

**MINUTES**  
**GARDEN GROVE TRAFFIC COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

Community Meeting Center  
11300 Stanford Avenue  
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Tuesday  
November 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.

**PRESENT:** Chair Kirkham, Vice Chair Feather, Commissioners: Alejandro, Ashland, and Lindsay.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dan Candelaria, Executive Secretary, Chris Wasinger, Police Department, and Rosemarie Jacot, Recording Secretary.

**ORAL**

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Verla Lambert, 12341 Marble Place addressed the Commission to express her thanks to Councilwoman Dina Nguyen and Dan Candelaria, and to also express her concern over the lights not working in the median on Garden Grove Boulevard.

**APPROVAL**

**OF MINUTES:** The minutes of September 04,2007 were approved with one minor error on page 2. Correction made.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Disabled Person On-Street Parking  
13092 Newland Street

Mr. Candelaria introduced the staff report to install a disabled person on-street parking space at 13092 Newland Street.

Galina Khachukova, 13092 Newland Street, addressed the Commission. She expressed concern that her residents do not have any disabled person parking nor do they have access to a driveway. The patients, and people transporting the patients as well as the medical staff will use this parking space. Ms. Khachukova introduced pictures to the Commission for viewing.

Commissioner Alejandro inquired if there was a license for the home and if there were ambulatory or non-ambulatory persons in the home.

Ms. Khachukova responded that, yes, she is licensed for six (6) residents and that she has both ambulatory and non-ambulatory residents as well as hospice care when needed.

Commissioner Ashland inquired about the planters taking up room in the driveway and if Ms. Khachukova was applying for the parking space or if Ms. Eileen Mayfield was applying for the parking space.

Ms. Khachukova told the Commission she is responsible for her residents and that Ms. Mayfield does not own a vehicle but she (Ms. Khachukova) needs the space for emergency vehicles when they are called.

Commissioner Ashland spent time at the site and noticed the sidewalk is being lifted by the tree planted there and believes it would be unsafe for a disabled person parking space to be installed at this site.

Commissioner Kirkham doesn't believe anything has changed on the application. The applicant still does not meet all the warrants as stated by TE 2.

Commissioner Ashland moved, seconded by Commissioner Alejandro to deny staff's recommendation to install a disabled person on-street parking space in front of 13092 Newland Street.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners: Kirkham, Feather, Alejandro, Ashland and Lindsay  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

## NEW BUSINESS

Left Turn Access  
9841 Garden Grove Blvd

The staff report was introduced by Mr. Candelaria to consider a request to allow left turn access into 9841 Garden Grove Boulevard.

Jerry Margolin spoke on behalf of the applicant, Mr. Joseph Hong. Mr. Hong recently relocated his business (selling used cars) to this site because his business became so successful he could no longer find sufficient space for more vehicles. Mr. Hong has applied for a new car business with Kia, therefore he needs the new site as it has more square footage available for the growth of the business. Mr. Hong has agreed to pay for the design and construction necessary to provide the access.

Jason Choi, 11552 Mac Street, addressed the Commission. He is a sales manager for Mr. Hong and is in favor of the access.

Woo Sook Soo, 32 Capistrano, Irvine, CA, addressed the Commission. He is in favor of the access.

James Pak, 9841 Garden Grove Blvd., is in favor of the access.

Tin Vo, 8852 De Viue Circle, Huntington Beach, CA, addressed the Commission. He is a sales associate for Grand Motors. He is in favor of the access.

Joe Pak, 11073 Linda Lane, addressed the Commission. Mr. Pak is in favor of the access.

Pictures were introduced into the record for the Commission's viewing. Letters from the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce were also introduced into the record for the Commissioners to view.

Chair Kirkham inquired about a drive approach and gate in front of the property could be permanently opened or closed as necessary or conditioned by staff.

On behalf of Mr. Hong, Mr. Margolin replied that whatever staff conditioned will be strictly adhered to.

Commissioner Alejandro commented on the safety of the U-turns. He also inquired if the left turn access was necessary to acquire a new dealership.

Mr. Candelaria clarified that this was presented to staff as the left turn access will help in the acquisition a new dealership, however, regardless of acquiring the new dealership Mr. Hong would like the access for the current used car dealership.

Commissioner Feather inquired if the original reason for no left turn access was not installed because the lot was unoccupied at the time the medians were constructed.

Mr. Candelaria stated that this could have been the reason, however if a used car lot occupied the property, the criteria may not have been met to install the left turn access at that location.

Commissioner Ashland commented that he visited Grand Motors. He drove around the block four times trying to make a left hand turn. He could not get through and believes there is a problem there. He also inquired if there is a letter stating that if Mr. Hong secures a new dealership then staff will approve the left turn access. Commissioner Ashland also asked if safety issues were the reason this request was denied and if so why aren't safety issues a concern for a new dealership.

Staff is recommending denial based on the fact that the current configuration does not comply with the criteria that were originally established. One criterion was that the location be able to accommodate a safe left turn pocket. This location meets this criterion. The other criteria are to put it in where there is either local street intersections or that the site will be a big traffic generator, such as a shopping center. Neither of these last two criteria was met. Staff informed the Commission to be aware that a left turn pocket will fit but to note that there are four requests now for left turn pockets and this situation will rise again.

Chair Kirkham noted that if the "No Left Turn" sign was not there, there is enough room for one or two cars to wait for a left turn and agrees with installing the access because the break is already there.

Staff noted that if the Commission votes to have left turns at this location; staff recommends a left turn pocket for storage because the way it is configured now, traffic would have to stop in the number one lane and wait for a gap in the traffic; this could potentially cause rear end collisions.

Commissioner Ashland inquired about the length of time it would take to bid, design, and construct a left turn pocket.

Mr. Candelaria explained the process. Mr. Hong would hire a civil engineer to design the project, staff will review and approve the plans and once the plans are approved Mr. Hong would be responsible for hiring a contractor to construct and complete the project. The City would inspect and approve the project.

Commissioner Alejandro inquired if U-turns would be allowed at this location with the construction of a left turn pocket.

Staff commented, yes, a U-turn would be allowed since there is enough room to make the turn. A U-turn would only be precluded if the street were not wide enough to accommodate the turn and if there were a signal overlap, which, there is not.

Commissioner Lindsay commented that the applicant purchased the property knowing there are no left turns allowed. He reminded the Commission about the situation with a bank at a similar location and the Commission did not approve it. He wants to encourage economic enterprise but not at the expense of safety issues.

Commissioner Ashland moved, seconded by Commissioner Alejandro not to approve staff's recommendation denying the installation of a left turn access and to approve the applicant's request for left turn access with the provision that the applicant will incur all costs associated with the design and construction of the left turn pocket based on the City's review and approval of the plans.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners: Kirkham, Feather, Alejandro, Ashland and Lindsay  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

#### Stop Sign Study Erin St. and Ingram Ave.

Mr. Candelaria introduced the staff report to consider a request to install an all-way stop at the intersection of Erin Street and Ingram Avenue.

Commissioner Ashland moved, seconded by Commissioner Lindsay to accept staff's recommendation to deny the request for an all-way stop at the intersection of Erin Street and Ingram Avenue.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners: Kirkham, Feather, Alejandro, Ashland and Lindsay  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

#### Red Curb Request 11800 Monarch Street

Mr. Candelaria introduced the staff report to consider a red curb request on both sides of the driveway approach serving 11800 Monarch Street.

Commissioner Kirkham asked for clarification of a flared drive approach.

Commissioner Ashland inquired if there were any other flared drive approaches along that section of Monarch.

Mr. Candelaria clarified the description of a flared drive approach and noted that there are not any flared drive approaches in that area.

Commissioner Alejandro inquired about the length of time the permit process takes as well as the cost of the permit.

Mr. Candelaria explained the process and the fees.

Commissioner Lindsay inquired about the poles and trees that may obstruct the installation of a City standard flared driveway.

Mr. Candelaria noted that the City would be willing to approve a design that would not necessitate the removal of a tree and noted that the standard flare drive approach will accommodate most vehicles.

Commissioner Ashland noted that the street is designed to city specifications as a narrow industrial street and that installing red curb would more easily solve the problem as there are vehicles parked on both sides of the street that tend to aggravate the problem.

Karen Wolett, 11800 Monarch Street, addressed the Commission. Ms. Wolett is representing the J.L. Wingert Company. She introduced photographs and a case study for the Commission to view. The J.L. Wingert Co. receives shipments via truck/trailers, which requires some maneuvering around the vehicles parked on either side of the drive approach. Some delivery vehicles have refused to deliver due to the difficulty of the ingress and having to maneuver around the parked vehicles. Because the J.L. Wingert Company is not the owner of the property, J. L. Wingert would have to receive permission from the landlord to install the drive approach.

Commissioner Ashland commented that if the Commission goes with staff's recommendation no action will be taken and the business will continue to be adversely affected. He believes the red curb will be at least a band-aid solution.

Commissioner Lindsay is in favor of limiting the red curb to only 1 car length on either side, as this would be the least expensive solution.

Commissioner Kirkham moved, seconded by Commissioner Alejandro to postpone any action until the next Traffic Commission meeting, whereby it will be put on the agenda pending further information from the applicant.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners: Kirkham, Feather, Alejandro, Ashland and Lindsay  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

Disabled Persons  
On-Street Parking  
10938 Lampson Ave.

Mr. Candelaria introduced the staff report to install a disabled persons on-street parking space in front of 10938 Lampson Avenue.

Commissioner Lindsay inquired about the history of installation of the disabled parking stall requests as it seems there are many coming forward in a short period of time and is there a provision for the amount of time that the parking stall is in use.

Mr. Candelaria agreed. At this time there is no provision, however, staff will review the policy and proceed with the modification process.

Chair Kirkham motioned, seconded by Commissioner Feather to accept staff's recommendation to install a disabled person on-street parking space in front of 10938 Lampson Avenue.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners: Kirkham, Feather, Alejandro, Ashland and Lindsay  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

#### Matters from the Commissioners

Commissioner Lindsay inquired about the Redlight Camera contract. He quoted an article from the Register newspaper regarding the money the City of Garden Grove is losing on the contract.

Mr. Candelaria commented that the City renewed its agreement with the vendor in March of 2007. The goal of the program is to reduce accidents, which it has done. According to the City's records the City has netted approximately \$100,000.00 in a 12-month period; this however, does not factor in the costs for the police department to administer the program.

Commissioner Ashland inquired if indeed the cameras have worked at reducing accidents.

Staff responded in the affirmative, the Redlight Camera program has significantly reduced the amount of traffic accidents within the City of Garden Grove.

Commissioner Lindsay inquired it was only the initial installation when the accidents were reduced.

Staff responded that initially when the cameras are installed drivers are cognizant of not wanting to receive a citation so the brakes are applied rapidly and a rear end collision may occur but that tapers off and the more, severe broadside type accident is reduced significantly. The cost of installation was born by Redflex, the City's vendor; there are fourteen (14) approaches that have red light cameras installed.

Commissioner Kirkham:

- Reminded staff to include the notification list in the packet they receive for each Traffic Commission meeting.
- Charles Mitchell put in a request for additional red curb on Westminster Avenue and Yockey Street; has the work order been written yet?
- Inquired if the work has been completed at 11301 Euclid and can it be enforced.

Staff field reviewed the area and wrote the work order to have additional red curb painted at the area of Westminster and Yockey.

Staff said the work order has been written for the signage, "No Parking " with arrows to signify the area of the street that vehicles should not park at on 11301 Euclid Street.

Officer Chris Wasinger commented that he would notify the traffic officers of the new "no parking" area.

## Matters from Staff

Staff brought to the Commission's attention the blue dots in the street to signify the location of the fire hydrants. Some of the dots have not been put back over time as the City resurfaces or slurry seals the streets. Mr. Candelaria spoke with the divisions that oversee those contracts. Mr. Candelaria was assured that these would be replaced when they are removed.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

*Rosemarie Jacot*

Recording Secretary