

CAPISTRANO BAY DISTRICT
AGENDA REPORT
March 25, 2014

New Business

ITEM K.2

Possible Removal of Pavement Striping/Dotted Line in Roadway

This discussion is in reference to the vehicle parking space on the street, along the seaward curb of Beach Road from the first residence south to the turnaround at 35531.

Director Breeding has voiced concern that drivers think the narrow six-foot wide space between the seaward curb and the white dotted line is a lane for people to drive in. Director Breeding has offered two solutions:

- completely black-out the white line entirely
- paint in those universal 'bicycle lane' symbols

Blacking out the white line

In 1996 the roadway was converted into a "Fire Lane." The OCFA was reluctant to give the District any street parking as the code requires a full 24 feet of road clearance for emergency vehicle access. After much begging and groveling, the Fire Marshall finally consented to allowing parking along the seaward side of the roadway. If we were to remove this white dotted line, we are essentially giving up street parking forever and would most likely never get it back.

The Marshall gave us six feet to squeeze parked vehicles into and laid down the edict that we keep vehicles parked tight and inside that line to maximize the remaining 17.5 feet of road for passage of emergency vehicle OR lose the parking altogether. If we black out the line, we lose the tight control we currently have on parking and thus run the risk of losing it altogether.

Painting in universal 'bicycle lane' symbols

Simply stated, it is a violation of the Vehicle Code to park vehicles in a bicycle lane.

It's possible that what is confusing some drivers is the presence of that concrete gutter that runs down the middle of the roadway to about 35505. Maybe they're mistaking it for a center divider and are subconsciously driving over to the right side which puts them within the white dotted line of the street parking area.