

MINUTES OF REGULAR TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING

CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS
3191 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, California

April 9, 2014

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular meeting of the Traffic Commission was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on April 9, 2014, in the Council Chambers, 3191 Katella Avenue, Los Alamitos, Chair Emerson presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS Biri, Emerson, Mejia, Patz, Schleuter,
Vardeman, Wilhelm

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER

PRESENT: STAFF Dave Hunt, City Engineer
Sharon Nowell, Department Secretary
Bruce McAlpine, Captain

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Patz.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

5. MINUTES

Approval of the Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2014

MOTION/SECOND: Schleuter/Wilhelm

Motion was unanimously carried with changes as noted below:

Commissioner Emerson requested that Item 6A, paragraph 2, second sentence, be amended as follows: *'The priorities were as follows (not in order of priority)'*:

Commissioner Emerson requested that Item 6B, paragraph 1, third sentence be amended as follows: *'Commissioners were informed that an ad hoc committee can be used as a body composed of less than a quorum, serving for a single purpose, and dissolved once that specific task is completed in less than a year's time period'*.

6. **STAFF REPORTS**

A. THE VILLAGE AT LOS ALAMITOS TRAFFIC STUDY

City Engineer, Dave Hunt, gave a brief summary of the staff report and the information contained therein. An application for the development, the Village at Los Alamitos, has been filed with the City. Once the Environmental Impact Report has been drafted it will be submitted to the Planning Commission and then the City for their review and approval. He stated that the role of the Traffic Commission is to provide necessary input on the traffic study being presented to them tonight. Mr. Hunt then gave the Commission a big picture of the project and presented renderings of the project. The author of the report, Dan Kloss, and the applicant of the project, Steve Levinson, were introduced to the Commission.

Mr. Hunt discussed the critical intersections and the A.M. and P.M. peak hour traffic volumes of vehicles leaving and entering the development; and where the vehicles were headed. Cumulative effects of projects currently

The meeting was turned over to the Commission for their questions and comments. Their concerns/comments were as follows:

- Can signals accommodate the volume of egress on Briggeman Drive in the AM hours?
Mr. Hunt stated any necessary adjustments will be made by the Traffic Engineer.
- What is expected traffic flow out of the project complex; traffic already impacted from Los Alamitos Blvd. to Cerritos Ave. to get onto the northbound 605 Freeway.
Mr. Kloss stated that based on the review of existing counts their projection assumes that everyone will head towards Los Alamitos Blvd.; with 50% going north to Cerritos Ave. and 50% going south towards Katella Ave.
- Traffic impact on Old Town East neighborhood was not studied.
Mr. Kloss stated that there would be no significant impact on a location where you only have a small amount of traffic going to an intersection.
- What type of retail businesses are planned for the first floor occupancy?
Mr. Levinson stated that the intent is to attract businesses that will encourage foot traffic and walkability in the area. The goal is to be part of the big picture as developed in the General Plan.
- Will parking in and around the development be adequate?

Mr. Levinson assured that with the onsite and on-street parking there would be ample parking provided.

Vice-Chair Patz and Commissioner Biri both stated that they like and are excited about this project but would like to ensure that due diligence is done to make sure that it will be a benefit to the City. Chair Emerson stated that he likes the concept but not the location in a commercial zone, and its location in relation to the High School.

Ted Pollard, President of Gemini Forest Products spoke of his concern about the volume of traffic the project would create on Briggeman Drive, and of the mixed use of residential in a commercial and industrial area. He stated that in addition to Briggeman Drive being a truck route for the businesses in the area, there is the added traffic from the Post Office and the High School. Also, the loss of parking on Briggeman Drive would impact the trucks delivering in the early morning hours. Chair Emerson stated that he is sympathetic to Mr. Pollard's concerns and expressed concern about the possible loss of revenue to the businesses.

Mr. Levinson stated that the widening of Briggeman Drive will help alleviate many of the concerns that have been brought up.

Alice Jempsa, resident, spoke and informed the Commission of a condo development for seniors that was proposed for that property many years ago. The sewer system at time could not handle such a development and the project did not go forward. She asked if this has been looked into for this project. Mr. Mendoza answered that it is too early; those concerns will be looked into later in the process.

Mr. Mendoza stated that the proposed development is still in the concept planning stage, and has many stages to go through. The purpose of presenting it tonight was to get preliminary input from the Commission on the traffic study portion.

The Traffic Commission summarized their concerns as follows:

1. Crosswalks
2. Employee parking not appropriately addressed
3. Loading Zone for trash and delivery zones need more thought
4. Serpentine needs a crosswalk mid-block for new residents

5. Estimates for 56 departures and 56 arrivals seem low.
6. Charging stations for electric vehicles
7. Use of National Averages instead of local information is a concern
8. Study should look at co-mingling of cars and industrial trucks
9. Study does not adequately address industrial businesses and traffic
10. Sewer capacity issues
11. Commercial parking should be two hours
12. Signal cycle adjustments should be addressed

Due to the fact that the Traffic Commission desired more time to study the Village at Los Alamitos Traffic Study, discussion ensued regarding continuing this item to the June 11, 2014 Traffic Commission Meeting.

MOTION: PATZ/BIRI: Motion was made to continue the review of the Traffic Study to the next regularly scheduled meeting of June 11, 2014. Motion was unanimously carried.

It was also unanimously approved to hold a Joint Commission meeting with all three Commissions, Planning, Recreation, and Traffic on May 14, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to kick off goals and objectives for the General Plan.

7. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

- Community Development Director, Steven Mendoza, gave an update on the construction currently under way on Katella Avenue. The one-lane closure in each direction will start on April 21, when construction on the center medians begins.
- Dave Hunt reported that construction on the Rossmoor Channel will start on April 21. This work consists of lining the channel with concrete. It should be complete by October 15, 2014.

8. **TRAFFIC COMMISSION INITIATED BUSINESS**

- Caltrans detour sign in front of US Bank is still encroaching into right-of-way.
- Speed bump near Katella Deli, at the entrance to the alley, section is starting to come up.
- Check loop sensitivity on northbound Lexington Drive. He has experienced difficulties while riding his motorcycle.
- Street name sign missing at Lexington Drive and Corporate Center Drive.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION/SECOND: MEJIA/BIRI

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Hunt", written over a horizontal line.

Dave Hunt, City Engineer