

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Salinas and carried unanimously with Councilmember Caballero and Councilmember Ish abstaining.

Councilmember Meurer thanked the City Staff to include Alan Stumpf, Paul Ogden, Larry Bussard and David Mora for their support in the 100 Block Project. She said it was good to see the private sector and public staff working together to accomplish a common goal. She stated that Steve Goldfarb's work had been excellent and that she appreciated his dedication to the project.

Mayor Styles congratulated City Staff for their commitment to the project and he echoed Councilmember Meurer's statement that Steve Goldfarb had done outstanding work on the project. He also thanked Brian Finegan for his work with the project and he assured the development team of the Steinbeck Partners that the City Council was supporting the commitment to seeing the 100 Block Project accomplished.

THE SALINAS REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND THE CITY COUNCIL RECESSED FOR FIVE MINUTES WHILE MAYOR/CHAIRMAN STYLES AND AGENCY SECRETARY DOUGHTY SIGNED THE DDA FOR THE 100 BLOCK PROJECT.

CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED AT 9:30 P.M.

CONSIDERATIONS

1. Anti-Cruising Ordinance for the City of Salinas.
(06 10 0030/04 40 0020)

Henry Yoneyama presented his report to the City Council, a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk's Office. He voiced that over the years, the cruising that takes place on Friday and Saturday nights on South Main Street, has been characterized as a tradition, a recreation or a harmless pastime, with deep seeded roots in the community. He said that there had been an active cruise on Sunday night, which congested E. Alisal Street, between Madeira Avenue and Sanborn Road. He added that this cruise became unpopular due to numerous acts of violence which culminated in a murder.

Mr. Yoneyama stated that in 1988 an ad hoc committee was formed to study cruising and in March 1989, the committee presented its final report. He said that the report contained 17 recommendations for police action and included increased enforcement efforts and the enactment of a cruising ordinance. He voiced that over the last few years, the criminal activity in both cruising areas escalated from minor disturbances, traffic violations, alcohol offenses, littering and noise complaints. He reiterated that the E. Alisal cruise no longer occurs, however, the pattern of violence and weapon offenses continues on South Main Street.

Mr. Yoneyama stated that due to the violence and problems which have resulted from cruising, the owners of the Main Street Center

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and the Payless Plaza Shopping Centers, Kirkorian Development, have requested the Police Department take action to recommend a cruising ordinance. He added that these concerned groups have pointed out that the issues pertaining to cruising have already been discussed before the Traffic Commission and Staff was requested to bring the matter directly to the City Council. He said that in an effort to ascertain public opinion on a cruising ordinance, Kirkorian Development conducted an informal petition drive. He voiced that this effort resulted in obtaining 767 signatures in support of enacting a cruising ordinance. He stated that the issue before the City Council was whether a cruising ordinance be enacted. He further stated such an Ordinance would allow the Police Department to take a positive step towards curbing or eliminating cruising within the City limits.

Councilmember Armenta asked Mr. Yoneyama if he knew who served on the Ad Hoc Committee and asked if there were any members on the committee who did participate in cruising activities in the City of Salinas.

Mr. Yoneyama stated that he did not have a list of the committee member names at this time although he understood that members were a combination of community leaders and Salinas youth.

Councilmember Meurer voiced that she did not recollect the names either however, the committee was appointed by the Mayor.

Jack Booth, 911 B. Blanco Circle, representing the owners of Payless Plaza, Nob Hill Center, and Lucky Shopping Center, stated that in the last few years there has been an increasing problem with the cruise taking place on South Main Street. He said that there has been a series of vandalism, graffiti on buildings and a general crowding of parking lots with those who sit in their vehicles. He voiced that he had met with City staff to include the Police Department to discuss methods in which to alleviate the situation. He said that the stores have hired off duty policemen as private guards, who have been paid by the centers to patrol on Friday and Saturday evenings, as temporary measures. He stated that the only effective measure has been the police patrol that took place. He said that the shopping centers have been subsidizing the off duty patrolman for approximately \$1100 per month for the patrol service. He added that he felt that it was not proper to charge double to the merchants for police protection.

Mr. Booth stated that he placed petitions in the concerned stores to determine the opinion of the customers regarding the cruise activity. He voiced that the business in these stores has dropped over the past few years due to the cruise. He said that he sat in front of the Lucky Store last Saturday and obtained an additional 200 signatures of customers who signed the petition against the cruise activity. He said that these 200 signatures were in addition to the petition of 700 signatures that were included in the

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Council report. He voiced that many of the attitudes of Salinas Citizens was that they were afraid to leave their own homes or that they would visit other cities for their weekend entertainment. He stated that this proposed ordinance was not an anti-kid ordinance but an ordinance that would address the crime problem that has been causing loss in revenue and costing the City additional funds for additional police protection. He added that he had letters from the surrounding merchants on South Main Street that are on the file in the City Clerk's Office.

Vince Cardinalli, 39 Peach Street, asked that Officer Yoneyama clarify that the same problem existed on E. Alisal Street and wanted to know if this problem still existed.

Mr. Yoneyama stated that this cruise that took place on E. Alisal Street has stopped due to the increased violence level. He said that a homicide occurred mid summer in 1991. He added that it was believed that cruisers stopped participating in this cruise activity due to the fear of injury.

Mr. Cardinalli voiced that he had a concern as a parent in regards to what would be considered "cruising" if he went looking for his child and happened to pass by the check point several times. He asked how this type of situation would be handled and what would constitute a concerned parent not cruising, but trying to find the location of his/her child. He said that according to the language of the proposed ordinance such a situation might be considered cruising.

Mr. Yoneyama explained that the procedure for the ordinance would be as follows; an checkpoint would be established and if a person was noted for passing by several times within a specific amount of time, he would receive a written notice that would warn him of a possible violation of the City Code; after the warning was issued, the person would be subject to a citation.

Vince Cardinalli stated that the language should be clear leaving no room for misinterpretation. He said that enforcing the new ordinance might stop the cruising but the question remains on where the kids will go for recreation. He voiced that if the City Council did enact an ordinance, then alternatives for the kids should be addressed. He pointed out that the City Council has provided the Breadbox Recreation Center for the youth in the East Salinas area and asked that Council provide some facility for the other parts of Salinas.

Stephanie Atigh clarified that the penalty for violating the proposed Anti-Cruising Ordinance would be an infraction and in infractions, arrest does not take place, but the issuance of citation does occur. She said that the only way that an arrest would take place would be if someone refused to sign the citation. She voiced that the concept of the proposed ordinance was not unique or original, but was provided by State Vehicle Code to any

City who wishes to adopt an anti cruising ordinance. She reiterated that this ordinance was not original and she did not believe that the City Council would be opening itself to liability should they adopt it.

Dan Abbott, General Manager of Foster Freeze, South Main, stated that he participated in the Ad Hoc Committee in 1989. He said that he worked with Jeff Johnson, Andrew Bender and other members of the committee whose initial response from cruisers was that they had little interests with establishing alternatives in the cruising activity. He voiced that many of the cruisers on South Main Street were participants from out of town. He said that in banning cruising the need for an alternative for the youth would remain in Salinas. He stated that there was a difference between loitering and cruising and that loitering should be included in the anti-cruising ordinance language.

Jim Hendricks, owner of Bay Video and Stereo & Mailboxes, Etc., and speaking as Chairman of the Board of the Steinbeck Federal Credit Union, voiced that there was concern for the safety of his customers and his stores.

Matthew Brish, 915 Baustista Drive, said that the majority of cruisers were not criminals and that he grew up in an area where an ordinance existed that stated that no more than two people were allowed to walk down the streets after dark. He stated that the Police force was tripled due to the enforcement of this ordinance in that area. He voiced that he did not feel that fingers should be pointed at cruisers for the cause of crimes in any particular area.

Andrew Bender, North Salinas Resident, stated that he served on the Ad Hoc Committee in 1989 and that the committee diligently worked to reach a fair alternate to cruisers. He said that the committee became inactive due to changes that were occurring in the Council elections changing from At Large to District and the Citizens Advisor position was eliminated from City Staff. He voiced that the committee was divided into subcommittees and he was able to concentrate on the economic aspect of the issue. He stated that he contacted surrounding cities who had an active cruising ordinance and they stated that businesses recovered after the enforcement of such an ordinance. He said that the Ad Hoc Committee made a presentation to the Traffic Commission and the Recreation Park Commission, which resulted in the formation of the bicycle committee as an alternate recreation. He stated that the economic and residential concerns outweigh the rights of the cruisers and their recreation.

Councilmember Ish asked Mr. Yoneyama if the Police Department had determined the percentage of cruisers from out of town. He added that he understood that about 50% of the cruisers were from surrounding cities.

Mr. Yoneyama stated that the Police Department believed that a vast majority of cruisers were from other cities although a survey was not conducted.

Councilmember Ish voiced that he would support the proposed ordinance because cruising has affected the City economically and for this reason he would introduce the ordinance.

Councilmember Meurer stated that she would support the adoption of the ordinance when it returned to Council on June 16, 1992.

Councilmember Collins echoed Councilmember Meurer and Councilmember Ish's sentiments and said that he would support the adoption of the ordinance on June 16, 1992.

Councilmember Caballero voiced that she agreed with Councilmember Meurer and added that the ordinance would not stop the criminal activity, but was an issue of whether certain areas of the City was being isolated because of the cruising activity. She expressed her own frustration when she would forget that it was Friday or Saturday night and turned down South Main Street and became a part of the cruising traffic. She said that she would support the proposed anti-cruising ordinance.

Councilmember Salinas stated that he used to come from Watsonville in the 1970's to join the cruising activity however, the present cruising results in violence with weapons. He said that he would support the adoption of this ordinance on June 16, 1992.

Councilmember Armenta voiced that he was a former cruiser on South Main Street himself. He stated that his concern was the age group involved in the former ad hoc committee and said that if the age group consisted of 3 youth and 12 adults, this would present an unfair age group balance. He said that out of the recorded 26 violations, between February 1991 through April 1992, 20 of these violations were involving weapons. He voiced that he would support the ordinance for adoption on June 16, 1992.

Mayor Styles stated that in looking at the severity of the crimes on Friday and Saturday nights he would support the ordinance. He said that alternative recreation should be looked at for the Salinas Youth.

Councilmember Salinas suggested that the Youth Commission discuss alternatives to the cruising activity in Salinas.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Ish requested that on the Agenda for June 16, 1992 that an item be included regarding the discussion of the rate increase at the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency.

Councilmember Collins voiced that Councilmember Armenta made a

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