CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS  
3191 Katella Avenue  
Los Alamitos, CA  90720  

AGENDA  
TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, January 13, 2016 – 7:00 P.M.  

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC  
This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Except as provided by law, action or discussion shall not be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. Supporting documents, including staff reports, are available for review at City Hall in the Engineering Office or on the City's website at www.cityoflosalamitos.org once the agenda has been publicly posted.  

Any written materials relating to an item on this agenda submitted to the Traffic Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Engineering Office, 3191 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos CA 90720, during normal business hours. In addition, such writings or documents will be made available for public review at the respective public meeting.  

It is the intention of the City of Los Alamitos to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee, or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, please contact the Engineering Office at (562) 431-3538, extension 302, 48 hours prior to the meeting so that reasonable arrangements may be made. Assisted listening devices may be obtained from the Traffic Commission Secretary at the meeting for individuals with hearing impairments.  

Persons wishing to address the Traffic Commission on any item on the Traffic Commission Agenda shall sign in on the Oral Communications Sign-In Sheet which is located on the podium once the item is called by the Chairperson. At this point, you may address the Traffic Commission for up to FIVE MINUTES on that particular item.  

1. CALL TO ORDER  
2. ROLL CALL  
   Chair Mejia  
   Vice-Chair Biri  
   Commissioner Emerson  
   Commissioner Patz  
   Commissioner Seaman  
   Commissioner Wilhelm  
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. **ORAL COMMUNICATION**  
At this time any individual in the audience may address the Traffic Commission and speak on any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Please state if you wish to speak on an item on the Agenda. Remarks are to be limited to not more than five minutes.

5. **TRAFFIC COMMISSION REORGANIZATION**  
This report provides relevant information for the Traffic Commission’s annual reorganization, by the election of Chair and Vice Chair.

**Recommendation:** Nominate and elect the following officers:

1. Chair  
2. Vice Chair

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
A. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of November 12, 2015.

7. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
A. Traffic Commission Status Log

8. **TRAFFIC COMMISSION INITIATED BUSINESS**  
At this time, Commissioners may report on items not included on the agenda, but no such matter may be discussed, nor may any action be taken in which there is interest to the community, except as to provide Staff direction to report back or to place the item on a future agenda.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing Agenda was posted at the Community Center, Museum, and City Hall not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting. Dated this 6th day of January, 2016.

Dawn Sallade, Department Secretary
To: Chair and Members of the Traffic Commission

From: Steven Mendoza, Development Services Director

Subject: Annual Traffic Commission Reorganization

Summary: This report provides relevant information for the Traffic Commission's annual reorganization, by the election of the Chair and Vice Chair.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Los Alamitos Traffic Commission discuss, nominate and elect:
1. Chair
2. Vice Chair

Background

The City's Municipal Code requires that the Traffic Commission select a Chair and a Vice Chair at their regular meeting in January. The City's Municipal Code reads as follows.

"2.48.050 Officers—Election and vacancy.

A. The officers of the Traffic Commission shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice Chairman and a Secretary. The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be elected annually at the first regular meeting in the month of January, and shall hold office for a term of one year or until a successor is duly elected and qualified. Election shall be by a majority vote cast by those commissioners present and voting at the meeting at which the election is held. Officers shall assume office immediately."

Discussion

After convening the item, procedure calls for the Chair to temporarily relinquish the Chair to the Secretary in order that election for the Office of Chair may be conducted. The newly-elected Chair would then conduct the election for the Office of Vice Chair. A second is not required for nominations and nominations will be considered in the order received if more than one Commissioner is nominated.
As a reminder, the Commissioner's terms are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Exp. Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gina Biri</td>
<td>May 2013</td>
<td>Dec-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Emerson</td>
<td>Jan. 2012</td>
<td>Dec-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Javier Mejia</td>
<td>Jan. 2013</td>
<td>Dec-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Patz</td>
<td>Jan. 2013</td>
<td>Dec-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Seaman</td>
<td>Dec. 2014</td>
<td>Dec-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Wilhelm</td>
<td>May 2010</td>
<td>May-16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1. CALL TO ORDER
A Regular meeting of the Traffic Commission was called to order at 7:05 PM on November 12, 2015, in the Council Chambers, 3191 Katella Avenue, Los Alamitos, California, Vice Chair Biri presiding.

2. ROLL CALL
Present: Commissioners:
- Vice-Chair Gina Biri
- Commissioner Dave Emerson
- Commissioner Daniel Patz
- Commissioner James Wilhelm

Absent:
- Chair Javier Mejia
- Commissioner Jason Seaman

Present: Staff:
- Steven Mendoza, Development Services Director
- Ruth Smith, Traffic Engineer
- Bruce McAlpine, Police Captain
- Dawn Sallade, Department Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Emerson.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
Vice Chair Biri opened the meeting for Oral Communications.

There being no speakers, Vice Chair Biri closed Oral Communications.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
A. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of September 9, 2015.
   Motion/Second: Patz/Wilhelm
   Carried 4/0/0: The Traffic Commission approved the minutes of the Regular meeting of September 9, 2015.

6. STAFF REPORTS
A. KATELLA AVENUE AND WALNUT STREET/WALLINGSFORD ROAD INTERSECTION OPERATION
   This report recommends modifications to the intersection of Katella Avenue and Walnut Street/Wallingsford Road in response to Rossmoor Homeowners Association concerns about the intersection’s operation and school pedestrian safety, particularly during the morning peak hour.
Traffic Engineer Ruth Smith summarized the Staff report, referring to the information therein. She indicated that Mr. Ralph Vartabedian from the Rossmoor Homeowner’s Association Board and the Chair of their traffic committee is the person who brought this suggestion to the forefront. She indicated Mr. Vartabedian proposed three possible solutions to improve the situation; they are as follows:

1) Move the painted crosswalk from the east side of the intersection to the west side to eliminate pedestrian conflicts with northbound right-turning traffic.

2) Keep the crosswalk on the east side of the intersection and modify the northbound traffic lanes on Wallingsford Road to convert the shared left/through/right turn lane into a right turn only lane and convert the left turn only lane to a shared left turn/through lane. This would also eliminate pedestrian conflicts with northbound right-turning traffic.

3) Create a third lane on northbound Wallingsford to provide one left turn lane, one through lane and one right turn lane, to eliminate the conflict with the crosswalk.

In response, Staff went out and observed the traffic in the field and evaluated the feasibility of each proposed action.

Regarding moving the crosswalk, it was determined that currently, the pedestrians cross concurrently with the northbound traffic. Also, both the northbound traffic and the pedestrians require a majority of the green time available for Wallingsford/Walnut. If the crosswalk is moved to the west leg, the pedestrian movement would go concurrently with the southbound traffic. The amount of green time needed for the pedestrians to cross Katella would be significantly longer than the time needed/currently provided to the southbound traffic, about 15 seconds. The additional 15 seconds of green would have to be taken from another movement, none of which can afford to be shortened.

Staff can only conclude that moving the crosswalk is not a feasible option. Two more-promising options are to provide a third northbound lane, that would separate the left turn movements from the right turn movements, and to implement a Leading Pedestrian Interval. The Leading Pedestrian Interval would allow pedestrians to start across Katella a few seconds before the northbound traffic gets the green. It would require added green time, but much less than moving the crosswalk. It has also been successful in other places.

The Commission approved Staff’s recommendation to:
1. Modify the signal timing, as follows:
   a. Implement a different operation during the school peak(s) to better accommodate the school traffic/pedestrians.
   b. Implement a Leading Pedestrian interval for the pedestrians in the crosswalk on the east leg.

2. Further evaluate the feasibility of adding a third northbound lane on Wallingsford (in cooperation with Rossmoor HOA and the County).

   Staff will begin discussions with the County regarding the third northbound lane and follow up with the modifications to the signal timing.

7. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
   None.

8. TRAFFIC COMMISSION INITIATED BUSINESS
   Commissioner Patz:
   - Now that Laurel High is no longer a high school and is now a district office, the two signs on Bloomfield that notify drivers of a school being present need to be removed.

   Commissioner Emerson:
   - Indicated that one of the Commission’s great successes was adding a lane at Los Alamitos Blvd. at Farquhar and when this was done, traffic stopped backing up but we still have a limit line and “Keep Clear” sign on the corner of Farquhar and Reagan. To avoid car’s rear ending each other, he feels that the signs should be sandblasted or painted over as soon as possible.

   - With regard to Commission elections in January, he felt that because the elections occur so quickly, there isn't time for discussion before electing a new Chair and he would like to be able to informally act on the issue without going against the Brown Act before making an informed decision for electing a Chair person.

   Mr. Mendoza informed the Commission that they could agendize the discussion of the protocol for choosing a new Chair for the next meeting and, if needed, continue the meeting so as to elect their new Chair.

9. ADJOURNMENT

   The Traffic Commission adjourned at 7:49 PM.