

MINUTES OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

REGULAR MEETING – February 10, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Traffic Commission met in Regular Session at 7:09 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 in a video conference, Chair Patz presiding. As a result of the State of Emergency in California due to the threat of COVID-19 and pursuant to Governor Newsom Executive Order N-25-20 issued on March 12, 2020, all members of the Traffic Commission attended telephonically.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners:

Chair Mejia,
Vice Chair Randall Hill
Patz, Murphy, Dean Hill, Salai,
Singer (7:15 p.m.)

Present: Staff:

Chris Kelley, City Engineer
Ron Noda, Acting Deputy City Manager
Brent Malatesta, Sergeant
Maria Veronica Enciso, Department Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Salai.

4. PRESENTATION

A. Active Transportation Plan

5. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Department Secretary Enciso confirmed that one public comment was received by the 4:00 p.m. cut off.

Commissioner Singer commented on the public comment non-agenda item that was received.

Commissioner Patz quickly informed the new commissioners how the Traffic Commission conducts the meeting and the reorganization process.

6. TRAFFIC COMMISSION REORGANIZATION

A. Annual Traffic Commission Reorganization

This report provides relevant information for the Traffic Commission's annual reorganization, by the election of the Chair and Vice Chair.

Department Secretary Enciso called for nominations for the position of Chair.

Commissioner Patz nominated Commissioner Mejia.

Commissioner Singer nominated Commissioner Hill.

Department Secretary Enciso proceeded with voting for Commissioner Mejia for the Office of Chair.

Commissioner Patz	Aye
Commissioner Mejia	Aye
Commissioner Randall Hill	Aye
Commissioner Dean Hill	Aye
Commissioner Murphy	Aye
Commissioner Salai	Aye
Commissioner Singer	Aye

Unanimously carried: The Traffic Commission appointed Commissioner Mejia as Chair.

Chair Mejia asked if there were any nominations for the position of Vice Chair.

Commissioner Singer nominated Commissioner Randall Hill as Vice Chair.

Chair Mejia asked if there were any further nominations and there were not.

Commissioner Patz	Aye
Commissioner Mejia	Aye
Commissioner Randall Hill	Aye
Commissioner Dean Hill	Aye
Commissioner Murphy	Aye
Commissioner Salai	Aye
Commissioner Singer	Aye

Unanimously Carried: The Traffic Commission appointed Commissioner Randall Hill as Vice Chair.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve the Minutes for the Special Meeting of November 10, 2020

Commissioner Patz mentioned he provided comments to Department Secretary Enciso.

Motion/Second: Patz/Murphy

Carried 5/0: The Traffic Commission approved the minutes of the Special meeting of November 10, 2020 with amendments given to Department Secretary Enciso.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Chair Mejia	Aye
Vice Chair Randall Hill	Aye
Commissioner Patz	Aye
Commissioner Dean Hill	Abstain
Commissioner Murphy	Aye

Commissioner Salai Abstain
Commissioner Singer Aye

8. STAFF REPORTS

A. Establishment of Posted Speed Limit

Willdan has completed the Engineering and Traffic Survey for 17 segments on seven different roadways in the City of Los Alamitos.

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab summarized the staff report.

Commissioner Singer asked Traffic Engineer Iranitalab about posted speed limit and receiving a speeding ticket. Sergeant Malatesta explained the citing of a speeding ticket.

Commissioner Dean Hill asked about the speed limit that is along Cerritos Avenue as it goes through the City of Long Beach and City of Cypress. Traffic Engineer Iranitalab mentioned that the speed limit in those areas are 45 mph and the area in front of Los Alamitos High School is 35 mph.

Vice Chair Randall Hill expressed the confirmation that all the listed speed limits will be increased.

Commissioner Patz followed up that unless there is a methodology in place to prevent it, the speed would increase 5 mph (due to the MUTCD).

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab shared that it is a losing battle as the courts would throw out any traffic fine if it was proved that the MUTCD guidelines were not followed.

Vice Chair Randall Hill asked about using the Active Transportation Plans as a reason to lessen the speed limit.

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab explained that it cannot be used as an excuse [to lessen speed limits].

Chair Mejia shared that he recalled the last speed survey that was conducted only had one street where the speed limit was raised. He then asked when this will be going to the City Council. Traffic Engineer Iranitalab stated it would be in March.

B. 2020 Los Alamitos Traffic Collision Report

This report provides the Traffic Commission with information regarding traffic collisions in Los Alamitos for 2020.

Acting Deputy City Manager Noda summarized the staff report.

Sergeant Malatesta shared additional information to the staff report.

Commissioner Patz shared that it was interesting to see a breakdown of the information regarding the reported versus non-reported traffic collision.

Vice Chair Randall Hill mentioned that there were two more accidents in the year 2020 than 2019 and asked if the ratio went up due to speed. Sergeant Malatesta shared that speed is usually the factor.

C. Traffic Commission Status Log

This is a tracking tool used by the Commission to track assignments and accomplishments.

Chair Mejia quickly informed the new Traffic Commissioners what the status log is about

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab quickly shared that the visually impaired project on Florista Street and Los Alamitos Boulevard has been completed.

Commissioner Murphy noted the following:

- Item C5 – asked when the project will begin
- Item B6 – asked for an update

Commissioner Patz asked about the speed hump policy. Acting Deputy City Manager Noda shared that it will included in the next Traffic Commission Meeting.

Vice Chair Randall Hill noted the following:

- Item A30 – update the “requested by” to Randall Hill
- Item A34 – requested an update
- Item C1 – move to completed

9. ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER

Acting Deputy City Manager Noda further updated the Traffic Commission on the Old Town West Traffic Calming Project.

City Engineer Kelley discussed the following:

- The arterial street name signs have been installed on Los Alamitos Boulevard.
- Contractors working at the Marriot Fairfield Inn & Suites have wrapped up the offsite work.
- The offsite improvements are being done this week at Oak Walk.
- SoCalGas will be wrapping up their project [at the intersection of Los Alamitos Boulevard and Katella Avenue].

10. TRAFFIC COMMISSION INITIATED BUSINESS

Commissioner Patz shared that at the corner of Reagan Street and Briggeman Drive is a need for a stop sign. Acting Deputy City Manager Noda shared that City staff is aware of this issue and the Public Works team will have it installed.

Commissioner Singer shared that there is a rusty handrail on the southeast corner of Los Alamitos Boulevard and Katella Avenue at the [Chase] bank. Acting Deputy City Manager Noda shared that the handrail was placed for safety reasons.

Commissioner Singer asked about the renaming of Civic Center Way to Epsom Way. Acting Deputy City Manager shared that it was completed over the summer and to reach out to him to discuss his other questions.

Chair Mejia discussed the following:

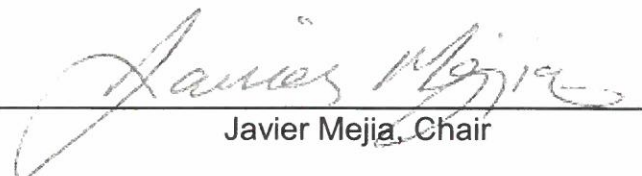
- Thanked the City staff because the street name signs looks great.
- Thanked Acting Deputy City Manager Noda for getting crosswalks more visible, they look terrific.
- Asked about two fire hydrants located near Katella Deli on Lexington Drive and Katella Avenue, if the one fire hydrant will be removed.
- Asked about a reflective study of stop signs. Traffic Engineer Iranitalab shared there is no consistent policy.
- Shared that there are many washed out signs in the city.
- Asked if the City found out who the Edison representative was. Acting Deputy City Manager confirmed that he did.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second: Patz/Singer

Carried 7/0: The Traffic Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting until March 10, 2021.

The Traffic Commission adjourned at 9:31 p.m.


Javier Mejia, Chair

Attest:


Maria Veronica Enciso, Department Secretary

