

MINUTES OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

REGULAR MEETING – October 9, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Traffic Commission met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, Chair Murphy presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Present: Staff: Ron Noda, Dep. City Manager/Development
Services Director
Irving Montenegro Jr., Development Services
Manager
Chris Kelley, City Engineer
Vandine Ouk, Department Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Rojas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PRESENTATION

Southern California Edison (SCE) Representative, Tony Cardenas presented a PowerPoint presentation on Transportation Electrification.

The Traffic Commission asked and received clarification from Representative Cardenas on the following:

- The system average interruption duration index (SAIDI) for Los Alamitos was higher in 2022 because there was more rainfall that affected the equipment.
- A momentary interruption is when power is shut off for a short period of time.
- Charging a vehicle is more cost effective than fueling.

Development Services Director Noda asked when the mandate is for government entities to convert to electric vehicle.

Chair Murphy asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda that private parties purchased the electric vehicle charging stations that are currently in the city.

Vice Chair Mejia requested an estimate and potential savings for replacing all outdated overhead intersection lights to higher efficiency.

Development Services Director Noda stated that the city allocates approximately fifty thousand dollars annually to convert the lights to LED at intersections.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Chair Murphy opened oral communications.

Chair Murphy closed oral communications.

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 September 11, 2024.

Motion/Second: Patz/Marchese

Carried 5/0 (D. Hill and R. Hill absent): The Traffic Commission approved the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2024.

7. STAFF REPORTS

A. Traffic Study – New Dutch Haven

Development Services Manager Montenegro Jr. summarized the staff report.

Commissioner Marchese recommended roundabouts in the middle of the intersections. Development Services Director Noda stated data is needed to warrant the installation of a roundabout.

Commissioner Marchese asked Development Services Manager Montenegro Jr. for clarification that the striping calming measures help reduce speed by creating the illusion of narrowed lanes.

Commissioner Marchese asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda that the Traffic Engineer's study warrants the installation of stop signs.

Commissioner Rojas asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda that the study indicates speeds are approaching excessive levels, justifying the installation of stop signs.

Vice Chair Mejia discussed the following:

- Residents in that area reaching out to complain about the speeding issue
- Installing stop signs one section at a time
- Comparison of data to Old Town West before calming measures were installed

Chair Murphy asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda that flashing stop signs can be disruptive to the residents.

Chair Murphy requested speed limit signs be installed in the neighborhood and a stop sign on Antietam Avenue. Development Services Director Noda will address the additional stop sign with Traffic Engineer Iranitalab.

Commissioner Marchese stated that she lives on Howard and agrees that vehicles drive by quickly.

Resident Robert Feldman thanked the city for conducting the study and hopes the Traffic Commission votes to install the stop signs in the New Dutch Haven neighborhood.

Vice Chair Mejia stated that there are flashing stop signs that only blink when the vehicle is in front of the sign.

Vice Chair Mejia requested a mobile trailer for a speed limit sign to be set up.

Motion/Second: Patz/Mejia

5/0 (D. Hill and R. Hill absent): The Traffic Commission approved the installation of stop signs as presented along with a mobile speed limit sign.

B. Traffic Commission Status Log

This is a traffic tool the Traffic Commission uses to track assignments and accomplishments.

Chair Murphy asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda that item E7 is completed.

7. FROM THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Development Services Director Noda briefly discussed the following:

- The e-bike plan will be presented by the Police Department at the November Traffic Commission Meeting
- Amendment of Speed Hump policy to come at a future meeting
- Requested the Traffic Meeting in December is not held
- Closing out the Permit Parking survey and presenting it in January, 2025 Traffic Commission Meeting
- Nites on Pine – Saturday, October 19th from 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- Trunk or Treat - Saturday, October 26th from 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- SCE Underground Vault Installation along Los Alamitos Boulevard south of Katella Avenue
- The Citywide Street Improvement Project is starting October 21st
- Pine Street Design has begun due to being awarded the OCTA grant
- Bloomfield Active Transportation Plan (ATP) Design has begun due to being awarded a grant from Congresswoman Michelle Steel
- Los Alamitos Boulevard Signing and Striping Project has commenced
- Katella Avenue Signing and Striping Project to commence in the upcoming weeks

Chair Murphy asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda that the speed humps in the alleyways were removed due to damage and/or missing parts.

Development Services Manager Montenegro Jr. briefly discussed the resumption of the Sterns Park Project.

Commissioner Marchese asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda that the Town Center Mix Use plan for Downtown Pine Street can be found on our City website.

8. TRAFFIC COMMISSION INITIATED BUSINESS

Vice Chair Mejia recommended that the taper of the Los Angeles Sanitation District (LA San) Project be installed further west. City Engineer Kelley stated he could mention the recommendation to LA San.

Vice Chair Mejia asked Development Services Director Noda for clarification: The results from the neighborhood signage survey will be presented in February 2025, as will the status of the name change for the Apartment Row neighborhood.

Vice Chair Murphy asked and received clarification from City Engineer Kelley that the Lexington Signing and Striping Project is expected to start in four weeks.

Commissioner Patz mentioned observing the City of Cypress installing reclaimed water pipes and inquired whether the City of Los Alamitos could access them.

Development Services Director Noda replied that he is investigating the matter with the Orange County Sanitation District.

Chair Murphy expressed his appreciation for timely communication from staff to city elected officials.

Chair Murphy asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda that the City is in the process of updating the Commission handbook, which will be distributed early next year.

Vice Chair Mejia asked and received clarification from Development Services Director Noda that no members of the Traffic Commission board terms are due to expire; however, a reorganization is scheduled for January 2025.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second: Patz/Murphy

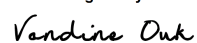
Carried 5/0 (D. Hill and R. Hill absent): The Traffic Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting until November 13, 2024.

The Traffic Commission adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

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Bruce Murphy, Chair 4/8/2025

Attest:

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Vandine Ouk, Department Secretary 4/9/2025