

The following letter was published in the Daily Breeze and the Peninsula News. The issue is one of budget priorities. The RPV budget will be discussed at a later date. If security is a top priority then we should consider how it is being addressed including Measure A.

"Kudos to the Rancho Palos Verdes City Council for almost getting the Mira Vista "traffic calming" plan right. In a 3-2 vote they initiated some small steps that could have been taken many months, if not years, ago. Mayor Gardiner voted No because he continues to represent only a select group of political supporters. It was this group that circulated the anonymous and blatantly false flyers that predicted dire results if any plan were adopted.

Selective placement of speed humps will not be noticed by anyone traveling within the speed limit nor divert traffic to other streets as long as they and Stop signs are located such that all traffic channels have approximately the same conductance.

A 15-MPH speed limit may or may not be better than 25-MPH but signs will not discourage dedicated speeders unless supplemented by some increase in law enforcement. TEAMRPV would add three patrols at a cost of \$500,000 to \$600,000 per year, and was appropriately shelved. It has however, long been recommended that one additional patrol at a cost of less than \$200,000 per year would be an affordable step in the right direction. Enforcement opponents argue that dedicated enforcement failed when terminated. They have missed the point that random enforcement has a higher degree of success because the speed addicts do not know when their area will be targeted.

The council postponed TEAMRPV on the basis that the ill conceived Measure A for another 1/2-cent sales tax (\$550 Million per year) might pass and cover Sheriff Baca's proposed budget. The Tax and Spenders always want a new tax for any critical need. Proposition 172 (1/2-cent sales tax) was passed in 1993 for this purpose and should already be providing over \$500 Million per year. Property tax revenue increased \$550 Million last year. We had an \$872 Million surplus in '03-'04 (now \$309 Million) that the Tax and Spenders are trying to spend as fast as possible.

The RPV City Council and the County Supervisors want you to believe that they are solving your safety issues but take a close look at all the facts."

Don Reeves