

**MINUTES
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 5, 2016**

Chair Mote called the Traffic and Transportation Commission meeting of May 5, 2016 to order at 6:32 p.m. Commissioner Woodward led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL (1):

PRESENT: Beger, Kester, Lopez, Mote, Woodward

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT:

David Jacobs, Interim Director of Public Works; Kristin Taylor, Assistant Engineer; Norman Wray, GIS Specialist; Sgt. Nghia Nguyen; and Ella Jones, Senior Administrative Assistant.

CONSENT CALENDAR (2):

Commissioner Woodward moved to approve item 2 on the consent calendar.

(2) Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 15, 2016

Recommended Action: **Approve**

MOTION: Woodward
SECOND: Lopez
AYES: Beger, Kester, Lopez, Mote, Woodward
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS (3):

(3) Review, Discuss, and Recommend Approval to City Council to Add a New Traffic Signal at Commonwealth Avenue and Indiana Avenue.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Kristin Taylor, Assistant Engineer gave a report that the City of Buena Park has received a number of requests from citizens requesting street lighting, crosswalks, and a traffic signal at the intersection of Commonwealth Avenue and Indiana Avenue. Ms. Taylor stated the complaints were about the speeding vehicles on Commonwealth Avenue. Ms. Taylor also stated residents reported that everyday there are school buses at this intersection dropping off and picking up children. The residents are very concerned with the children crossing Commonwealth Avenue. Ms. Taylor reported the

residents are stating they are very concerned that this intersection is dangerous. Ms. Taylor stated a traffic engineering study was performed. The study was completed to determine if traffic signalization was necessary. Ms. Taylor reported the study performed uses the guidelines of the 2014 California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD). Ms. Taylor explained the CAMUTCD has nine traffic and operational criteria's, which are referred to as "warrants", to determine if a traffic signal should be considered for installation. Taylor stated the CAMUTCD study found seven of the nine warrants for the intersection at Commonwealth Avenue and Indiana Avenue were met.

Ms. Taylor also reported the crash history from the past 10 year involved 29 collisions. It was noted engineers determined that 20 of the 29 vehicle collisions may not have occurred, if there was a traffic signal. Ms. Taylor reported one traffic collision was fatal. Ms. Taylor reported five other traffic collisions involved serious medical attention. Ms. Taylor reported 83% of the vehicle crashes occurred in the afternoon and evening hours.

In addition, Ms. Taylor reported a number of local residents were very concerned with the high amount of vehicles speeding down Commonwealth Avenue. Ms. Taylor stated engineers found that most vehicles were found in violation of the posted 40 mph speed limit. Ms. Taylor suggested should the Commonwealth Avenue and Indiana Avenue intersection have an installed traffic signal it would be able to help control traffic speeds and flow.

Ms. Taylor stated based on all the traffic signal study findings, the recommendation is signalizing the intersection at Commonwealth Avenue and Indiana Avenue to reduce future vehicle collisions and improve the traffic flow along Commonwealth Avenue.

Ms. Taylor stated installing a traffic signal could take up to two years to complete due to the time it would take to program, fund, design, and construct. Ms. Taylor recommended the Department of Public Works take preventative measures and completes the installation of the recommended red zone and street lighting improvements. Ms. Taylor noted improved street lighting could be designed in a way to become part of the traffic signal and reduce construction expenses.

Ms. Taylor reported the estimated budget impact to hire an engineering consultant to complete the design plans, specification, and estimate could take approximately nine months and \$20,000. Ms. Taylor stated the cost of construction of a new traffic signal is estimated to be \$235,000. Ms. Taylor added operational costs would be an approximate \$4,000 per year for operational costs for power and maintenance.

Mr. David Jacobs, Interim Director of Public Works discussed the budget cycle with the commissioners and explained it would be approximately a two year cycle.

Ms. Linda Finnegan of 8229 Commonwealth, Buena Park discussed her concerns with traffic issues at the intersection of Commonwealth Avenue and Indiana Avenue. Ms. Finnegan is the owner of Linda's K-9 Kastle, a pet grooming business on the corner. She reported several other accidents have occurred that were not reported. She noted a side swipe accident had just occurred at this intersection. Ms. Finnegan stated her concerns with the sight distance of the left hand turn. She also, stated vehicles are constantly speeding down the street when children are present. Ms. Finnegan suggested a traffic light with a left hand turn arrow. Ms. Finnegan stated she is constantly encouraging any one that is involved in a traffic collision to immediately report them to the City of Buena Park Police Department.

Ms. Michelle Mc Cardle of 5360 Buck Hill Place, Buena Park spoke regarding her major nearly fatal vehicle traffic accident. Ms. Mc Cardle stated a vehicle was going over 90+ mph down Commonwealth Avenue while test driving a vehicle. The vehicle collided with her vehicle. Ms. Mc Cardle stated the accident occurred on April 11, 2015. Ms. Mc Cardle stated the insurance companies found she was not at fault. Ms. Mc Cardle stated her medical bills are over \$300,000 on just one accident. Ms. Mc Cardle highly encouraged installation of a traffic signal immediately.

Sgt. Nghia Nguyen of the City of Buena Park Police Department stated there is dedicated traffic patrol in the area. Sgt. Nguyen stated there are sporadic patrols of the area. He noted the officers that work this area are not getting constant high speeds in this area. Sgt. Nguyen stated Ms. Mc Cardle vehicle accident was one of the only known vehicle crashes that had gone to the point that the District Attorney filed a conviction for reckless driving.

Mr. Jacobs stated the funds are from Gas Tax or Measure M funds to get projects completed. Mr. Jacobs reported the funds are allocated to certain projects. Mr. Jacobs would have to come with a list of projects to the City Council for options. Mr. Jacobs stated the design of the project will take approximately nine months to complete and it is not possible to just install a traffic signal overnight. Mr. Jacobs will provide the commission with a list of projects.

Commissioner Kester questioned the traffic flow. Ms. Finnegan responded she has noticed the traffic is constant whether it is a weekday or weekend.

Motion: Approve a New Traffic Signal at the Intersection of Commonwealth Avenue and Indiana Avenue.

MOTION: Begger
SECOND: Lopez
AYES: Begger, Kester, Lopez, Mote, Woodward
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Motion carried to approve a new traffic signal at the intersection of Commonwealth Avenue and Indiana Avenue.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS (4-6):

(4) Review, Discuss and Recommend that City Council Deny the Request for an Ordinance Change to Restrict Vehicles over 8,000 Pounds from Parking on Regio Avenue.

DISCUSSION:

Norman Wray, GIS Specialist for the City of Buena Park stated that staff received a request from the Tawa Supermarket, located at 6281 Regio Avenue, Buena Park. The concern specifically requested the City prohibit all parking of oversize vehicles on Regio Avenue between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Mr. Wray reported the reason for the request was their employees have reported the large trucks parking along the street keep their employees from being able to turn safely onto Regio Avenue.

Mr. Wray stated Regio Avenue allows heavy truck parking for up to 24 hours at a time. He noted Staff did not recommend the idea of prohibiting heavy truck parking on Regio Avenue as it one of the only seven streets in the City of Buena Park where large trucks are allowed this privilege.

Mr. Wray did note the issue of the sight distance at the driveways was addressed. He reported Staff conducted a series of sight distance analyses for each of the driveways at 6281 Regio Avenue. Mr. Wray stated two options to address the issue.

Mr. Wray explained Option One was to install no parking zones (red curb) that would meet the full AASHTO recommendation, but it would also remove a large amount of street parking. Mr. Wray stated Staff did not recommend this option.

Mr. Wray explained Option Two was to extend the existing no parking zones (red curb) that is already located at the three driveways. He stated option two proposes to extend this to 25' on either side of each driveway. Mr. Wray stated this would not meet the full AASHTO recommendations, but would improve sight distance. Mr. Wray reported the estimated cost of option two would be approximately \$475.00 (\$5 per linear foot of red curb). Mr. Wray reported the funds are available in the current signing and striping budget.

Motion: Approve to Deny the Request to Restrict Truck Parking and Recommend Approval to City Council to Install New Red Curb on Regio Avenue.

MOTION: Mote

SECOND: Woodward
AYES: Beger, Kester, Lopez, Mote, Woodward
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Motion carried to deny the request to restrict truck parking and recommend approval to City Council to install new red curb on Regio Avenue.

Motion carried.

(5) Review, Discuss, and Recommend Approval to City Council to Install New Red Curb on La Cienaga Drive and Holder Street, Located at 7896 Holder Street.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Taylor reported that Mr. David Jones contacted the City regarding a sight distance issue at La Cienaga Drive and Holder Street. Mr. Jones was concerned that a large SUV was parked at the intersection. Mr. Jones stated the SUV was parked in the middle of the intersection and school age children stepped out in front of him. Mr. Jones stated he did not see the children because of the SUV parked in the intersection and almost hit them. Ms. Taylor stated that Mr. Jones is requesting the installation of red curb from the stop bar on the west leg of the intersection to the crosswalk.

Ms. Taylor reported notice of the meeting was sent to all available addresses within 200 feet of 7896 Holder Street on April 29, 2016.

Ms. Taylor stated the budget impact would be approximately \$150 for the cost of labor and materials to install and is covered by the current signing and striping budget.

Commissioner Woodward spoke up to consider the safety of the children crossing the school walk intersection.

Motion: Approve Amending Staff's Recommendation; Add the Additional Red Curb East Of Holder Avenue on the North Side of the Street to Mirror the South Side of the Street; and to Install New Red Curb within the Intersection of La Cienaga Drive and Holder Street, located at 7896 Holder Street.

MOTION: Mote
SECOND: Beger
AYES: Beger, Kester, Lopez, Mote, Woodward
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Motion carried to approve amending Staff's recommendation; add the additional red curb east of Holder Avenue on the north side of the street to mirror the south side of the

street; and to install new red curb within the intersection of La Cienaga Drive and Holder Street, located at 7896 Holder Street.

Motion carried.

(6) Review, Discuss, and Recommend that City Council Deny the request to allow residents on 9th Street to Park at Bellis Park.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Taylor reported that Mrs. Omayra Martinez contacted the City of Buena Park requesting the residents on 9th Street be allowed to park in the parking lots at Bellis Park overnight. Ms. Taylor stated Ms. Martinez had concerns because she has no place to park at her complex (Knott Townhomes) and she was never notified of the new 40 feet of red curb installed at the front of her complex.

Ms. Taylor noted the City has recently reviewed applications for preferential parking districts for two residential streets off 9th Street, including Val Verde Avenue and Rostrata Avenue. Ms. Taylor stated the applicants stated the residents of the 9th Street complexes do not have enough on-site parking, and take up most of the parking on 9th Street and smaller residential streets.

In addition, Ms. Taylor stated Staff conducted a parking occupancy study on April 21, 26, 27, and 29th. She noted the intent of this was to determine how much available parking was being used.

Ms. Taylor also noted that this request for temporary permit parking is different than past requests. She reported two of the existing PPD's in Buena Park have the parking restrictions in place 24 hours per day. Ms. Taylor stated since Ms. Martinez has an issue parking overnight, the commission may allow parking from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. at Bellis Park and limit the permits to residents on 9th Street. Ms. Taylor also reported notices of this meeting were sent on April 29, 2016 to all the available addresses within 200 feet of 7051 9th Street Apartment 204, Buena Park.

Ms. Taylor reported the estimated budget impact would be approximately \$1,800 to \$2,400 and would include the cost to manufacture, install signs, and purchase permits.

Chair Mote stated he visited the area. He did notice in the evening, parking was available on Gramercy, Rostrata, and 8th Street. Chair Mote mentioned the City and Buena Park Police discourage vehicles parking at Bellis Park overnight.

Commission Woodward stated his concerns with vehicles at Bellis Park leaving trash behind and beer bottles.

Motion: Approve to Deny the Request for Overnight Parking at Bellis Park for Residents of 9th Street.

MOTION: Beger
SECOND: Woodward
AYES: Beger, Kester, Lopez, Mote, Woodward
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Motion carried to deny the request for overnight parking at Bellis Park for residents of 9th Street.

Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (7-12):

(7) Status Report for Auto Center Drive at 9th/Stanton Avenue. Ms. Taylor reported Traffic and Transportation Commission requested the traffic status report for Auto Center Drive at 9th Street and Stanton Avenue be evaluated. It was noted that west bound vehicles on Auto Center Drive were stacked an entire block length. Ms. Taylor stated adjacent to the Simpson Buick GMC Dealership of Buena Park on the north side of Auto Center Drive 110 feet of parking on street. The unmarked curb area can accommodate approximately five vehicles. Iteris conducted field operations. Ms. Taylor gave four different options. The first option which would be the first step would be to coordinate the signal at Stanton Avenue and Whitaker Street and Auto Center Drive during p.m. peak hours which would be an estimated cost of \$5,000. The second option would be to increase storage length on westbound right turn lane on Auto Center Drive. The third step would be to implement parking restrictions. Time restricted parking signs estimated cost would be \$500.00. The fourth option would accommodate to change the lane configuration.

There was further discussion regarding the options. Chair Mote stated this was an informational item only and would not be voted on. Staff's recommendation would be to synchronize the signals. Ms. Taylor stated Iteris would perform the synchronization. The commissioners all agreed to move on with the first option, which was also the recommendation of Staff.

(8) Status Report of Prior Approved Items. Ms. Taylor reported on the status of prior approved items. She stated these were the items that were brought to the Special Meeting in March.

(9) Update – Knott Avenue Traffic Signal Synchronization Project. Ms. Taylor reported currently the project is in phase two.

(10) Update – Artesia Boulevard Traffic Signal Synchronization Project. Ms. Taylor stated the design is underway.

(11) Other Capital Improvement Projects –

a. Beach Boulevard Streetscape Project - Mr. Jacobs stated Beach Blvd. streetscape project palm trees have been planted. The electrical work will be beginning the first week of June 2016.

b. Beach Boulevard Wayfinding Project – Mr. Jacobs stated it is in design phase. Approval for the color scheme and the exact location and wording will be completed in the next two or three months.

c. 91 Westbound Off-Ramp – Mr. Jacobs reported the final plans were submitted to Caltrans for permits. He stated the project will be under construction by July 2016. He stated it may be completed by March 2017. Mr. Jacobs stated the contractor will be notified to discontinue construction during the Halloween Haunt at Knott's.

d. Orangethorpe Widening – Mr. Jacobs the project is complete.

e. Florence/Myra Sewer Project – Mr. Jacobs stated it was on hold. He stated a de-water system will be installed. He stated excavation will begin soon.

(12) Other Police Department Informational Items. Sgt. Nghia Nguyen stated extra City of Buena Park personnel will be deployed enforcing traffic laws for Cinco De Mayo.

ORAL COMMUNICATION:

Chair Mote thanked Staff for all the work they have completed. Chair Mote stated he really appreciated the positive change and getting agendas and reports early to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Woodward stated he was very thankful the fast response time to agenda items.

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION CALENDAR (REQUESTS):

ADJOURNMENT:

As no further business was brought before the Traffic and Transportation Commission, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. until Thursday, August 4, at 6:30 p.m.

Ella Jones, Secretary

Chairman