

MINUTES OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

REGULAR MEETING – January 08, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Traffic Commission met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on January 08, 2020 in the Council Chamber, 3191 Katella Avenue, Los Alamitos, California, Chair Hill presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Chair Patz
Vice Chair Mejia
Hill, Coxhill, Singer, Rodman, and West

Present: Staff: Chris Kelley, City Engineer
Farhad Iranitalab, Traffic Engineer
Brent Malatesta, Sergeant
Maria Veronica Enciso, Department Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Singer.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Chair Hill opened the meeting for Oral Communications.

There being no speakers, Chair Hill closed Oral Communications

5. 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 West nominated Vice Chair Patz.

Department Secretary Enciso asked if there were any other nominations and there were not.

Commissioner Hill	Aye
Commissioner Patz	Aye
Commissioner Coxhill	Aye
Commissioner Rodman	Aye
Commissioner Singer	Aye
Commissioner West	Aye

Commissioner Mejia Aye

Unanimously carried: The Traffic Commission appointed Vice Chair Patz as Chair.

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

Commissioner Rodman nominated Commissioner Mejia as Vice Chair.

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

Commissioner Hill	Aye
Commissioner Patz	Aye
Commissioner Coxhill	Aye
Commissioner Rodman	Aye
Commissioner Singer	Aye
Commissioner West	Aye
Commissioner Mejia	Aye

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

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of November 13, 2019

Chair Patz noted changes given to Department Secretary Enciso prior to the meeting.

Commissioner West noted the following changes:

- Page 4, second paragraph – change “Brent” to “Sergeant Malatesta”

Motion/Second: Mejia/West

Carried 7/0: The Traffic Commission approved the minutes of the Regular meeting of November 13, 2019 with amendments.

7. STAFF REPORTS

A. Petition for Speed Humps in Old Town West – Update

On August 5, 2019 the City received a petition signed by ninety-eight (98) residents and two postal carriers. The residents live on Walnut Street, Oak Street and Chestnut Street. Traffic volumes on these streets range from 1,600 to 3,200 cars per day. Following the August 5th meeting, a speed survey was ordered and conducted in the neighborhood and the results were presented to the Traffic Commission during the October 9, 2019 meeting. A second speed survey is in process in order to confirm the findings of the first study.

City Engineer Kelley summarized the staff report.

Commissioner Coxhill and Traffic Engineer Iranitalab discussed the speed survey that was conducted in September 2019.

Sergeant Malatesta discussed the following Police traffic activity in the neighborhood for the month of September from Monday to Friday.

- 49 traffic stops
- 4 patrol checks
- 11 parking issues
- 2 non-injury traffic collisions
- 4 pedestrian/bike stops
- 33 citations issued

Commissioner Coxhill and Sergeant Malatesta discussed the issue of the Police Department not receiving enough calls about speed vehicles [in the neighborhood].

Commissioner Singer and Sergeant Malatesta discussed the 49 traffic stops and what kind of traffic stops were made.

Commissioner Hill asked Sergeant Malatesta if the 33 citations is an abnormal number or if it is the average in the area. Sergeant Malatesta clarified that it is unequivocally a result of activity that is going on.

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab clarified that it is difficult to determine how many of the 33 citations were due to speeding especially with the 250 feet between each stop sign.

The Traffic Commission discussed the following:

- The cause requires a second speed survey.
- The cost of the study being \$800.
- The difference that will occur during the second speed survey in regards to presence of the ghost Police vehicles.

Commissioner Coxhill discussed cellphone applications, such as Waze, that give drivers directions and how to stop them from using the neighborhoods as a pathway to get to a certain location.

Vice Chair Mejia wanted to know if there was anything else that can be used aside from speed humps.

Commissioner West clarified that the study didn't meet the threshold therefore speed humps were not recommended and that having a second study would verify the results of the first study.

Commissioner Coxhill asked what the formal guidelines are for recommending speed humps.

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab discussed how the first study was split up in two sections and that changing the study to be done block-by-block would not make a difference with the results meeting the threshold.

Commissioner Hill discussed what Commissioner Coxhill brought up about the cellphone applications and agreed with her discussion of having them stop using the neighborhoods as a path of travel. He also discussed that there were 68% of the residents who signed the petition and that the OCFA letter that was provided should be what the commission considers as factors.

Chair Patz expressed his concern of drivers running through the stop signs and that he has had his own observations.

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab discussed the use of stop signs and how people lose the respect of stop signs which is when people do a rolling stop.

Commissioner Singer asked what kind of threshold would determine the need for speed humps once all the information is gathered.

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab clarified that if the 85% percentile changes from 25 mph to 30 mph is when it would meet the threshold.

Commissioner West asked and received clarification from Traffic Engineer Iranitalab that the speed humps would be 300 feet away from each other.

Commissioner Coxhill received clarification from Traffic Engineer Iranitalab that enforcement is the way to control speeding.

Commissioner Singer asked what the next step would be [in this process] and Chair Patz clarified that the next step is to discuss the second speed survey and decide whether to move forward or not in the February meeting.

B. Traffic Commission Status Log

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

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab updated the Traffic Commission that he will inform the school district before the installation of the right turn lane and then have a traffic order completed.

8. ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER

City Engineer Kelley addressed the removal of the speed hump behind Katella Deli.

9. TRAFFIC COMMISSION INITIATED BUSINESS

Commissioner Hill discussed the following:

- Left turn lane on westbound Katella Avenue and southbound Los Alamitos Boulevard.
- Introduce City Engineer Kelley.

Chair Patz thanked Commissioner Hill for his time as a Chair.

City Engineer Kelley briefly introduced himself.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second: Coxhill/Singer

Carried 7/0: The Traffic Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting until February 12, 2019.

The Traffic Commission adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Daniel Patz, Chair

Attest:


Maria Veronica Enciso, Department Secretary

