

MINUTES
GARDEN GROVE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Tuesday
January 3, 2006

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 Marcario, Commissioners Kirkham and Ettlin

ALSO PRESENT: Executive Secretary George Allen, Tony Aquino, Associate Engineer, Dan Candelaria, Project Engineer, Officer Chris Wassinger, and Recording Secretary Rosemarie Jacot

ABSENT: Commissioner Alejandro, and Commissioner Feather

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 2005 approved with two corrections.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS

STOP SIGN STUDY
DEWEY DRIVE & BISCAYNE CRT

A request was received from the Traffic Commission to perform an all-way stop study at the intersection of Biscayne Court and Dewey Drive. The intersection is a three-legged intersection with no stop signs. Both streets are classified as residential streets with 25 mph speed limits.

Staff conducted the study. The study took into account traffic volumes, sight visibility, distance to the nearest traffic control, and accidents correctable with the installation of an all-way stop. It was determined that the intersection of Biscayne Court and Dewey Drive did not meet the minimum requirements to install an all-way stop. However, installing a stop control on Dewey Drive at Biscayne Court will help control the right-of-way at the intersection.

Commissioner Kirkham visited the site. He did not observe a problem and agrees with staff to deny an all-way stop at the intersection of Biscayne Court at Dewey Drive.

Chair Marcario visited with some of the residents that live near the corner, the residents suggested painting a center yellow line at the knuckle of the street on Biscayne Court because as the cars round the corner the vehicles are not staying on

the right side of the street; the residents were not interested in an all-way stop however, they were interested in a two way stop on Biscayne Court and Dewey Drive.

Commissioner Ettlin moved, seconded by Chair Marcario to accept staff's recommendation and deny the all-way stop at the intersection of Biscayne Court at Dewey Drive, but to install a stop sign on Dewey Drive and to paint a center line at the knuckle on Biscayne Court south of Dewey Drive.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, AND COMMISSIONER ETTLIN
NOES: COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO, AND COMMISSIONER FEATHER

RESCIND THE REQUEST
"NO PARKING 7AM TO 9AM
AND 3PM TO 4PM" AT
11742 MORRIE LANE

At the May 3, 2005, Traffic Commission meeting staff requested that "NO PARKING 7 AM TO 9 AM AND 3PM TO 4PM" in front of 11742 Morrie Lane be established. The request originated from the police department because it was noted on many occasions when school children are being dropped off at Faye Lane School vehicles parked at this location created a sight restriction for the northbound traffic on Morrie Lane attempting to make a right turn onto Patricia Drive. The restriction of parking at these times will provide a safer environment for school children by eliminating a possible hazardous condition.

The Traffic Commission approved staff's recommendation and a work order was written to install the "No Parking 7am to 9am and 3pm and 4pm" signs.

After the signs were installed, staff received a request from Mr. Sean Cannon at 11742 Morrie Lane to remove these signs in front of his residence because it affects his ability to park in front of his home.

Staff informed Mr. Cannon the reasons for the parking restrictions, however, he felt that there was not a problem and requested staff to bring this item to the Traffic Commission for consideration to remove the signs.

Staff, along with the police traffic division, have discussed this request and concluded that the restriction did indeed improve the safety of the school children.

It is staff's recommendation to deny the request to rescind the parking restriction.

Commissioner Kirkham asked for clarification regarding the distance of the parking restriction. (It was noted that the distance/ is within 25 feet on each side of the signs) He also noted that there is a fire hydrant on the corner but agreed that the safety of the children should come first and the signs should remain.

Commissioner Ettlin was in agreement with Commissioner Kirkham the signs should stay.

Chair Marcario was in agreement with staff's recommendation.

Commissioner Ettlin moved, seconded by Chair Marcario to accept staff's recommendation to not rescind the "No Parking 7am to 9am and 3pm to 4pm" in front of 11742 Morrie Lane.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, COMMISSIONER ETTLIN and COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM

NOES:

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO, AND COMMISSIONER FEATHER

ROYAL PALM BOULEVARD
SPEED RADAR FEED BACK
SIGN DATA

On June 16, 2005 staff held a neighborhood meeting with the residents of Royal Palm Boulevard to discuss the installation of Radar Speed Feed Back signs on Royal Palm Boulevard. Staff agreed to secure the data and hold another neighborhood meeting to determine if the signs should remain.

At the November 1, 2005 meeting, Commissioner Kirkham requested staff to bring the Radar Speed Feed Back sign data from Royal Palm to the January 3, 2006 Traffic Commission meeting.

Staff retrieved the speed data from the Radar Speed Feed Back signs on Royal Palm Boulevard.

Staff reported the data as follows:

- 55,403 speeds were recorded – indicating an average daily traffic volume of 577 per day.
- 95% of the vehicles are traveling at or below 33 mph.
- The eighty-fifth percentile speed was 30 mph. The eighty-fifth percentile speed is the speed that 85% of the vehicles are traveling at or below.
- The 10 mph pace was 23 to 33 mph, which indicates 69.5% of the vehicles were traveling between 23 and 33 mph.
- 1 Vehicle did travel at 72 mph.
- 63 Vehicles in the 48 days of recording were traveling over 40 mph.

The data indicates that there is no speeding problem on Royal Palm Boulevard when compared to other similar streets in the City.

The data also indicates that the existing Radar Feed Back signs are effective and should remain.

At the request of a resident, the signs were painted a forest green and blend into the existing landscape nicely.

Jerry Aguiar, 9691 Royal Palm Boulevard, addressed the Commission. He reaffirmed staff's findings and the data from the Radar Feed Back signs. He is satisfied the signs are there and his only complaint is that the charge in the battery does not last through the night so that not all vehicles are being recorded.

Commissioner Kirkham is happy the Radar Feed Back signs are working. He would like to have another neighborhood meeting.

Commissioner Ettlin is glad to get positive feedback that the signs are working.

Chair Marcario visited the site and spoke with the residents. The consensus was that speed was the issue, however this has been addressed with the Radar Feed Back signs. There was some opposition to the stop sign being installed on the corner of Bart and Royal Palm. She also had concerns with the volumes and inquired if a study is possible to limit right turns in and out as was done on Trask Avenue.

Mr. Aquino commented that the volume is not considered high for this type of street. It is a residential collector street because the surrounding local streets feed into it to access Brookhurst Street and Gilbert Street.

COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE
AT NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

At the July 11, 2005 Traffic Commission meeting staff was requested to get a ruling to determine if more than two commissioners could attend the same neighborhood meeting.

Staff received the following information from the City Clerk's office:

To allow more than two commissioners at a neighborhood meeting the meeting must have an agenda and shall be posted in the same manner as the regular meeting.

The only difference in the agenda is that only one item is listed. That item states there is a neighborhood meeting. The Chair will address the group and explain no items other than the neighborhood concerns will be discussed and that no official action will be taken. The Chair will then turn the meeting over to staff to discuss the issues of concern.

ADULT CROSSING GUARD REQUEST
LEWIS STREET AND DOWNIE PLACE

Sherry Franklin, Assistant Superintendent of the Garden Grove School District, made a request to assign an adult crossing guard to the intersection of Lewis Street and Downie Place. Ms. Franklin noted a high volume of students crossing at the intersection. She also said that both the parents and the principal are requesting a crossing guard.

For a stop sign controlled crossing to qualify for an adult crossing guard, it must satisfy two warrants. These warrants address traffic volumes entering the crossing and the number of pedestrians using the crossing.

Staff collected traffic volumes, pedestrian volumes and field checked the area. Only one of the two required warrants was satisfied; this was the pedestrian warrant.

It is staff's recommendation to receive public input and not approve assigning an adult crossing guard to the intersection of Lewis Street and Downie Place.

Commissioner Kirkham noted that the one warrant not met was the vehicle volume and that it was only 53 vehicles short of the required volume. He believes the safety of the children should come first and is in favor of approving an adult crossing guard for this intersection.

Commissioner Ettlin believes that once you make an exception to the warrants you start a precedent, however, the guidelines should be followed.

Chair Marcario noted the high density housing in the area, she also noted that the warrant that was met was the pedestrian volume and that this warrant was met by over 200% and the other warrant, vehicle volume, was short by only 53 vehicles. This could be because the school is so close that most of the students are walking.

Commissioner Ettlín commented that the towers in the area are towers for seniors only and that no children live in them.

Chair Marcario commented that by virtue of meeting the pedestrian warrant by over 200% and missing the vehicle volume by only a fraction, she is in favor of placing an adult crossing guard at the intersection of Lewis Street and Downie Place. The safety of the children comes first.

A motion to deny staff's recommendation to not approve assigning a crossing guard at the intersection of Lewis Street and Downie place was made by Commissioner Kirkham and seconded by Chair Marcario.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, AND COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM
NOES: COMMISSIONER ETTLIN
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO, AND COMMISSIONER FEATHER

A motion to assign an adult crossing guard at the intersection of Lewis Street and Downie Place was made by Commissioner Kirkham and seconded by Chair Marcario.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, AND COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM
NOES: COMMISSIONER ETTLIN
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO, AND COMMISSIONER FEATHER

MATTERS FROM THE
COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Kirkham inquired about the traffic signal on Gilbert Street just north of Chapman. He believes it hinders the flow of traffic because Costco is closed and there is not much cross traffic at that intersection.

Mr. Allen commented that staff has tried to have this signal removed several times. Community Development believes that there is a possibility of developing this center and therefore, it is justified.

Commissioner Kirkham thanked the police traffic division for a job well done at the intersection of Euclid and Chapman.

Chair Marcario inquired if barricades could be installed at Chapman and Euclid as a temporary measure prior to the median being built. She also inquired if signs had been offered to the owner of the gas station to use at the entrance and exit of the gas station.

Mr. Allen commented that the owner has been offered the signs, however, he (the owner) is not interested in signage of any kind.

Mr. Aquino stated that staff could get the barricades installed at the intersection of Chapman and Euclid.

Chair Marcario inquired about the Traffic Commissioners workshop.

Mr. Allen noted that there might be one coming in the spring.

Chair Marcario would like the Commissioners to receive a list of the residents that are notified of an upcoming item on the agenda.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

The requested removal of 25' of illegal red curbing in front of 11301 Euclid Street has been removed.

The request for "Stop Ahead" pavement markings for westbound Lampson and northbound Gilbert has been completed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Rosemarie Jacot, Recording Secretary