

MINUTES OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

REGULAR MEETING – January 10, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Traffic Commission met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, Chair Patz presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Chair Patz,
Vice Chair Murphy
D. Hill, R. Hill, Marchese, Mejia, and Rojas

Present: Staff: Ron Noda, Development Services Director
Chris Kelley, City Engineer
Farhad Iranitalab, Traffic Engineer
Vandine Ouk, Department Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Rojas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Chair Patz opened oral communications.

Chair Patz 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.

Chair Patz introduced the New Traffic Commissioner, Joel Rojas.

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

Commissioner Patz nominated Commissioner Murphy.

Department Secretary Ouk asked if there were any further nominations, and there were none.

Department Secretary Ouk proceeded with voting for Commissioner Murphy for the Office of Chair.

Commissioner D. Hill	Aye
Commissioner R. Hill	Aye
Commissioner Marchese	Aye
Commissioner Mejia	Aye
Commissioner Murphy	Aye
Commissioner Patz	Aye
Commissioner Rojas	Aye

Carried 7/0: The Traffic Commission appointed Commissioner Murphy as Chair.

Chair Murphy called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair.

Vice Chair Murphy nominated Commissioner Mejia.

Chair Murphy asked if there were any further nominations, and there were none.

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

Commissioner D. Hill	Aye
Commissioner R. Hill	Aye
Commissioner Marchese	Aye
Commissioner Mejia	Aye
Commissioner Murphy	Aye
Commissioner Patz	Aye
Commissioner Rojas	Aye

Carried 7/0: The Traffic Commission appointed Commissioner Mejia as Vice Chair.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

All Consent Calendar items may be acted upon by one motion unless a Traffic Commissioner requests separate action on a specific item.

A. Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of November 8, 2023.

Motion/Second: Patz/R. Hill

Carried 6/0 (Rojas abstained): The Traffic Commission approved the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 8, 2023.

7. STAFF REPORTS

A. Conceptual Proposed Striping of Los Alamitos Boulevard between Katella Avenue and Coyote Creek

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab summarized the staff report.

Development Services Director Noda discussed the following:

- Outreach that launched the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) and added 18 projects for the City, with this proposed striping plan as the second.
- Additional bike lanes and wayfaring signage will be installed on Bloomfield Avenue once the federal grant is received later this year.
- Implementing bike lanes to connect to neighboring cities, counties, and river channels can help the City reach the ATP goal.

Commissioner R. Hill stated that being bike-friendly is not only a City goal but a county-wide one, and with the limited opportunities the City has, the proposed striping will help the City meet the goal.

Commissioner Marchese asked and received clarification on the following:

- Studies that support the use of bike lanes throughout the state and their impact once the bike lanes connect cities.
- The second right lane on Los Alamitos Boulevard before Cerritos Avenue is a shared through and right turn lane with proposed K71 bollards as a barrier between the second lane and bike lane for safety.

Vice Chair Mejia stated that the shared through and right lane would cause congestion in traffic, but it would reduce the traffic speed and be a good safety initiative.

Vice Chair Mejia expressed concern about the following:

- Merging lane on Los Alamitos Boulevard right after Katella Avenue.
- Narrow sidewalk on Los Alamitos Boulevard south of Katella Avenue

Vice Chair Mejia asked and received clarification from Traffic Engineer Iranitalab that complete striping will be done on Los Alamitos Boulevard between Katella Avenue and Cerritos Avenue.

Commissioner D. Hill inquired about the following:

- Class Four Bike Lane: Traffic Engineer Iranitalab explained that a curb precisely separates bicycle paths from pedestrian paths.

- Placement of K71 Bollard: Traffic Engineer Iranitalab clarified that K71 Bollards will be placed only on Los Alamitos Boulevard before the turn on Cerritos Avenue. Vice Chair Murphy stated that having delineators on the whole path would cause a lot of disarray.
- Space between the lanes: Traffic Engineer Iranitalab confirmed there will be enough space for a car door to open.
- Bollard installation between Serpentine Drive and Catalina Street: Traffic Engineer Iranitalab advised that it would not be practical.
- “No Parking” signs until after school drop-off hours: Development Services Director Noda suggested completing the Street Sweeping and Residential Parking Survey to express concern.
- Bike lanes on the sidewalk: Development Services Director Noda stated that there is no municipal code for bicyclists on sidewalks. If bicyclists feel safer traveling on the sidewalk, they can do so.

Commissioner Rojas expressed concern about vehicles crossing over the bike path to get to the drop-off zone. Traffic Engineer Iranitalab stated that drivers would be more aware of the striping and more careful when entering and exiting the zone.

Commissioner Rojas asked and received clarification on the following:

- Signage plan to assist with informing drivers of the bike path.
- The proposed plan was approved by Council as part of a Capital Improvement Project (CIP).

Chair Murphy asked and received clarification about the following:

- The bike lane would cross into Florista Street and include a hawk system overhead to notify vehicles of the bike lane.
- Motorized bikes are allowed in the bike lane.
- Existing lanes will stay the same width.

Chair Murphy inquired about training on how to use the bike lane. Traffic Engineer Iranitalab suggested that videos of proper bike lane use be posted on the city website.

Commissioner D. Hill asked and received clarification from Traffic Engineer Iranitalab that bicyclists follow vehicles' rules.

D. Hill asked and received clarification from Traffic Engineer Iranitalab on the direction of travel for bicyclists on each side of Los Alamitos Boulevard.

Commissioner Marchese expressed concern about bicyclists traveling straight through Los Alamitos Boulevard instead of following the path through Florista Street.

Commissioner Rojas asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda about bicyclists being required to go with the flow of traffic.

Motion/Second: Patz/Rojas

Carried 7/0: The Traffic Commission approved the Conceptual Proposed Striping of Los Alamitos Boulevard between Katella Avenue and Coyote Creek with the noted revision to incorporate right turn lane striping from Katella Avenue to Florista Street.

B. Conceptual Corner Improvement at the Intersections of Los Alamitos Boulevard at Rossmoor Way and Bradbury Road

Traffic Engineer Iranitalab summarized the staff report.

Development Services Director Noda suggested the Commission keep the upcoming Neighborhood Entryway and Signage project in mind.

The Traffic Commission asked and received clarification on the following:

- The median is extended for safety and calming measures.
- 36" of clearance between the traffic light and the curb is required.
- Removing the existing pole and placing it on the median.
- Options 1 and 2 are Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and Building Code compliant.
- Existing lines will be restriped up to 100 feet from the project.

Commissioner Marchese expressed concern about the cost of Option 1 and recommended another option to be presented.

Chair Murphy requested clarification that the lanes will remain the same width on both sides of Bradbury Road and Rossmoor Way. Development Services Director Noda confirmed that they would be adequate.

Commissioner Rojas commended staff for bringing this idea forward.

Motion/Second: Patz/Mejia

Carried 6/1 (Marchese voted against): The Traffic Commission approved the Conceptual Corner Improvement at the Intersections of Los Alamitos Boulevard at Rossmoor Way and Bradbury Road as presented.

C. Traffic Commission Status Log

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

Commissioner R. Hill recommended recategorizing item E2 to Section A, completed.

Chair Murphy asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda on the completion of item E1.

8. FROM THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Development Services Director Noda discussed the following:

- Remaining workshops for the Neighborhood Parking and Street Sweeping Survey.
- Commission Dinner invitation.
- Stay connected to the City's social media platforms for upcoming events and projects such as the Street Rehabilitation Project, I-605 Freeway Project, Bloomfield Street Improvement Project, Pine Street Downtown Improvement Project, and the Los Angeles County Sewer District Rehabilitation Project.

City Engineer Kelley briefly discussed the Bloomfield Street Improvement Project awarding at the City Council Meeting on January 16, 2024.

Commissioner Patz asked and received clarification from City Engineer Kelley about the tentative project start date of March 2024.

Commissioner Marchese inquired on which neighborhood the residents who attended the first Neighborhood Parking and Street Sweeping Survey Workshop were from. Development Services Director Noda provided clarification.

9. TRAFFIC COMMISSION INITIATED BUSINESS

Commissioner Patz requested the "No Right Turn" sign when traveling southbound on Bloomfield Avenue before San Bonito Avenue to be replaced due to fading. Development Services Director Noda advised Commissioner Patz to provide a photo of the area to produce a service request internally.

Vice Chair Mejia discussed the following:

- Thanked the Development Services Department for repairing the potholes on Katella Avenue.

- Reported non-operable safety light on Lexington Drive and Katella Avenue.
- Requested information on parking tickets issued in the different neighborhoods: Development Services Director Noda recommended Vice Chair Mejia contact the Police Department.
- Inquired about the naming of neighborhoods: Development Services Director Noda stated the naming will be discussed in May 2024.

Commissioner Marchese expressed concern about street-sweeping policies not being consistent throughout the City.

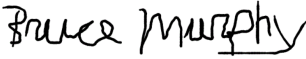
Commissioner D. Hill requested an item to be added to the Traffic Commission Status Log: Add a second guardrail along the southeast corner of Katella Avenue and Los Alamitos Boulevard.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second: Murphy/Patz

Carried 7/0: The Traffic Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting until February 14, 2024.

The Traffic Commission adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

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Bruce Murphy, Chair

Attest:

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Vandine Ouk, Department Secretary