MINUTES OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

REGULAR MEETING – March 13, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Traffic Commission met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on March 13, 2019 in the Council Chamber, 3191 Katella Avenue, Los Alamitos, California, Chair Hill presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Chair Hill
          Coxhill, Mejia, Rodman, Singer and West

          Absent: Vice Chair Patz

Present: Staff: Chris Karrer, Captain
          Dave Hunt, City Engineer
          Farhad Iranitalab, Traffic Engineer
          Michelle Müller, Department Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner West.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Chair Hill opened the meeting for Oral Communications.

City Engineer Hunt introduced resident Owen Marubayashi to the Traffic Commission, who is shadowing him in his every City Engineer capacity.

There being no further speakers, Chair Hill closed Oral Communications.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 13, 2019.

Commissioner Rodman noted the following changes:

- Page 2 – revise the date for the motion of the minutes approval to identify the January 9, 2019 meeting.
- Page 5 - revise the date for the adjournment to identify the February 13, 2019 meeting.
Chair Hill asked and received clarification from City Engineer Hunt as to an anticipated date for the repaving of Little Cottonwood Park, stating that it will either be at the end of May or early June.

Motion/Second – Mejia/Singer
Carried 6/0 (Patz absent): The Traffic Commission approved the minutes of the Regular meeting of February 13, 2019 with the noted corrections.

Chair Hill re-opened Oral Communications.

Resident Scott Arnold expressed concern over why Marion Avenue was included in the Permit Parking Program in the Greenbrook neighborhood. Mr. Arnold would like to see Marion Avenue removed from the program as it is an inconvenience for visitors.

The Traffic Commission and staff discussed whether there are any historical documents available from when the program was implemented in the Greenbrook neighborhood. Furthermore, discussed whether the process for implementing or removing a permit parking program has to go through the petition process.

Department Secretary Müller read the approved 2005 resolution for the permit parking program in the Greenbrook neighborhood aloud.

6. STAFF REPORTS
A. Discussion of the City Council actions taken at the February 19, 2019 City Council meeting on the Residential Permit Parking Program (citywide)
The Traffic Commission recommendations of the completed Residential Permit Parking Program Review (citywide) were presented to the City Council at the February 19, 2019 Regular City Council meeting. The information being provided to the Traffic Commission is representative of the City Council’s action and direction taken during that meeting.

City Engineer Hunt summarized the staff report.

The Traffic Commission and Staff discussed the following:
- Whether it is appropriate to consider incorporating all of Carrier Row in the existing program, when other interested residents are told to follow the petition process.
- Consideration to take this item back to the City Council and show the exact survey responses, and request a recommendation from the City Council.
- The lack of objective criteria from the City Council.
Commissioner Mejia proposed the possibility of “bagging” the street signs and waiting to see what would come from that.

Captain Karrer added that after bagging the street signs as a first approach, gauge the outcome based on the number of calls for service. If calls for service are received, then the signs would be un-bagged. Whether it may be from visitors of the Starting Gate or construction workers from Ovation (housing/retail development in Cypress).

Chair Hill asked and received clarification from Captain Karrer regarding Starting Gate activity, adding that there have been no recent or on-going calls for service to Starting Gate from people loitering in the back area of the bar.

Commissioner Mejia expressed concern over the entire permit parking program process adding that if the entire Carrier Row neighborhood will be included in the neighborhoods’ existing program without following the petition process, then perhaps the permit parking process needs to be re-examined.

The Traffic Commission and staff discussed different strategies to address the permit parking program ending; whether it may by installing a large sign into the neighborhoods.

Chair Hill stated that the City Council should be provided with the data from when the review took place and propose potential next steps. In addition, Chair Hill stated that the entire neighborhood in the existing program should be started as a new petition process.

Commissioner Coxhill state that there is a different message being delivered to the Carrier Row neighborhood about adding the entire neighborhood into the program, over what has been told to other residents interested in implementing permit parking.

City Engineer Hunt advised that he will confer with staff to make a determination on what the next step would be based on the Traffic Commission’s directive.

Commissioner Mejia and Chair Hill added that they are willing to discuss this matter with the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem.

B. Request to install equipment to facilitate crossing for visually impaired pedestrians at the intersection of Los Alamitos Boulevard and Florista Street

A resident in the Old Town West neighborhood has requested installation of equipment for visually impaired pedestrians, in efforts to facilitate the crossing for pedestrians at the intersection of Los Alamitos Boulevard and Florista Street.
City Engineer Iranitalab summarized the staff report. Commissioner Singer asked and received clarification from Traffic Engineer Iranitalab stating that this request was initiated by one resident.

City Engineer Iranitalab described the work that goes into the installation of this equipment.

Commissioner Mejia inquired as to the possibility of only considering the installation of the equipment at one side of the street.

The Traffic Commission and staff discussed different options set by the legal boundaries for the installation of this type of equipment and also whether there were any ADA requirements which required the presence of this equipment.

City Engineer Hunt advised the Traffic Commission that the City has a running list of repairs for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramps and sidewalk trip hazards.

Motion/Second: West/Rodman
Carried 6/0 (Patz absent): The Traffic Commission voted to approve the installation of the visually impaired equipment under the guidelines of legal requirements [whether it would be at all four corners or only two].

C. Traffic Commission Status Log
This is a tracking tool used by the Commission to track assignments and accomplishments.

Commissioner Singer discussed the following:
- Item A5 – questioned whether the Traffic Study is still accurate being that it was done several years ago.
- Item F7 – requested an update on the re-installation of speed bumps in the alley. City Engineer Hunt advised it is an on-going effort.
- Item F8 – questioned whether a CIP project would reduce the back-up.

Commissioner Mejia discussed the following:
- Item A11 – requested clarification for this item. City Engineer Iranitalab advised that was regarding the installation of a crosswalk near the hospital.

Commissioner Hill discussed the following:
- Item F4 – revise to say that it will not be removed.

8. ITEMS FROM THE CITY ENGINEER
City Engineer Hunt advised the Traffic Commission of the following:
• The City submitted a denial letter to an applicant for a request to install a signal at the intersection of Enterprise Drive and Katella Avenue.
• Described the way costs are defined for Traffic Commission related requests. In addition, City Engineer Hunt described the way funding is designated yearly towards services from the City Engineer and Traffic Engineer.
• Advised that Willdan Engineering’s contract is up for renewal this year.

9. ITEMS FROM THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Commissioner Mejia noted the following:
• In the alley between Lexington Drive and Noel Street, and between Katella Avenue and Green Avenue, two speed bumps are in need of some repair.
• There is an abundance of trash and gravel in apartment row as a result of the Golden State project.

Commissioner Singer noted the following:
• West of Del Norte Way on Cerritos Avenue, there is a “no parking during school hours” sign posted. Captain Karrer advised that it is an enforceable sign as it reads.
• Inquired as to how parking will be impacted and that the City should consider addressing this issue with the construction of ADU’s in the future.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second: Mejia/Rodman
Carried 6/0 (Patz absent): The Traffic Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting until March 13, 2019.

The Traffic Commission adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

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Randall Hill, Chair

Attest:

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Michelle Müller, Department Secretary