



# CITY OF WHEATLAND

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING STAFF REPORT

December 13, 2022

**SUBJECT:** City Council discussion and consideration of Resolution 39-22 Directing the City Engineer to modify parking restrictions along Wheatland Road across from Wheatland High School

**PREPARED BY:** Dane H. Schilling, City Engineer

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### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution 39-22.

### **Background/Discussion**

In recent months the City of Wheatland has received complaints about vehicles parked along the northerly side of Wheatland Road that were obstructing access to properties across from the Wheatland High School. Several citations were issued by the Wheatland Police Department in response to the complaints. The cited vehicles belong to students attending Wheatland High School who complained to school administrators about the parking citations. School administrators contacted the City Manager who arranged a meeting with high school administrators to review the matter. As a result of that meeting, a review of the site was performed, and this memorandum was prepared to provide an engineering evaluation of the situation and bring forth recommendations to the City Council for consideration. In order to address more immediate concerns with this situation while a long-term solution can be identified, enforcement of the existing no parking zone has been reduced in scope to include only acutely unsafe situations involving parked vehicles, such as vehicles blocking driveways or impairing visibility to motorists exiting driveways.

**Site Conditions** - The subject site of this memorandum is generally described as the northerly roadway shoulder of Wheatland Road directly across the street from Wheatland High School which is approximately 1,200-feet in length ("Site") and is depicted on Exhibit A. This segment of Wheatland Road is classified as a "Major Collector" in accordance with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) functional classification standards and as documented on the statewide California Road System Maps. This segment is also designated in the Circulation Element of the 2006 Wheatland General Plan as an "Arterial" roadway.

The roadway segment is comprised of two paved 12-foot travel lanes (eastbound and westbound); an unimproved gravel shoulder on the northerly side; and paved parking lane, curb, gutter and sidewalk on the southerly side fronting the high school. The northerly shoulder includes

pavement that varies in width from approximately 12- to 16- inches. Five gravel driveways and four mailboxes serve the rural residential lots to the north.

The existing road right-of-way is 60-feet wide. The terrain is flat with a few lateral obstructions within the road right-of-way, most notably mailboxes and an overhead electric utility line running along the northerly shoulder. There is a notable grade difference at the westerly end of the Site between the edge of pavement and the gravel shoulder that could make it difficult for parked vehicles accessing the road shoulder. In the rainy season stormwater runoff ponds in portions of the northerly shoulder that deters drivers from parking in flooded areas.



*Figure 1 - Wheatland Rd. looking East. Note gravel shoulder, driveway and mailbox on the left.*





*Figure 2 - Wheatland Rd. looking west. Note gravel shoulder, driveway, and mailbox on the right.*

The posted speed limit is 25-miles per hour and the segment is an established and marked school zone. Traffic controls include a double yellow centerline, white edge line (fog line) stripes, and No Parking signs along the northerly shoulder for the length of the Site. Just beyond the limits of the Site are school zone signs, a marked mid-block yellow crosswalk near G Street, signs and pavement markings denoting the crosswalk, and school zone signs and pavement markings. The No Parking signs appear to date back to when the County was responsible for the roadway as evidenced by an old No Parking sign with a county road mile-marker on the post (presumably prior to the City's annexation of the rural properties north of the Site). The other No Parking signs appear to be newer signs installed on metal posts within the last 10-years.

**Accident Data** - The site conditions are good to excellent. No obstructions to visibility other than parked vehicles. The statewide traffic collision database indicates two vehicle crashes in the last 10 years on this segment (Wheatland Road – E Street to Olive Street). One incident on May 21, 2010, was a minor injury sideswipe collision of a pick-up truck versus a school bus where the bus driver failed to yield the right-of-way to oncoming traffic. The second incident on February 25, 2014, was a minor injury broadside collision due to a failure to yield the right-of-way when turning. Neither incident involved the use of residential driveways on the northerly side of Wheatland Road.

**Parking on Northerly Shoulder** - Historically, the northerly shoulder of the Site has been used for parallel parking by drivers that are presumably students attending school and high school

events, and drivers attending after hours non-school sporting events at the athletic fields. Generally, Wheatland Police have enforced the established no parking zone only when complaints are received.

### **Recommendations**

The following recommendations are intended to address the apparent need for parking in the subject area while maintaining safe access for properties on the northerly side of Wheatland Road:

1. **Remove no parking zones between driveways where possible.** Parallel parking on the shoulder at the Site can be safely provided *between* driveways if parking is restricted at specified distances on either side of driveways. See Exhibit A for recommended no parking zones and signage.

Placement of no parking signs should be designed in accordance with the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD), the California Vehicle Code, and the State of California Highway Design Manual for establishing corner site distances to be applied at each driveway. Consideration should also be given to restricting parking for the safe delivery of the mail to mailboxes within the subject area. When the criteria are applied to existing conditions a minimum distance of 60 feet should be restricted from parking on the east side of each driveway and a minimum of 40 feet on the west side of each driveway.

Pursuant to section 10.36.020 of the Wheatland Municipal Code: *The traffic and safety engineer is authorized to maintain, by appropriate signs or by paint upon the curb, all no-stopping zones, no-parking areas, and restricted parking areas, as defined and described in this title or established by resolution of the council.*

Pursuant to section 10.36.050(A) of the Wheatland Municipal Code: *The traffic and safety engineer is authorized to erect signs indicating no parking upon that side of any street adjacent to any school property when such parking would, in his or her opinion, interfere with traffic or create a hazardous situation.*

The improvements shown on Exhibit A would allow for approximately 660 feet of parking along the northerly shoulder which would accommodate up to 33 parallel parked vehicles. The no parking zone beginning just east of the driveway at 4993 Wheatland Road and continuing around the curve at the westerly end of the Site would remain in place.

2. **Provide safe transitions at edges of pavement.** It is recommended that vertical grade differences between the edge of pavement and the gravel shoulder greater than 0.10 feet (1.2-inches) be remediated by the placement of additional of aggregate materials or pavement grindings in the shoulder area to a minimum width of 10-feet from the white edge line.
3. **Education.** Provide information to students and staff regarding the safe use of the parking on the northerly road shoulder and the potential for vehicles in a no parking zone being cited and towed.

4. **Enforcement.** Re-establish routine enforcement of no parking zones within the site to ensure vehicles parked along the northerly shoulder do not create a safety hazard for motorists entering and existing the residential properties.
5. **Future Improvements.** The City has received funding from the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) to design roadway “complete streets” improvements including: pavement rehabilitation; new curbs, gutters, sidewalks and bike lanes along the northerly side of Wheatland Road; a crosswalk with enhanced safety lighting (rapid flashing beacons); and other improvements. It is anticipated that this project may also provide a paved parallel parking lane along the northerly side of the road if sufficient right-of-way exists. The timing of the construction of these improvements is uncertain as construction funding has not yet been secured by the City.

### **Alternatives**

The Council may choose to not take action on this item and existing parking restrictions along Wheatland Road will remain as-is.

### **Fiscal Impact**

Sign removal and installation, and placement of crushed aggregate in the shoulder areas would be performed by City Public Works forces and materials are estimated to cost less than \$8,000. Costs would be charged to the City’s FY2022-23 Streets budget.

### **Attachments**

1. Resolution 39-22
2. Exhibit A – Wheatland Road Parking

## RESOLUTION NO. 39-22

### RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHEATLAND DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO MODIFY ON-STREET PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON THE NORTHERLY SIDE OF WHEATLAND ROAD ACROSS FROM WHEATLAND HIGH SCHOOL

**WHEREAS**, on-street parking is currently prohibited along the northerly roadway shoulder of Wheatland Road across the street from Wheatland High School ("Site"); and

**WHEREAS**, the City has received complaints from residents north of the Site about vehicles being parked at the Site near or in front of existing driveways; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has also received complaints from Wheatland High School District regarding the restrictions of on-street parking at the Site; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 13, 2022 the City Engineer presented a report to the City Council of Wheatland including site conditions, accident data, recent parking issues, and possible modifications of parking controls regarding on-street parking at the Site which are intended to address the apparent need for parking in the subject area while maintaining safe vehicular access for adjacent properties.

**NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, ORDERED AND FOUND** by the City Council of City of Wheatland, State of California, that the City County hereby directs the City Engineer to pursue and execute the following actions regarding on-street parking at the Site:

1. **Remove No Parking Zones between driveways at two locations.** Location 1 begins at the widened portion of the street fronting 5091 Wheatland Road and extends approximately 388-feet to a point east of the driveway at 5041 Wheatland Road. Location 2 begins at a point west of the driveway 5041 Wheatland Road and extends approximately 272-feet to a point south of the driveway at 4993 Wheatland Road.
2. **Provide safe transitions at edges of pavement.** Direct the Public Works Department to address vertical grade differences between the edge of pavement and the gravel shoulder greater than 0.10 feet (1.2-inches) by placing additional of aggregate materials or pavement grindings in the shoulder area.
3. **Education.** Coordinate with Wheatland High School District to provide information to students and staff regarding the safe use of the parking on the northerly road shoulder and advise of the potential for vehicles in a no parking zone being cited and possibly towed.

4. **Enforcement.** Coordinate with Wheatland Police Department to re-establish routine enforcement of no parking zones on Wheatland Road across from the High School.

5. **Future Improvements.** Continue to pursue the completion of engineering design and construction funding for “complete streets” improvements at the Site.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of City of Wheatland, State of California this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

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Mayor

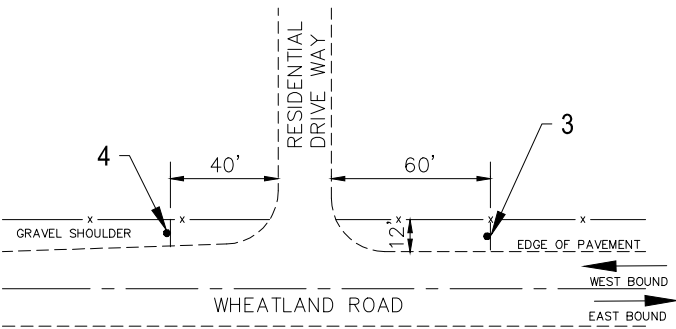
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Lisa Thomason, City Clerk



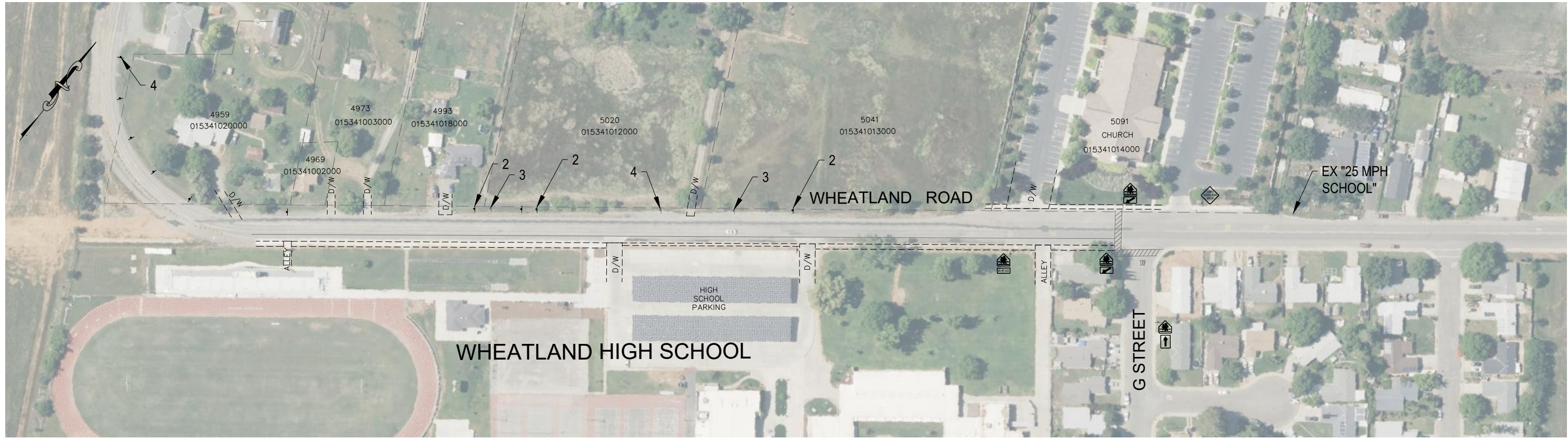


EXISTING



DETAIL  
NTS

- KEY NOTES:
- 1. EXISTING NO PARKING SIGN
  - 2. REMOVE EXISTING NO PARKING SIGN
  - 3. INSTALL NO PARKING - BEGIN ON METAL POST
  - 4. INSTALL NO PARKING - END ON METAL POST



PROPOSED

COASTLAND

DCCM

COASTLAND | DCCM  
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CITY OF WHEATLAND  
EXHIBIT A  
WHEATLAND ROAD PARKING