

## Parking and Traffic Commission

### Minutes of February 23, 2005

#### COMMISSIONERS

Willie Wilson, District 1  
Richard Kaufman District 2  
Jose De La Torre, District 4

#### STAFF MEMBERS

Jerry Givens, Assistant City Administrative  
Officer/Public Works  
Charng Chen, Sr. Transportation Engineer  
Patrick Lui, Transportation Engineer  
Georgia Smith, Secretary

- I. Commissioner Richard Kaufman called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
  - a. Roll Call: The above Commissioners were in attendance.
  - b. Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Wilson moved that the minutes of January 26, 2005 be approved. Commissioner De La Torre seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 2-0 vote.

- II. Referrals from City Council or City Departments: None

- III. Public Hearing:

#### Presentation of Fairview Boulevard Improvements

City Administrative Officer Jerry Givens, stated that this was one of several hearings to discuss the concept of Fairview Boulevard Improvements. He stated that notices were sent to the residents on the east side of the La Cienega and La Tijera area and that future notices will be sent to a larger segment of the area (including the residents of the west side of La Cienega and La Tijera Blvds.). He apologized for not having visual aides but expressed that this project will provide for congestion relief. Mr. Givens stated that there are no construction dollars presently funded. He also stated that according to the current engineering performed by the consulting firm A&E, staff is confident that these particular features could be installed by the Inglewood Public Works forces, at a considerable savings to the City, but the cooperation of the City of Los Angeles is needed because the City of Los Angeles owns half of the Boulevard and controls the traffic signals.

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Senior Transportation Engineer, Charng Chen, explained that the environment around the intersections of Fairview Boulevard at La Cienega Boulevard, and Fairview Boulevard at La Tijera Boulevard, are congested during peak hours due to capacity limitations and street geometry problems. Mr. Chen stated that the City of Inglewood has been in discussion with the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) concerning street improvements for this environment. He explained that the City of Inglewood has contracted for engineering design services with the firm of A&E Consultants, Inc. to prepare plans for such improvements. Mr. Chen explained that this public hearing is to enable residents to inquire and express their opinions about these improvements.

A&E Consultant, Thuc Miyashiro, reiterated the comments of Mr. Givens and Mr. Chen and explained that this proposal is for the City of Inglewood side of La Cienega Boulevard. He also stated that he will do his best to answer any questions that the public or Commission may have.

Mr. Chen commented that hopefully the Inglewood improvements would motivate the City of Los Angeles to make improvements on their side of the proposed area.

Commissioner Kaufman opened the public hearing.

1. Johnny Ingram of District 2 felt that this project, the City Engineering Department, and Jerry Givens deserve praise. He stated that he has confidence in the City of Inglewood's Engineering Department, knowing that they will design a plan that is going to help alleviate some of the traffic problems in this area, and hopefully the City of Los Angeles will work along with the City of Inglewood to alleviate the problem.
2. Ms. Johnson, on behalf of Assemblyman Jerome Horton's Office, read a statement on Assemblyman Horton's behalf stating that widening the streets on Fairview Boulevard will increase the existing problems on Fairview Boulevard, such as reckless driving, petty theft, etc. Ms. Johnson stated that sometimes a simple solution is the least effective. It was suggested that we carefully consider the possible liability problems due to the close proximity of the school.
3. Seth Gatts was concerned with the increase of traffic backing up on Fairview Boulevard. as a result of the proposed improvements. He explained that traffic on Fairview Boulevard and that the proposed improvements should include a solution for Fairview Boulevard.
4. Henry Harris, 6489 Laurelwood Drive. Mr. Harris stated that there is a problem with this proposal area. He described this proposal as half-baked because he does not see how the problem will be addressed with

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this proposal. He stated that southbound La Cienega Boulevard, north of Fairview Boulevard, is a high-speed area and recently there was an accident that involved a death. He believes that the proposed area should have a comprehensive study of the traffic in this area, so that a plan can be developed that will address the speed and congestion of traffic in this area.

Commissioner Kaufman explained to the public that these are only the first stages of the proposal and that all comments will be accepted and considered for the improvements.

Mr. Chen explained that this project will not affect the pavement project in the Ladera Heights/Inglewood residential area. He stated that he spoke with the project manager and that pavement and street resurfacing could happen as early as March and April.

5. Ms. Louise, 608 west Fairview Boulevard, concurred with Mr. Harris and suggested speed bumps.
6. Yvonne Horton, Inglewood City Clerk, Fairview resident, stated she is concerned about increasing traffic on Fairview and wanted to commend her colleagues for trying to find a solution.
7. Charlotte Richardson, 454 Hillsdale Street, expressed her concerns of the high-speed traffic issue on Fairview Boulevard. She stated that she hopes that the residents/property owners on Fairview Boulevard are considered for the Fairview Improvement Project.
8. Dan Williams, 63 Copperwood Ave. (Inglewood Heights at Ladera), said he is concerned about the increase in traffic congestion on Fairview Boulevard. He stated that he has been a resident for 20 years and the traffic on Fairview Boulevard seems to get worse each year. He explained that after 5:00 p.m. it takes twenty to thirty minutes to get home for the last 100 feet. Mr. Williams believes that some of the congestion could possibly be coming from the Ladera Shopping Center. He stated that maybe redesigning the entrance on in Fairview near La Cienega could possibly be a part of the solution.

Mr. Chen stated that when the Ladera Shopping Center was designed, Inglewood was not taken into consideration. The main focus was the side in Los Angeles. He stated a left turn lane has been considered to reduce some of the cut-through traffic and that the comments from the public have provided good information to help address the community issue.

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Commissioner Wilson inquired if anyone looked into the timing on the traffic lights.

Mr. Chen replied that 6 to 7 cars per lane are able to get through the traffic light per light change.

Commissioner Wilson inquired about the time required when sending out notices.

Mr. Chen stated public hearing notices must be sent out 10 days before the scheduled hearing.

Commissioner Wilson stated that this should be looked into because there was a complaint of not receiving notification. He also stated that the City of Inglewood has traffic problems everywhere and to find a solution that will not cause a problem somewhere else is difficult. He stated that this is an area that holds the highest traffic volume in the City of Inglewood. He stated that additional enforcement has been suggested before but there is an issue with funding for traffic enforcement.

Commissioner De La Torre explained to the public that we must try something to find a solution and, if we never try, we will never find the solution.

Commissioner Kaufman stated that as time goes on traffic increases day after day. He explained that the Commission has met for many nights trying to solve traffic issues throughout the City of Inglewood. He said we need more traffic enforcement but the funding is not there, and Traffic Officers are the ultimate success of this city. He suggested everyone contact their council person and push for more traffic officers.

The Police Representative stated that the State of California now takes more of the ticket revenue and leaves less for the City, and the Inglewood Police Department received grants that have helped to buy new BMW motorcycles which now have high mileage on them and have to be replaced. He stated that the motorcycles are much less expensive than patrol cars and the City Council has just approved four replacements. He spoke of the traffic cameras helping to relieve some of the traffic enforcement and the possibility of having the proposed area stationed with traffic officers to issue tickets. He also spoke of now having the authority to ticket outside of the City of Inglewood.

Commissioner Kaufman called to have this report received and filed.

Commissioner Kaufman closed the public hearing & public comments.

**IV. Other Business: None**

**V. Public Comments: None**

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**VI. Commissioner Initiatives: None**

Commissioner Kaufman thanked everyone in attendance for coming.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.