

MINUTES OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

REGULAR MEETING – October 14, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Traffic Commission met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 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 Patz,
Vice Chair Meija
Coxhill, Hill, Murphy, Singer, West (7:49 p.m.)

Present: Staff: Chris Kelley, City Engineer
Ron Noda, Acting Deputy City Manager
Brent Malatesta, Sergeant
Farhad Iranitalab, Traffic Engineer
Maria Veronica Enciso, Department Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Murphy.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Department Secretary Enciso confirmed that there were no public comments received by the 4:00 p.m. cut off.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

6. STAFF REPORTS

A. Traffic and Engineering Survey to Establish Speed Limit

On April 21, 2014 City Council approved and adopted an Engineering and Traffic (E&T) Survey establishing speed limits on 17 segments of roadways citywide. The purpose of the Traffic and Engineering Survey is to determine whether changes in pre-existing conditions have occurred where older speed limits should be modified. The last E&T expire on April 21, 2021.

Willdan is authorized to perform an Engineering and Traffic Survey to determine the validity of existing posted speed limits or new speed limits that should be established.

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab summarized the staff report.

Commissioner Singer asked the following:

- How staff determines which company does the speed survey? Traffic Engineer Iranitalab clarified that the National Data and Surveying Services (NDS) will gather the data as part of the contract with Willdan's services.
- How many years the City has been using Willdan for their service? City Engineer Kelley and Acting Deputy City Manager Noda clarified that it has been approximately 11 years.

Commissioner Murphy asked the following:

- When the survey is done, if they are going both directions (east bound and west bound)? Traffic Engineer Iranitalab clarified that they are done in both directions.
- How the segments were chosen? Traffic Engineer Iranitalab explained that they were set in 2014 based on the changes of the [city] boundaries or between two major streets.

Commissioner Hill asked if the [segments] are the busiest avenues. Traffic Engineer Iranitalab clarified that residential areas are already set at 25 mph by law so there is no need to have a speed survey in those areas. Any other locations above or below the speed limit of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) is when a survey is completed.

B. Crosswalk Striping

Staff has identified several areas within Los Alamitos to restripe or stripe crosswalks where students travel on their way to school or back home.

Acting Deputy City Manager Noda summarized the staff report.

Commissioner Hill asked and received confirmation from Acting Deputy City Manager Noda that the intersection at Bloomfield Street and Katella Avenue was completed.

Chair Patz asked when the striping at Cerritos Avenue and Los Alamitos Boulevard will be completed and suggested that the City holds off this portion due to the construction project at the Los Alamitos High School that may ruin the paint. Acting Deputy City Manager Noda shared that it may be scheduled in two or three weeks, but will inquire with the Public Works Division and striping company.

Commissioner Singer asked if City staff will complete the project. Acting Deputy City Manager Noda clarified that a third party is contracted out for the project because the City is not capable of doing it in-house.

Commissioner Murphy asked if any of the listed intersections are new crosswalks. Acting Deputy City Manager Noda listed the following:

- Cerritos Avenue and Del Norte Way isn't striped yellow.
- Los Alamitos Boulevard and Orangewood there is a crosswalk going across Los Alamitos Boulevard.
- Los Alamitos Boulevard and Florista Street is a standard white crosswalk.

Commissioner Hill asked about the intersection at Los Alamitos Boulevard and Rossmoor Way [to be striped]. Acting Deputy City Manager Noda clarified that the area exceeds the 300 feet limit from the school, has no crossing guard, and not a lot of pedestrian traffic, which doesn't warrant crosswalk striping.

Commissioner Coxhill asked when next year the other streets would be addressed. Acting Deputy City Manager Noda clarified the next fiscal year starts in July and would try to get the work done before school starts.

Vice Chair Mejia discussed the following:

- When the crosswalk at Los Alamitos Boulevard and Cerritos Avenue was redone and clarified that if the work was done within three years, it goes to show how the paint holds up and confirms that thermoplastic is more durable.
- Asked what striping will be used on Los Alamitos Boulevard and Sausalito Street. Acting Development Services Director stated that he will add this intersection to the list.

C. Traffic Commission Status Log

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

Vice Chair Mejia noted the following:

- Item C3 – update on the project
- Item C2 – quick discussion on item

Commissioner Murphy noted the following:

- Item C4 – update on street sweeping signage

7. ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER

City Engineer Kelley discussed the following:

- Marriot Fairfield Inn and Suites contractor will be completing the Briggeman Drive street widening next week.
 - The Traffic Commission and staff discussed the traffic control plan for this project.

- Golden State Water Company (GSWC) will have waterline work at the Los Alamitos High School for two weeks of night work and then at the Elementary School for three Saturdays.
- Los Alamitos Luxury Apartments contractors will install a sewer lateral and manholes on Cerritos Avenue. Next will be the storm drain.

Acting Deputy City Manager Noda updated the Traffic Commission on the following:

- The Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) sewer project is slated to begin summer 2021 and there will tentatively be a presentation at the November City Council meeting.
- The Active Transportation Plan will be holding a community stakeholder meeting on October 21 at 5:30 p.m.
- Film and Food Fest Series at the Los Alamitos Youth Baseball (LAYB) lot.
- Drive through Trunk or Treat event on Pine Street held on October 24.
- Halloween decorating contest on October 27, judging begins at 7:00 p.m.
- Coffee with a Cop on Wednesday, October 28 at the Dohnut Hut from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
- There will not be a Holiday Commissioner Dinner this year due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- The November Traffic Commission meeting is scheduled for November 11, asked if the commissioners would like to go dark or reschedule.

Vice Chair Mejia asked if there was an update on the Old Town West project that was presented to the City Council. Noda clarified that council has approved the project and it is slated to go out to bid in November and hopefully the project early 2021.

8. TRAFFIC COMMISSION INITIATED BUSINESS

Commissioner Hill shared the following:

- Apologized about last meeting if he was rude to anybody.
- Have flyers for the Active Transportation Plan meeting.
- Asked why the City is currently the only city in red in regards to COVID.
 - Acting Deputy City Manager Noda clarified that the care facility on Katella Avenue had an increase in COVID cases.

Commissioner Murphy discussed the following:

- If the alleyways are in the purview of the Traffic Commission and would like to put it on the agenda about the trash in the alleys.
- If there is an ordinance about loud cars or motorcycles.
 - Sergeant Malatesta confirmed that there is a California Vehicle Code (CVC).
- Serve Los Al event at St. Isidore and interest to do this even again.

Acting Deputy City Manager Noda asked for clarification from Commissioner Murphy's first question about alleyways and updated him about what the City is doing to mediate the trash in the alley.

Vice Chair Mejia shared that it is good to inform people about the proper disposal of bulky items and who to contact when they see areas that are an eyesore. Acting Deputy City Manager Noda confirms that residents can call the City.

Commissioner Singer shared his comment about the most recent City Council meeting about the Old Town West neighborhood item.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second: Mejia/Murphy

Carried 7/0: The Traffic Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting until November 11, 2020.

The Traffic Commission adjourned at 8:08 p.m.



Daniel Patz, Chair

Attest:



Maria Veronica Enciso, Department Secretary

