

**CITY OF ALBANY  
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: March 30, 2009

TO: Economic Development Working Group

FROM: Judy Lieberman, Assistant City Administrator

SUBJECT: Request Traffic and Safety to Review and Advise on Directional Signage and Street Name Changes

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The Ad Hoc Economic Development Working Group, including the City's Economic Development consultants, would like to make the following recommendations for referral to Council and ultimately to the Traffic and Safety Commission for analysis and recommendation.

1) Cleveland Avenue:

- a. Problem: There is no signage indicating how to get to Cleveland Avenue in Albany, yet this is one of the City's redevelopment zones. As the City wishes to encourage new business in this location, it would improve desirability if directional signage existed. It is very difficult to find Cleveland Avenue, both from the west bound direction on Buchanan, and also from Central Avenue where the street name is Jacuzzi. This is problematic for businesses wishing to locate on Cleveland Avenue, or for those wishing to patronize those businesses.
- b. Requests: The following requests are suggestions, but the T&S Commission and traffic engineers analyzing the traffic flows, may have other ideas as well.
  - o Add directional signage on Buchanan heading eastbound before the entry to the Buchanan overpass
  - o Clearly stripe the Buchanan to indicate that the right hand lane turns into Cleveland Avenue.
  - o Add some type of signage at Central and Jacuzzi, (in the City of Richmond) indicating that Jacuzzi Street turns into Cleveland Avenue, and leads into Albany
  - o Alternatively, consider changing the street name from Cleveland Avenue to Jacuzzi to lessen the confusion. (There are only a handful of businesses on Cleveland now, so the impacts on businesses would be minimal.)
  - o Add directional signage at the freeway exit onto Cleveland Avenue that indicates the businesses to the right (or at least the address numbers); and that indicates how to get to Solano and San Pablo Avenues by turning to the left.

- 2) Eastshore Highway
  - Add directional signage on Buchanan heading westbound indicating “keep left” for Eastshore Highway
  - Add directional signage at Buchanan Street ramp into Albany; indicating that eastbound drivers should turn right for Eastshore Highway.
  
- 3) Freeway Signage on I80/I580: Request that CalTrans change signs from “Buchanan Street” to “Albany.” Request that a sign be placed at the exit ramps that says: “To Solano and San Pablo Avenues”. Consider changing name of Buchanan Street to Marin Avenue, except section between San Pablo Avenue and the Buchanan merge @Madison.
  
- 4) Solano Avenue: Welcome to Albany signage: Replace and make consistent
  - South side Solano, at Tulare (no existing sign)
  - North side Solano, at Neilson (existing,)
  
- 5) Gateway Locations: These gateways should be considered for more extensive treatment.
  - San Pablo/Marin corner
  - Dartmouth/SPA
  - Brighton/SPA