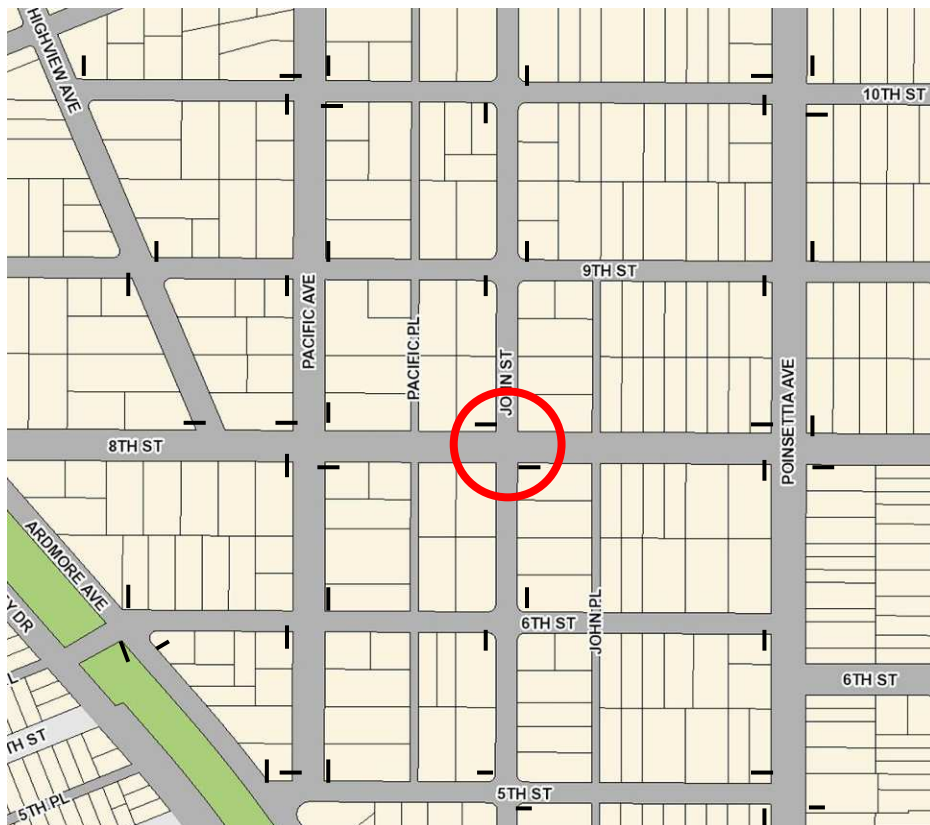
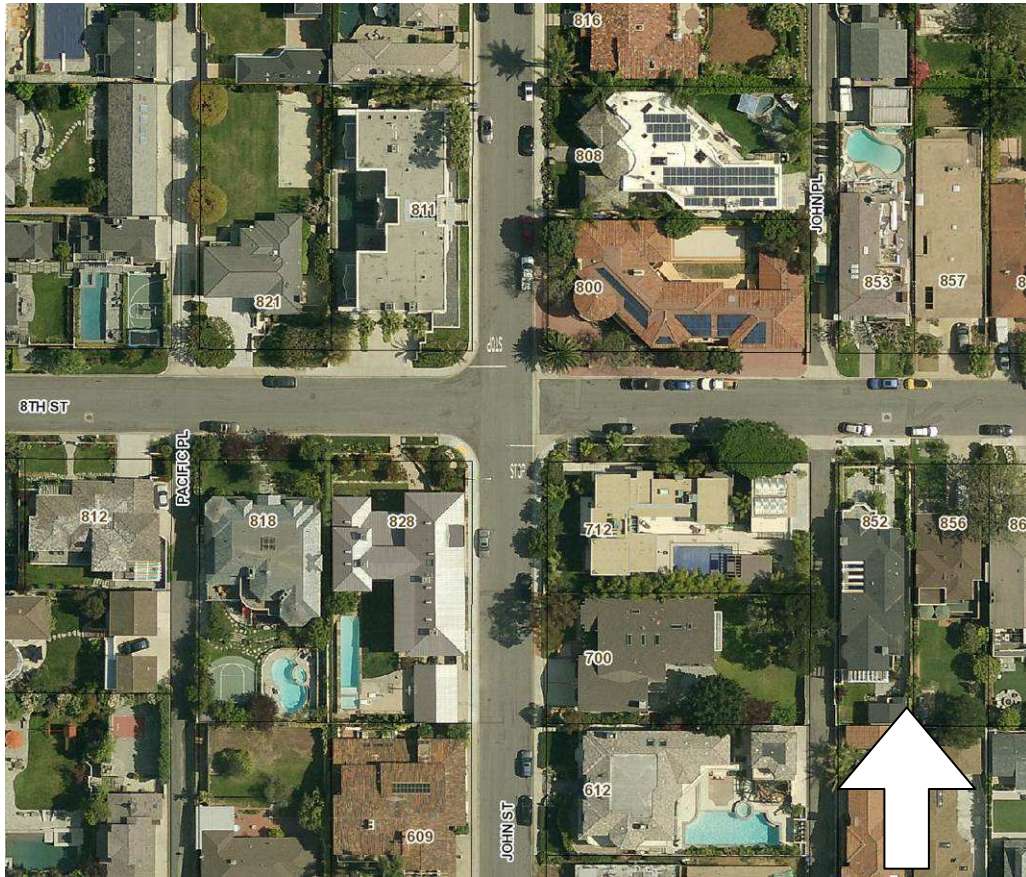
Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the City with your concerns. I will begin the review process on your request for an all way stops at 8th St and John St. Traffic requests typically take 6-8 weeks to be reviewed by staff/Traffic Engineer, so we appreciate your patience during this process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me and reference the request number in the subject line of the email.

Thanks,
Nhung Madrid

EXHIBIT 2
AERIAL PHOTO AND LOCATION MAP
8th Street at John Street



**EXHIBIT 3
SITE PHOTOS**



John Street North of 8th Street Looking East



John Street North of 8th Street at Looking West



John Street South of 8th Street Looking East



John Street South of 8th Street Looking West

MULTI-WAY STOP SIGN WORKSHEET

MAJOR STREET: 8th Street 85TH SPEED - < 40 MPH

MINOR STREET: John Street DATE: 1/13/2015

TRAFFIC VOLUMES **WARRANTED** **YES** **NO**

If the 85th percentile speed of the major street exceeds 40 MPH, use 70% volume.

Street	Min Volume	70%	80%	Ave.	Hour / Volume							
					7am	8am	9am	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm
Major	300	210	240	108	112	148	71	74	93	113	136	114
Minor	200	140	160	60	52	51	57	71	66	55	73	51

And, does the minor street have an average delay of at least 30 seconds in the peak hour?

Peak Average Delay	< 10 sec.
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COLLISION RECORD **WARRANTED** **YES** **NO**

Are there five or more reported collisions within a 12 month period of a type correctable by a multi-way stop sign?

DATE	TIME	DIRECTION	TYPE	CAUSE
2012	-	None	-	-
2011	-	None	-	-
2010	-	None	-	-
2009	-	None	-	-
2008	-	None	-	-
2007	-	None	-	-

80% COMBINATION **WARRANTED** **YES** **NO**

Are there four or more reported accidents within a 12 month period of a type correctable by a multi-way stop sign, and

Average major and minor street volumes are at least 80% of the minimum values?

OTHER MULTI-WAY STOP CONDITIONS	WARRANTED	YES	NO
A. Need to control left turn conflicts		YES	NO
B. Need to control vehicle/pedestrian conflicts at high ped locations		YES	NO
C. Visibility obstruction after stopping on minor street approach		YES	NO
D. Two similar neighborhood collector streets that would improve operation		YES	NO

**PARKING
AND PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS
COMMISSION**

**Correspondence Received
After Agenda Posting**

Erik Zandvliet

From: Kristy Jones <kajones9@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2015 8:52 AM
To: Erik Zandvliet
Subject: 8th and John Street east/west Stop sign

To whom it may concern,

I am a mother of two young children who attend Robinson Elementary School. Since starting Kindergarten in 2011, I have walked my son to school, along with his friends and other Robinson Elementary students on our Walking School Bus program. We live on 11th street and the route takes us south on John Street, crossing over 8th and John Street. This intersection is extremely dangerous as visibility is so slim that by the time I give the OK for the children to cross, many times a car has suddenly appeared speeding up and over the top of the hill and I have to call to the children to hurry off the road.

I am passionate about starting my kids day with a nice walk to school and this school route is a relatively safe and peaceful walk, with the exception of the 8th and John Street intersection. It is an urgent matter that could be addressed quickly and easily with the addition of a stop sign. Please don't wait for an avoidable accident to occur before resolving this issue.

Sincerely,
Kristy Jones
864 11th street

Erik Zandvliet

From: Heath Gregory <onehgregory@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2015 8:18 AM
To: Mandy Gregory
Cc: Erik Zandvliet
Subject: Re: John and 8th Street

To whom it may concern,

To follow up on our note regarding the need for a four way stop at 8th and John, we are also in favor of the request for one at 9th and John. The bigger issue here is lack of visibility due to cars parking close to the intersection. You have to pull out half way into the street in order to get a view North or South. The cars are moving at a fast rate and since we have lived here (~3 years) we have had a number of near misses.

John has become a corridor for traffic given its connection to Manhattan Beach Blvd and Second Street. Breaking up the speed of cars by adding a few four way stops will help reduce the odds of a car or pedestrian accident. It is a real issue and needs to be addressed.

Sincerely,
Heath and Mandy Gregory
818 9th St

On Wed, Jan 21, 2015 at 7:45 PM, Mandy Gregory <mhunter01@hotmail.com> wrote:
To whom it may concern,

We are neighbors residing on 9th and John. We are writing to express our strong support of a stop sign at the intersection of John and 8th. Our children participate in the Robinson Elementary School Walking School Bus program three mornings a week. The route takes our children, as well as many others, south on John Street down the hill. This intersection has been a constant safety hazard with one too many close encounters. As the cars approach the intersection up the hill, visibility is slim to none and it is simply an accident waiting to happen.

Please resolve the issue by simply approving a stop sign in all directions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mandy and Heath Gregory
818 9th Street

Sent from my iPad