



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 21, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor & City Council

From: Raj Patel, Assistant Director of Community Dev./ Building Official
Aaron Kunz, Deputy Director of Transportation

Subject: Trousdale Estates Traffic Management

Attachments: 1. Transportation-Related Interim Measures for Trousdale Estates Construction

INTRODUCTION

This report provides a status of the Trousdale Estates Traffic Management Program. In addition to providing an update, staff seeks direction on proposed next steps including provisions to allow construction-related heavy vehicles exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 50,400 pounds, community outreach and testing of additional traffic management measures.

The City Council/Traffic & Parking Commission (TPC) Liaison Committee (Vice Mayor Gold, Councilmember Brien, TPC Chair Licht and TPC Vice Chair Friedman) held a meeting on September 4, 2014 to receive an update on the Trousdale Traffic Management Program. The Committee asked staff to pursue a test program for pilot traffic control measures and to develop a method to allow the limited use of construction-related heavy vehicles exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 50,400 pounds such as trucks and cranes used for delivery and placement of structural steel

Attached are the "Transportation-Related Interim Measures for Trousdale Estates Construction." With City Council concurrence, staff plans to continue these measures on an on-going basis with modifications to allow a limited number of vehicles that exceed 50,400 pounds as described in this report.

DISCUSSION

The Trousdale Estates Traffic Management Program has two primary components, measures to address construction-related heavy vehicles and traffic management measures to address vehicle speed and volume. Below is a status of these two components and direction needed.

Construction Related Vehicles Exceeding 50,400 Pounds

In accordance with the Trousdale Estates Interim Measures construction-related vehicles are restricted to a gross vehicle weight of 50,400 pounds. These vehicles are required to be inspected by a third party vendor employed by the City to verify the vehicles are in good working order and have appropriate secondary braking systems. Currently, 223 vehicles have been issued decals by the City indicating the vehicle has passed inspection.

While staff and contractors have successfully developed solutions to maintain construction deliveries and pick-ups under the gross vehicle weight of 50,400 pounds, it has become evident some construction activities have a need to utilize vehicles exceeding the current threshold. In addition to delivering and placing structural steel, staff has identified other specific uses for vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of over 50,400 pounds. Based on the number and types of projects currently permitted in the Trousdale Estates area, staff estimates an average of two round trip requests per week for the use of construction vehicles exceeding the gross vehicle weight of 50,400 pounds. The following is a list of vehicles and equipment exceeding the weight limit that may be considered by the City for use within the Trousdale Estates area:

- Excavators – Used to excavate subterranean parking garages and basements. Typically a project with a subterranean component would require one round trip.
- Cranes – Used to lift structural steel framing members, equipment, and mature landscaping elements. Typically a project having some or all of these elements will require between one and eight round trips.
- Boom Pumps – Used for large concrete pours, including mat foundation and structural decks. Typically a project with a subterranean parking garage/basement will require between two and four round trips.

After discussion with construction professionals, staff recommends allowing limited usage of such vehicles exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 50,400 pounds. Applicants will be required to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the City that a vehicle exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 50,400 pounds is necessary and no other feasible options exist for performing the work. Once the City agrees to the use of a vehicle exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 50,400 pounds, the applicant will be required to do the following:

- Provide notice to the City at least 72 hours advance notice of the planned use of the vehicle.
- Provide proof the vehicle (or transporting vehicle) has been inspected by the city's third party vendor and has secondary brake devices.

- Schedule the vehicle to be escorted by the Police Department to and from the project site Monday through Friday during the hours of 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. as specified in the Trousdale Interim Measures. While escorting the vehicle to and from the project site, Police Department personnel would always remain uphill from the vehicle. All costs related to the escort, including Police Officers, Traffic Control Officers, signage, and review of a traffic control plan, will be the responsibility of the applicant.

Staff discussed with the City Council/Traffic & Parking Commission Liaison Committee a provision to close Loma Vista Drive while transporting vehicles that exceed 50,400 pounds. After further review with the Police Department, staff determined that closing the street on a regular basis is not practical due the number of driveways on Loma Vista Drive and the number of Police Officers required to effectively close the street. The Police Department would have the option of closing the street at their discretion.

Traffic Management Measures

Steve Brown, Principal in Charge of Fehr & Peers, will provide a status report of the Traffic Management Measures outlined in the report. These measures are designed to address the articulated concerns of residents that passenger vehicles, as opposed to heavy haul vehicles, routinely exceed the posted speed limit. Although the speed of passenger vehicles has not manifested itself in an unusual number of accidents, based on public input Mr. Brown has been asked to make recommendations to address the issue of passenger vehicle speed. Completed actions to date include additional curve warning signs, additional speed limit signs, replacement of signs, additional pavement markings and installation of a monitoring camera at Loma Vista Drive and Doheny Road.

Actions in progress include additional speed limit markings, installation of permanent speed feedback signs, raised markers on centerline, "no passing" signs, installation of additional monitoring cameras at the entrances to Trousdale Estates and consideration of parking regulations on narrow streets.

Residents have also expressed concern with construction parking on narrow streets that link to Loma Vista and the City has responded with red curb markings on some narrow streets (e.g., Carla Ridge).

Also to address passenger vehicle speed issues, the City Council/Traffic & Parking Commission Liaison Committee also proposed testing a pilot traffic circle and a pilot chicane (after meeting with the community), further exploring a License Plate Recognition cameras and continue to push for statewide authorization of photo speed enforcement. Staff also recommends installing an edge-line on Loma Vista Drive to give drivers the perception of a narrower roadway and to define the parking.

Finally, neighbors have expressed frustration at the impact of through traffic on the residential character of the area. One way to address such traffic is to better enforce the laws prohibiting certain overweight vehicles from using residential streets for pass through purposes. Staff continues to explore the feasibility of weighing devices to detect "through" trucks that are overweight.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City approved an amendment to the agreement with Fehr & Peers on September 2, 2014 in the amount of \$54,500 (for a total agreement amount of \$104,000) for consultant services to evaluate additional traffic control measures, facilitate community outreach for pilot traffic control measures and prepare sign and striping plans. The estimated construction cost of the pilot traffic control measures (2), speed feedback signs (6) and additional signs and striping is approximately \$80,000. The cost for these additional measures is included as part of an appropriation request in the October 21, 2014 formal agenda.

The total cost of the services (staff time, consultants, and construction of traffic management measures) related to the Trousdale Traffic Management program through June 30, 2015 is estimated at \$770,000. Staff has retained a fee consultant to research possible modifications to the Community Development Schedule of Fees & Charges to recover the associated costs after year one of program implementation. Staff will return to City Council by the end of the calendar year to present the findings of the fee study and to consider staff recommendations for long-term cost recovery.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff seeks City Council's direction on next steps for the Trousdale Estates Traffic Management Program, including:

- Direction to proceed with a limited program to allow construction vehicles exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 50,400 pounds;
- Direction to hold community meetings to consider additional traffic management measures to address passenger vehicle speed issues (i.e., pilot traffic circle and pilot chicane); and
- Direction regarding whether community meetings should continue to be held by the City Council/Traffic & Parking Commission Liaison Committee or be delegated to the Traffic & Parking Commission.


Approved By
Susan Healy Keene, AICP

Attachment 1



Special Transportation-Related Interim Measures

Trousdale Estates Construction

Background

The City of Beverly Hills desires to enhance the safety for residents and workers in the Trousdale Estates in recognition of the significant levels of construction-related activity and the street grades. On June 17, 2014, the Beverly Hills City Council directed staff to implement a series of measures to address large trucks travelling to/from construction sites in the area and construction-related parking. The City will also be adding signage and striping to the primary streets in the area to enhance general motor-vehicle safety.

The City will be monitoring the effectiveness of these measures and will likely fine-tune them over time. However, all of these conditions are applicable until you are officially notified to the contrary.

Applicability

The measures described in this document are applicable to any construction project (buildings or infrastructure) that requires a City of Beverly Hills permit. These measures apply to all projects including those permitted prior to June 17, 2014.

Summary

The special transportation-related measures developed for the Trousdale Estates are grouped into five sections as described in the following document:

Section 1: Construction-related Truck Traffic

- A. Heavy Vehicle Inspection
- B. Secondary Braking System
- C. Heavy Vehicle Routes
- D. Maximum Loaded Weight
- E. Advanced Notice of Larger Vehicles
- F. Safe Truck Driving Practices
- G. Time Limits of Construction-related Vehicles

Section 2: Construction-related Parking

Section 3: Construction Traffic Management Plan

Section 4: Compliance and Remediation

Section 5: Contractor Acknowledgment

For questions regarding these special measures, please contact the Department of Community Development:

For construction project specific questions, contact your assigned Project Building Inspector. Project Building Inspectors are available by phone or e-mail. Office hours are Monday through Thursday mornings, 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and afternoons 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday office hours are in the afternoon only, 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Section 1: Construction-related Truck Traffic

A. Heavy Vehicle Inspection (Vehicles over 26,000 pounds)

The City requires that all vehicles with a manufacturer's certified Gross Vehicle Weight in excess of 26,000 pounds (namely, all Class 7 & 8 vehicles) be physically inspected and certified by the City's agent within the last 12 months. The vehicle owner/operator is required to contact and schedule an appointment for inspection with the following:

Inspection Agency: Truckspect, Inc.
Contact: Bill Velez, 626-307-5400
Inspection Location: *332 North Foothill Road, Beverly Hills

*Note: Or mutually agreed upon location with the owner/operator.

After the City's agent has certified that the truck has complied with City standards, the owner/operator will be responsible for proving the approved vehicle inspection form to the City's Development Services Division at which time the owner/operator will be provided with a decal which must be affixed to the vehicle on the driver's side window, and the corresponding documentation must be available at all times for review by any agent acting on behalf of the City. The cost of the inspection will be approximately \$200.00 and borne by the entity requesting the inspection. The City will be defining the process for such payments.

The City intends to maintain a list of "certified" vehicles that have passed this inspection process, which will be published on the City's website www.beverlyhills.org/trousdale in the Department of Community Development section.

The City's inspection process does not eliminate or alter the requirement to comply with the California BIT (Biennial Inspection of Terminals) Program.

B. Secondary Braking System

Any vehicle over 10,000 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) and three or more axles must also contain a secondary braking system that is deemed adequate by the City's vehicle inspection agent. Such systems include, but are not limited to, mechanical engine brakes, exhaust brakes, electronic driveline retarders and hydraulic transmission retarders.

Clarification and Explanation:

Class 7 vehicles, 26,001 – 33,000 GVW are uncommonly constructed with secondary braking devices and therefore required to be inspected, but not contain a secondary braking device unless they adhere to the CHP standard of "over 10,000 pounds GVW and three or more axles".

Class 8 vehicles, 33,001 – AND GREATER are commonly constructed with secondary braking devices and generally fit the profile of "over 10,000 pounds GVW and three or more axles"

C. Heavy Vehicle Routes (Vehicles over 26,000 pounds)

Any vehicle subject to the City's Heavy Vehicle Inspection (exceeds 26,000 pounds GVW) must follow a pre-defined route when entering and exiting the Trousdale Estates. The attached map (Attachment A: Trousdale Estates Construction-related Truck Routes) provides the prescribed route according to the property location.

Vehicles in Zone 1 must enter the Trousdale Estates from the south (via Schuyler Road or Loma Vista Drive) and exit to the north (via Cherokee Lane). Vehicles traveling to/from properties in Zone 2 must enter and exit the Trousdale Estates from the south (via Wallace Ridge or Hillcrest Road). Access to Wallace Ridge is from Loma Vista or Hillcrest Road, whichever is more direct.

D. Maximum Loaded Weight (Applies to all construction related vehicles)

The maximum loaded weight allowed for any construction-related vehicle travelling on the streets in the Trousdale Estates is 50,400 pounds. This includes the weight of the vehicle, trailer, passengers, equipment, payload, and any other items associated with the vehicle.

If any City representative (police, building inspection, code enforcement, other) suspect that a truck exceeds this limit, they may either deny access to the Trousdale Estates or require it be weighed at a commercial scale to demonstrate that it does not exceed the 50,400 pound limit.

E. Advanced Notice of Larger Vehicles (Vehicles over 26,000 pounds)

For any vehicle subject to the City's Heavy Vehicle Inspection process (exceeds 26,000 pounds GVW), the City and the Project Building Inspector must be notified 24 hours in advance (excluding weekends and holidays) of any travel in the Trousdale Estates. The contractor must send an email describing: the intended time of arrival, type of vehicle, origin of the trip, and destination within Trousdale Estates. The email should be sent to your Project Building Inspector and the following email address:

E-mail: trousdale@beverlyhills.org

The contractor must receive a returned email from the City, acknowledging receipt prior to the truck arriving in the Trousdale Estates.

F. Safe Truck Driving Practices (Vehicles over 10,000 pounds)

All trucks are required to use their lowest gear when travelling downhill.

Any construction-related truck with an optional 4th axle is required to deploy the 4th axle when travelling within the Trousdale Estates, regardless of whether it is carrying a load.

All trucks are not permitted to pass another vehicle while in a drive lane.

G. Time Limits of Construction-related Vehicles

Construction-related vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds (Gross Vehicle Weight as established by the manufacturer) are only allowed to be in the Trousdale Estates between the hours of 8:30 AM and 3:15 PM on weekdays (excluding Holidays).

Section 2: Construction-related Parking

Contractors, or their agents, are allowed to park on the project site (off street), provided they do not overhang the sidewalk or curb in any manner. Each construction site is allowed to park two vehicles on-street at any time. Two on-street parking permits will be provided to the prime contractor at the time the initial building permit is approved. Each permit will be marked with the applicable project address.

Contractors needing additional parking for worker's personal vehicles, equipment, etc. must find a suitable location **outside of the Trousdale Estates**, with Greystone Mansion being an exception. The City's web page (Building Department section) contains a list of potential off-site parking facilities. However, it is the contractor's responsibility to obtain an agreement to use the facilities and pay any related fees.

As part of the Construction Management Plan (Section 3), the prime contractor must indicate the location and duration of any off-site parking they have secured.

The limitation regarding on-street parking does not apply to contactors doing street-related maintenance, such as utility projects or road repair.

Section 3: Construction Management Plan

Prior to issuance of a building permit, the prime contractor must complete the attached Construction Management Plan (Attachment B) regarding the subject project and receive approval from the City as to its completeness. The Contractor should anticipate a one-week turnaround by City staff with either approval or request for additional information.

Section 4: Construction Work Hours and Days

No person shall engage in construction, maintenance or repair work which requires a city permit between the hours of six o'clock (6:00) P.M. and eight o'clock (8:00) A.M. of any day. No work which requires a city permit is allowed on Saturday, Sunday or public holiday. For the purpose of this section, "public holiday" shall mean:

1. New Year's Day.
2. Memorial Day.
3. Independence Day.
4. Labor Day.
5. Thanksgiving Day.
6. Christmas Day.

No person employed for the purposes of construction, maintenance, or repair work which requires a city permit shall enter a site on which such work will be done prior to eight o'clock (8:00) A.M. Any violation of this subsection shall be deemed to be an infraction.

Section 5: Compliance and Remediation

As expressed by the City Council, the City of Beverly Hills has "zero tolerance" for any non-compliance with the conditions outlined in this document. There will be no warnings, second-chances, or excused violations. Failure to comply with these conditions, as determined by the Building Department or their agents, will result in some or all of the following at the discretion of the Building Official:

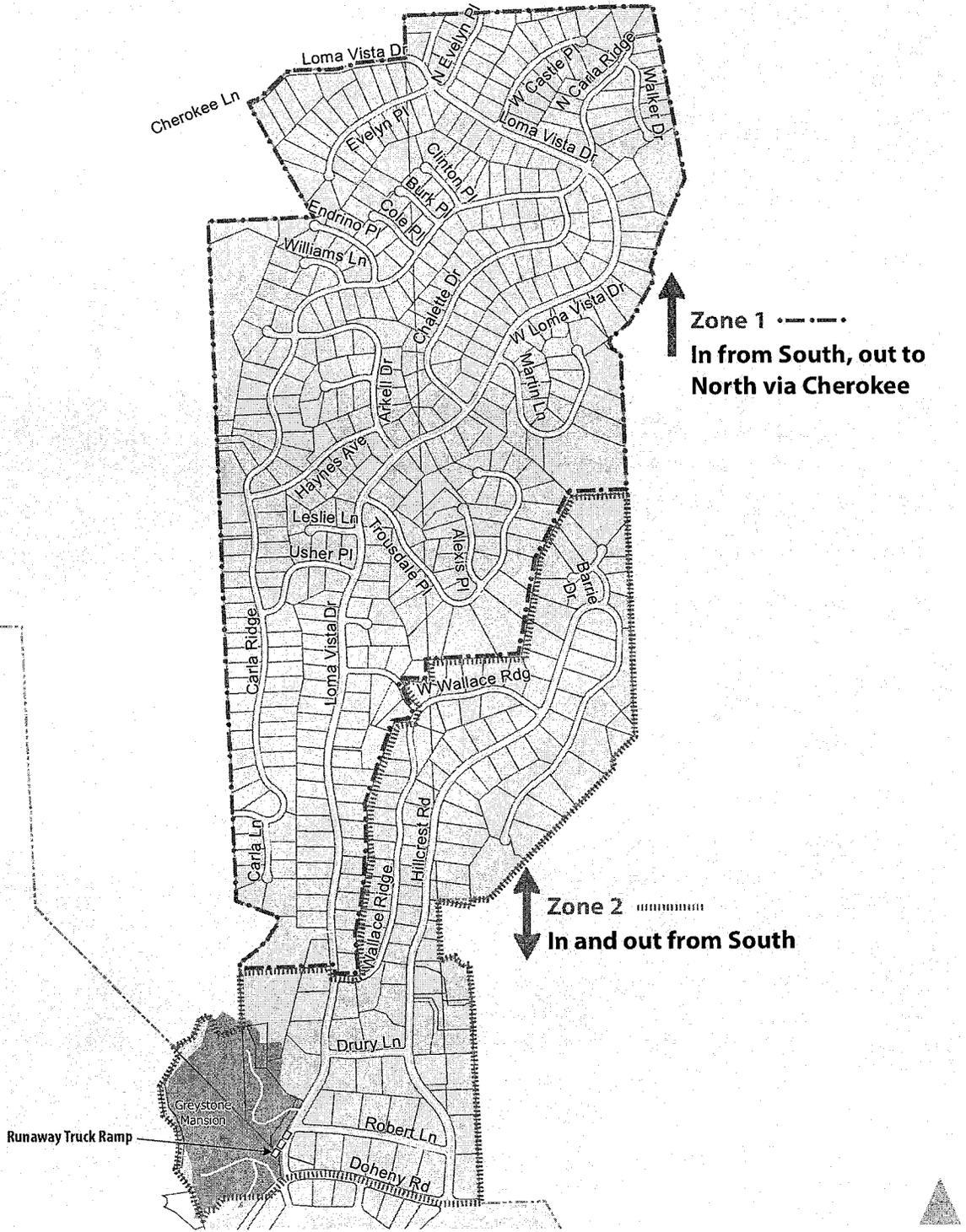
- Complete shut-down of the project site until remedial measures are completed
- Completion of a driver training program as identified by the City
- Citation of any trucks found not to be in compliance with the City's program
- Revisions to the project's construction traffic management plan
- Special investigation fees assessed

Section 6: Contractor Acknowledgment

The Contractor Acknowledgment (Attachment C) must be signed and returned to the City of Beverly Hills at trousdale@beverlyhills.org prior to the issuance of any new building permits and for permits issued prior to June 17, 2014, before any project site construction deliveries or pickups in the Trousdale Estates.

Attachment A - Map

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Attachment B

Trousdale Estates Construction Traffic Management Plan

Send completed form to: trousdale@beverlyhills.org

Property: _____

Project contact for truck-related issues:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Date construction to commence: _____

Anticipated end of construction: _____

Heavy Vehicles

Activities that will involve vehicles subject to the City's Heavy Vehicle Inspection (defined as vehicles with a GVW in excess of 26,000 pounds):

Type of Activity	Vehicle Type	Daily # of Vehicles	Start Date	End Date

Anticipated total number of vehicles subject to City's Heavy Vehicle Inspection: _____

Off-Site Parking Provisions

Location of off-site parking secured by contractor: _____

Number of spaces: _____

Anticipated duration of off-site parking: (start) _____ (end) _____

Attachment C

CONTRACTOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The following must be signed and returned to the City of Beverly Hills at trousdale@beverlyhills.org prior to the issuance of any building permits in the Trousdale Estates.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I am aware of the special transportation-related measures for construction in the Trousdale Estates of Beverly Hills as defined in this document. I hereby agree to follow the City's restrictions, policies and procedures in connection with the work to be performed in the Trousdale Estates by myself and/or my company. I further agree that I am responsible for all sub-contractors and material suppliers' adherence to these requirements.

Individuals Name: _____

Company: _____

Office Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Construction Property Address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____