

MINUTES
GARDEN GROVE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Tuesday
March 6, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: The regular session of the Traffic Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Community Meeting Center.

PLEDGE

PRESENT: Chair Marcario, Vice Chair Ettlin, Commissioners Feather, Kirkham, and Alejandro
ABSENT: NONE

ALSO PRESENT: George Allen, Executive Secretary, Tony Aquino, Associate Engineer, Officer Chris Wasinger and Rosemarie Jacot, Recording Secretary.

ORAL

COMMUNICATIONS: None

APPROVAL

OF MINUTES: The minutes of January 02, 2007 were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

*Parking Removal
Newhope Street*

Mr. Allen introduced the staff report to remove the parking on Newhope Street on both sides from Garden Grove Boulevard to Trask Avenue.

Mr. Howard D. Kessler, 13191 Newhope Street, addressed the Commission. He is in favor of removing the parking on Newhope Street. He has difficulty backing out of his driveway due to sight distance.

Mr. David L. Reno, 13372 Newhope Street, addressed the Commission. He is concerned with the parking issues that he will have when the parking is removed from the street. He does not have enough room in his driveway to park three vehicles. He would like to have permission to expand his driveway so that he will have room to park his vehicles on site.

Commissioner Kirkham commented that he noticed that the overflow from the apartments on Stuart Drive tend to park on Newhope Street. He also noted that the radar feedback sign was off before the children from school had been released. He is in favor of removing the parking on Newhope Street; he is also eager to have the bike lane installed.

Mr. Allen reported that the school informs staff of the starting and ending times for school. He will check with the school to see if the scheduled hours have changed.

Chair Marcario worked at Peters K-3 school for several years and she noted that although the egress from the parking lot is a right turn out only, many vehicles turn left onto Newhope Street from there. She would like to see extra enforcement in that area.

Mr. Allen noted that the extension of the driveways on private property is a Planning Division function. He will speak to Karl Hill, the Planning Manager, to discuss Planning's policy on this issue.

Commissioner Alejandro inquired how many residences, losing parking on Newhope Street, would be impacted.

Mr. Allen noted that the majority of the parking is on the east side closer to the apartments on Stuart Drive. The Stuart Street Apartment Association, working in conjunction with the City, is trying to have the renters at the Stuart Drive Apartments clean out their garages so that there will be more available on-site parking. The buildings that HUD has taken over have removed the garages and put in carports.

Commissioner Kirkham moved, seconded by Chair Marcario to accept staff's recommendation to remove parking on the north portion of Newhope Street from Trask Avenue to Garden Grove Boulevard and to forward the recommendation to City Council for action.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: FEATHER, KIRKHAM, ETTLIN, ALEJANDRO and
CHAIR MARCARIO
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

*NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING
RICKY AVENUE/JACALENE LANE*

The staff report was introduced to advise the Commissioners of the results from the February 22, 2007 neighborhood meeting.

The neighborhood residents requested a closure at Jacalene Lane at the city limits and to have other solutions put forth. A ballot would be sent to the residents with the various options listed and asking them to vote for one solution. Once the majority vote has been received, a recommendation would then be taken back to the Traffic Commission for the final action.

Howard Ehlers, 11951 Ricky Avenue, addressed the Commission. Mr. Ehlers stated he has lived at this address for over 40 years and he does not recall there ever having been a closure at Jacalene at the city limits. He is in favor of leaving this as is.

Denise Mendoza, 11311 Jacalene Lane, addressed the Commission. She is opposed to any kind of choker. She inquired about putting in a speed hump at the city limit where Anaheim and Garden Grove meet. If this cannot be accomplished, then, she is in favor of no change.

Kitty Rice, 11951 Ricky Avenue, addressed the Commission. She is in favor of no change and would like to have more police enforcement in the area because the main complaint is speed. Her main concern is vehicles backing out of the driveways.

Chair Marcario moved seconded by Commissioner Kirkham to accept staff's recommendation to send out ballots with the options discussed and then bring back the majority vote to the Traffic Commission for a final action.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: FEATHER, KIRKHAM, ETTLIN, ALEJANDRO and
CHAIR MARCARIO
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

*ALL-WAY STOP AT
SAINT MARK ST. /RICHMOND AVE*

The staff report was introduced to consider the installation of an all-way stop at the intersection of Saint Mark Street and Richmond Avenue.

Staff noted that Ms. Diane Pacheco, 12332 Bailey Street, could not be at the meeting. She called staff to inform them that any stop restriction would be helpful and a one way stop would do just as well for this intersection.

Commissioner Alejandro inquired if this stop control would be in conflict with the existing stop sign at Lampson Avenue.

Mr. Allen replied that since Lampson Avenue is a major collector, the California Vehicle Code requires that a stop sign be placed at this intersection and it does not fall under the warrants of the stop sign study set forth by Council.

Commissioner Kirkham noted that although there is no stop sign there, many vehicles do stop. Therefore, it would reinforce the right of way.

Commissioner Kirkham moved, seconded by Commissioner Feather not to install an all-way stop at the intersection of Saint Mark Street and Richmond Avenue.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: FEATHER, KIRKHAM, ETTLIN, ALEJANDRO and
CHAIR MARCARIO
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Commissioner Kirkham moved, seconded by Commissioner Feather to install a one-way stop control on the corner of Saint Mark Street and Richmond Avenue.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: FEATHER, KIRKHAM, ETTLIN, ALEJANDRO and
CHAIR MARCARIO
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

MATTERS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Kirkham noted that Charles Mitchell, who attended the last City Council meeting, commented that on the City medians the noses are not covered with any type of reflective material and that it makes seeing them at night difficult. Commissioner Kirkham cited the California Vehicle code.

Mr. Allen responded that the City has a program in place to mark the medians as such. Mr. Allen also noted that Mr. Mitchell commented on the offset of lanes across the intersection. The California Traffic Control Device Manual allows a 4-foot offset and the City has not exceeded the rule as stated in the California Traffic Control Device Manual.

Commissioner Kirkham inquired if the Traffic Commission should go to Council for redirection of traffic calming measures.

Commissioner Ettlin inquired about long term parking on public streets.

Mr. Allen noted it is 72 hours.

Officer Wasinger replied that when a complaint is made, a civilian report writer or officer will mark the vehicle by placing a yellow tag on it and will then follow up on it after 72 hours. If it hasn't been moved, it is subject to towing.

Commissioner Alejandro inquired about the radar trailers.

Mr. Allen replied the traffic bureau is in charge of placing the radar trailers; there are two in use right now.

Chair Marcario inquired if Mr. Singer contacted the Traffic Engineering Division as well as Father Alfredo from the church on Galway and, also, Mr. Trimper.

Mr. Allen replied yes, Mr. Singer contacted him and traffic engineering is working with Vector Control to remedy their situation; Father Alfredo contacted Dan Candelaria, which is being followed up by the project engineer, Navin Maru; Mr. Trimper had not contacted staff but synchronization is being done throughout the City; however, when construction comes in, it greatly impedes the synchronization because the loops are cut and the signals are on fixed time.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

RESPONSE FROM STAFF TO COMMISSION INQUIRES

The pine tree on Garden Grove Boulevard at Casa Linda Lane was replanted away from the sign.

The tree on Trask Avenue east of Cypress Street will be removed by contract the first week of March.

Removal of Protected/Permissive Left Turn at Springdale Street and Lampson Avenue will be on signal contract that will be out to bid in April 2007.

Red curb has been installed on Westminster Avenue east of Yockey Street to improve sight distance.

Staff was directed not to conduct a neighborhood meeting for Blackmer Street traffic issues because Mr. Linzner did not come forth at the Traffic Commission meeting nor did he follow through with a petition.

The Traffic Commission approved left-turn phasing for Garden Grove Boulevard and 9th Street at the July 5, 2006 meeting. It has been placed on the priority list.

The Police Traffic Division has been enforcing and citing the drivers who drive in the bike lane on Brookhurst Street at Russell Avenue.

The City Clerk has all the calendar of events posted and they are also given to the papers for publication.

The Main Street and Parking Commission, at their January 19, 2007 meeting, denied the parking restriction from "7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday Only" on Main Street.

The Traffic Commission workshop is coming up April 21, 2007.

UCI invited the Traffic Commissioners to a dinner; "What's Wrong with Traffic Congestion".

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Rosemarie Jacot
Recording Secretary