

MINUTES OF REGULAR TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING

CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS
3191 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, California

June 11, 2014

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular meeting of the Traffic Commission was called to order at 7:03 p.m. on June 11, 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
Pamela Brackman, Interim Department Secretary
Bruce McAlpine, Captain
Steven Mendoza, Community Development
Director/Interim Public Works Director

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Mejia.

4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

5. **MINUTES**

Approval of the Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2014

MOTION/SECOND: Patz/Schleuter

Motion to approve minutes as written was unanimously carried.

6. **STAFF REPORTS**

A. THE VILLAGE AT LOS ALAMITOS TRAFFIC STUDY

City Engineer, Dave Hunt, gave a short summary on how the Applicant is making significant changes on the Village Project, and has asked that Staff immediately stop all work on this project until further notice. Mendoza added that the City would be asking the Applicant to officially withdraw from the Project.

MOTION/SECOND: Schleuter/Wilhelm

Motion to receive and file was unanimously carried.

B. THE GENERAL PLAN MOBILITY ELEMENT

Draft goals and policies on the Mobility and Circulation Elements were given out for review at the Special Joint Commissions Meeting held on Wednesday, May 14, 2014.

Hunt requested comments from the Commissioners on only the traffic portions of the Mobility and Circulation Elements of the General Plan. Mendoza added that he was hopeful that the Commission could have all of their inputs received by the next meeting in July.

A discussion ensued on Mobility and Circulation Element. Chairman Emerson pointed out that on page 18, any acronyms being used should be spelled and added in a glossary of terms. Also it was clarified by Hunt that the Traffic Study results, on page 22, were surveyed while the local Schools were in session.

MOTION/SECOND: Patz/Biri

A Motion was made to have the ability to make additions and flexibility recommendations to Goal 5, Policy 5.2.

Chairman Emerson stated that there was no mention of any type of rapid transit, monorail or rail system throughout the entire document. He thought one of the goals was to get people out of using cars. Mendoza stated that a goal that could be set in place in the General Plan is one that supports regionally transportation issues.

Several questions were brought up on the section "Los Alamitos Boulevard Redesign". After referring to the Corridor Study and the City's Downtown Revitalization Project it was discovered that almost half the Commissioners were not on the Traffic Commission when the projects were discuss. Copies of the Corridor Plan will be made available to Commissioners Biri, Javier, Vardeman, Vice-Chair Patz, and Chairman Emerson.

Hunt recommended that, between now and the next meeting, the Commissioners should email Mendoza with any changes or suggestions to the Mobility and Circulation Element of the General Plan.

C. PARKING METER PILOT PROJECT

Mendoza was seeking representation from the Traffic Commission to join the Parking Meter Pilot Project Group. The focus of this project is to create an implementation strategy for parking meters in the City.

A small discussion on scheduling conflicts took place amongst the interested Commissioners. It was agreed that meetings could take place at 5:30pm before the regularly scheduled Traffic Commission meetings. Hunt and Mendoza would give a briefing to the Commissioners on the latest actions of the Parking Meter Pilot Project Group at that time.

MOTION/SECOND: Patz/Biri

A Motion was made to establish a sub-committee with (3) Traffic Commissioners.

MOTION/SECOND: Emerson/Biri

A Motion was made that Patz, Schleuter and Mejia, as long as there was not a conflict of interest, as members of the newly formed Parking Meter Pilot Project Sub-Committee. Chairman Emerson would be listed as an alternate.

7. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

- Hunt gave an update on the how OC 605 Project is getting ready for public comments, and should be making a presentation to the Traffic Commission at the July or August meeting. It would be a PowerPoint presentation only with no hard copies given out.
- Mendoza reported that there have been 42 trees planted in Cottonwood Park. Staff will be painting the yellow striping on the speed bumps in the alley behind Green Street.

8. TRAFFIC COMMISSION INITIATED BUSINESS

- Commissioner Schleuter stated that the limit line at the stop sign at Pine and Florista seems too far back from the intersection. One needs to slowly advance one's vehicle out into the street to see if the intersection is clear. Would it be possible to repaint the location of the crosswalk? Hunt is going to have someone check into this.
- Commissioner Patz spoke about the No Left turn sign by the Post Office on Reagan Street. He was wondering if the sign could be removed completely or have it state that in evenings, nights and weekends a Left Turn could be allowed. Hunt stated that there is a lot of truck traffic on the street, and visibility could be an issue with the sign removed. Also,

Commissioner Patz reported that there is an awful lot of speeding in his neighborhood on San Bonito Avenue coming off of Bloomfield. He was wondering if installing speed bumps might be a deterrent to the problem. Commissioner Schleuter added to Patz's report that making sure that speed limit signs were posted along with a little enforcement might be a better solution.

- Commissioner Vardeman inquired about when the 35 MPH signage on Katella was going to be changed to 40 MPH. Hunt reported that the signs have been ordered and will be installed with Council's approval.
- Commissioner Mejia commented on the speed bumps in the alleys to possibly go to a permanent type of bump with painted striping. Hunt stated that there is \$20,000 allocated in the Budget for the next three years for painting and repairs of the speed bumps in alleys. Commissioner Mejia continued that at the intersection of Katella and Cherry there is a crosswalk that crosses Katella on the East side but none on the West side. He commented that all the back-up seems to be on the East side, and shouldn't we add a crosswalk on the West to ease congestion. Hunt stated he will visit the site. On a final note, Commissioner Mejia reported the collection of shopping carts in the parking lot at Lexington and Saratoga. Secretary Brackman commented on how she had received several phone calls this week about this same issue. The Public Works Staff has removed the carts two times in three days at this location.
- Chairman Emerson observed a near hit and miss turning left into the alley on Farquhar. Vehicles are backed up to make the left turn. He stated as possible solution to "dead end" the alley. Hunt stated that he will re-visit the location and report back with his recommendation.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION/SECOND: MEJIA/BIRI

A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m.



Dave Hunt, City Engineer