

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

Community Meeting Center  
11300 Stanford Avenue  
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Tuesday  
May 1, 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: George L. Allen, Executive Secretary, Tony Aquino, Associate Engineer, Traffic Officers, Wasinger and Nightengale, and Recording Secretary Rosemarie Jacot

ORAL

COMMUNICATIONS: Verla Lambert, 12341 Marble Place addressed the Commission. Mrs. Lambert is concerned with the tree removals from the median improvement project at Garden Grove Boulevard and Haster Street.

Jaide Eastman, P.O. Box 2401, Garden Grove CA, 92842 addressed the Commission. She is in support of not removing the trees from the median on Garden Grove Boulevard at Haster Street.

Vicki Shanklin, 11741 Faye Avenue, addressed the Commission. She is in support of not removing the trees from the median on Garden Grove Boulevard at Haster Street.

Reverend Wilfredo Benitez, St. Anselm of Canterbury Episcopal Church, addressed the Commission. He is dissatisfied with the construction of the median on Belfast Avenue. It has disrupted traffic flow into the church, the Korean shopping district and the neighborhood at large. He believes it is a safety hazard because the vehicles travel against traffic to avoid the unnecessary detour. He is requesting the intersection be opened to traffic in all directions once again.

Peggy Bergin, 12346 Marble Place, addressed the Commission. She is not in support of the new medians. She is also not in favor of the tree removals.

Sung Park, business owner in Korean Shopping District, addressed the Commission. He does not support the median on Belfast Street. He believes it does not reduce the cut-through traffic.

APPROVAL  
OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Alejandro moved, seconded by Commissioner Feather to approve the minutes of March 6, 2007.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Kirkham, Vice Chair Feather, and Commissioner Alejandro

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Commissioners: Ashland and Lindsay

ABSENT:

## OLD BUSINESS

Rickey Avenue  
Traffic Concern:

Mr. Allen introduced the staff report to advise the Commission of the results of the ballots sent to the Ricky Avenue residents regarding the traffic calming options.

No changes and an option added to the ballot by a resident received the majority of the votes, therefore, it is staff's recommendation to install "25 mile per hour" speed limit signs along Ricky Avenue and Jacalene Lane and to repaint the existing stop bar and "STOP" pavement legends on Ricky Avenue and Jacalene Lane; because both streets are classified as residential, painting a centerline is not recommended by staff.

Denise Mendoza, 11311 Jacalene Lane, addressed the Commission. Should this issue be brought to the Traffic Commission again she is requesting staff and the Commission to revisit the recommendation of painting a centerline. She believes that self addressed, stamped envelopes should have been included in the survey that was sent to the residents. This may have generated a larger response.

Mr. Allen responded that staff will continue to monitor the situation, and if additional traffic calming measures are needed, staff will recommend the centerline installation to the Traffic Commission.

Mrs. Laura Hales, 11912 Ricky Avenue, addressed the Commission. She inquired how staff came to the conclusion of a perceived traffic problem on Ricky Avenue. She inquired about speed bumps.

Mr. Allen noted that it was a resident of Ricky Avenue that initiated the complaint and the neighborhood meeting. It was noted that whether one person or ten people initiate a complaint to the Traffic Division it is always met with a response. It was also noted that City Council would not allow speed bumps or humps in the City of Garden Grove.

Commissioner Lindsay inquired if it is normal operating procedure to send a ballot to residents after public meetings and was the ratio of ballots out to ballot received low or normal.

Mr. Allen responded that, yes, this is normal operating procedure and that this was more than a normal response to the amount of ballots sent out.

Commissioner Kirkham commended the residents of Ricky Street and Jacalene Lane for seeing the resolution through and noted that if there is more to do at a later date the Commission will look at it again.

Commissioner Feather moved, seconded by Commissioner Ashland, to accept staff's recommendation to approve option 6 and to install the 25 mph stop signs and to paint the pavement legends.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Kirkham, Vice Chair Feather, Commissioners, Alejandro, Ashland, and Lindsay

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

## NEW BUSINESS

STOP SIGN CONTROL  
Taft Street @ Dorothy

The staff report was introduced by Mr. Allen to consider an all-way stop sign request for the intersection of Taft Street and Dorothy Avenue.

There being no comments or questions from the Commissioner or public input Commissioner Ashland moved, seconded by Commissioner Feather to accept staff's recommendation to deny the request to install an all-way stop sign at the intersection of Taft Street and Dorothy Avenue.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Kirkham, Vice Chair Feather, Commissioners, Alejandro, Ashland, and Lindsay  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

ADULT CROSSING GUARD  
Ward Street & Woodbury Road

The staff report was introduced to request an adult crossing guard at the intersection of Ward Street and Woodbury Road.

Robert Sloom, 13631 Bowen Street, addressed the Commission. He has one child that goes to Excelsior School. There are many vehicles making u-turns and many vehicles lining up to drop their children off.

Commissioner Ashland commented that most parents drive their children to school and that Excelsior School has a parking problem and a traffic problem on the school grounds that should be addressed. He inquired if the congestion is a school problem or a City problem.

Mr. Allen responded that the City works very closely with the school district to get the issues solved as quickly as possible.

Commissioner Feather visited the site and noted that the school will benefit from the adult crossing guard, it meets the warrants and won't address all of their issues but it will help.

Commissioner Kirkham spoke to the principal when he visited the site. He noted that the vehicles tended to stop in the middle of the crosswalk. He also noted that there are two ice cream trucks at the time school lets out. He would like to see the congestion issue addressed.

Commissioner Ashland moved, seconded by Commissioner Feather to accept staff's recommendation to assign an adult crossing guard at the intersection of Ward Street and Woodbury Road.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Kirkham, Vice Chair Feather, Commissioners, Alejandro, Ashland, and Lindsay  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

The staff report was introduced to support 62 feet of existing red curb at 9222 Trask Avenue east of Magnolia Street adjacent to the westbound SR22 off-ramp.

Commissioner Alejandro noted that there is an area between the existing red curbs and inquired if the entire length should be painted red.

Mr. Allen commented that this is the minimum that can be painted as the criteria falls within the range of the calculations that were completed. It would be beneficial to have more for the sight distance issue.

Julia Araiza, 9181 Trask Avenue, addressed the Commission. She has asked for the red curb to be removed because her tenants use this area for overflow parking. She believes the City should not be removing parking spaces without good cause. She will fax her own report and her evaluation of the traffic reports to the City. She would like the City to go back and re-evaluate their report.

Commissioner Kirkham commented that if motorists parked their vehicles in the three spaces on the south side that were painted red and then cross the street to go to the apartments they would be jaywalking. The vehicles that come off the freeway with the green light would run over anyone crossing there.

Commissioner Ashland is concerned with the traffic control box on the southeast corner. He believes this causes more sight distance obstruction than the cars parked there. In his evaluation, the traffic control box exacerbates the sight distance issue. He believes the 62' of painted red curb is overkill.

Commissioner Lindsay is concerned with the jaywalking pedestrians crossing there to go to the apartments as well.

Mr. Allen noted that the traffic control box belongs to the state and the City has no jurisdiction over the box.

Commissioner Feather moved, seconded by Chair Kirkham to accept staff's recommendation to deny the request from Pacific Company to remove the 62 feet of red curb on the south side of Trask Avenue, east of Magnolia, adjacent to the westbound SR22 off-ramp.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Chair Kirkham, Vice Chair Feather, Commissioners Alejandro and Lindsay
NOES:	Commissioner Ashland
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

MEDIAN OPENING  
ON GARDEN GROVE BLVD  
BETWEEN KERRY STREET  
AND GALWAY STREET

The staff report was introduced to consider an additional median opening on Garden Grove Boulevard between Kerry Street and Galway Street.

Commissioner Lindsay noted that the left turn goes directly into the center at the other bank in the center and that US Metro bank is set further back in the center.

Commissioner Kirkham also noted that the center is crowded and the position of US Metro Bank is set further back.

Commissioner Ashland moved, seconded by Commissioner Alejandro to accept staff's recommendation to deny the request to provide an additional median opening on Garden Grove Boulevard between Kerry Street and Galway Street.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Kirkham, Vice Chair Feather, Commissioners, Alejandro, Ashland, and Lindsay  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

MATTERS FROM  
COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Alejandro clarified that during oral communication and/or public discussion that questions are asked of staff first regarding the issue, then public speaking, then deliberation and discussion.

Chair Kirkham noted that yes this is the correct order.

Commissioner Ashland commented that the public hearings on the tree issues were interesting and he would like to hear more about it. He would like Mr. Allen to bring him up to speed on this issue.

Commissioner Lindsay would like history and information on any items of interest to the Traffic Commission since he is newly appointed.

Commissioner Feather thanked staff for the information regarding the Rickey Street traffic concerns.

Chair Kirkham, for the record, loves trees. He commented that he and his wife went to the dinner that staff informed the Commission about at the last Traffic Commission meeting. He was the only Traffic Commissioner in Orange County that attended. He and his wife were treated exceptionally and the speaker was very informative and it was very good.

MATTERS FROM  
STAFF

Mr. Allen thanked those Commissioners that attended the workshop that was presented in April of this year.

The contract was awarded for the median construction on Garden Grove Boulevard. City Council will be sending more information to staff however; the City Engineer will make any final decision on the construction items. Several years ago when the grant was applied for this item was brought to the Commission. The grant was an HES grant, Hazard Elimination Safety, now referred to as HSIP, Highway Safety Improvement Program. The overall grant covered Garden Grove Boulevard from Lewis Street to Harbor Boulevard, Magnolia Street to Fern Street, and Brookhurst Street to Magnolia Street.

Meetings were held with the businesses in the area. The list of attendees is available. The original drawings showing the openings were submitted. Unfortunately, Traffic Engineering does not cover the tree issues. These issues fall under the jurisdiction of management and City Council to make these decisions. The median design for landscaping is the same on Garden Grove Boulevard from West Street to Euclid Street and from Euclid Street to Brookhurst Street with the exception

of Brookhurst Street to Magnolia Street because the Korean Chamber of Commerce wanted to distinguish the Korean Business District.

Commissioner Ashland inquired if the Traffic Commission could participate in the decision making process of the tree issue.

Mr. Allen noted that this could be done by agendizing this item.

The fiber optic program with the Amber Alert signs has been two years in the making with Caltrans. Other agencies are also in the loop so the process has been very long and arduous and is still pending. The City may be able to go to bid by 2008.

Commissioner Alejandro inquired if there are any other grants that staff is working on.

Mr. Allen noted that several grants have been submitted. 1. Pedestrian actuated signals. 2. Opticom (signals change for the oncoming fire trucks) 3. Landscaping on Lampson Avenue median on the west side of the City. There is a bicycle helmet grant also available.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04

Respectfully Submitted

*Rosemarie Jacot*