



# Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley District 7

2180 Milvia Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704

PHONE 510-981-7170 FAX 510-981-7177 [kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us](mailto:kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us)

## CONSENT CALENDAR

February 21, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: Removal of Psychedelic striping and surplus motorcycle parking on Telegraph Ave, between Parker Street and the Oakland border

### RECOMMENDATION:

That the Berkeley City Council refer to the Transportation Commission and the City Manager the feasibility of corrective action to the unintended consequences of a recent Telegraph Avenue street project.

### BACKGROUND:

During the month of December, some residents and businesspeople on Telegraph Avenue started reporting strange curved lines appearing on the street replacing what were regular straight lines previously. They also noticed that about 20 parking spaces disappeared. Shortly thereafter materialized many motorcycle spaces seemingly on every other block on both sides of the street.

Some folks thought they were having flashbacks to an acid trip. Others conjectured that the City of Berkeley was preparing for an imminent Harley Davidson convention that would soon be flooding the coffers of local businesses with enough money to make up for the costumers lost due to the disappearance of the parking. Since the numerous motorcycle spaces continue to be essentially vacant, others wondered if this was a mis-scheduled April Fools joke. One businessperson reported customers confused by both the curved lines and the unused motorcycle spaces. Neighborhood conspiracy theorists rationalized it as punishment to the area for daring to question other traffic control proposals.

The suddenness of the change, especially occurring right as sales were starting for the holiday season, was perplexing. The lack of notification to residents or businesses was unfortunate. It is not too late to consult the community as to what could be done to mitigate the negative effects of these changes. Straightening the lines could eliminate some confusion. We need a technical evaluation of what it would cost to restore customer and resident parking and straighten the lines.

(P.S. Staff indicates that this was not designed into the project. It was a stopgap measure devised under duress of construction, to address a shortage of space on the street close to the intersections.)

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

NONE

### CONTACT PERSON:

Councilmember Kriss Worthington 981-7170.