

## Parking and Traffic Commission

### Minutes of June 22, 2005

#### COMMISSIONERS

Lynette Lewis, Chairperson  
Willie L. Wilson, District 1  
Richard Kaufman, District 2  
Charles Coronado District 3  
Jose De La Torre District 4

#### STAFF MEMBERS

Charng Chen, Senior Transportation Engineer  
Patrick Lui, Transportation Engineer  
Georgia Smith, Secretary

I. Chairperson Lynette Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

a. Roll Call: All Commissioners were in attendance.

b. Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Kaufman moved that the minutes of April 27, 2005, be approved. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 4-0 vote and one abstention.

II. Referrals from City Council or City Departments: None

III. Public Hearing: None

IV. Other Business:

a. Red Light Camera Operation – Status Report

Senior Traffic Engineer Charng Chen gave a status report for the red-light cameras from November 2003 to present. He gave statistics on accident history (before and after installation), violation revenue, and staffing on the red-light camera operation. He said the revenue statistics were minimal because Finance could not provide a clearly detailed report.

Commissioner Wilson inquired about the removal of the red-light camera at Crenshaw Boulevard and 108<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mr. Chen explained that the intersection geometry of Crenshaw Boulevard at 108<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the fire station is very confusing to drivers so the southbound red-light camera is being removed from this particular location.

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Commissioner Wilson inquired if the red-light camera's reported revenue was enough to cover staffing expenses and expressed his concern with the project is causing the City to fall in the red.

Mr. Chen stated that based on the April 19 staff report prepared by Finance the revenue is enough to cover staffing expenses, and that he would look further into getting more precise information to give a more complete report.

Commissioner Wilson stated that the public should have this information available to them.

Commissioner De La Torre inquired about how locations are selected for the red-light camera signals.

Mr. Chen stated they are high accident locations, and red-light running locations.

Officer Medina stated that he has noticed a significant decrease in vehicular accidents since red-light cameras have been installed.

Commissioner Kaufman stated that in the report it seems as if the red-light cameras are causing more accidents than before they were installed, and suggested that Mr. Charng gather the correct information in this area. He also asked what will the cost be for removing and relocating signals on 108<sup>th</sup> Street and Crenshaw Boulevard.

Chairperson Lewis responded that the cost for reconfiguring the traffic signals would be roughly \$150,000.

Chairperson Lewis stated that the intersection with the red-light camera, at Crenshaw Boulevard and 108<sup>th</sup> Street can be very confusing to motorists.

Commissioner Kaufman stated that the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and 108<sup>th</sup> Street should be properly aligned and signaled to insure safety for emergency responses as well as for motorist. He recommended testing the red light cameras before issuing citations.

Chairperson Lewis introduced guest speaker, Captain Brent Burton from the 108<sup>th</sup> Street Fire Station.

Captain Burton explained the Fire Department's concern with vehicles blocking the Fire Department's driveway. He made suggestions to stagger the signal lights on Crenshaw Boulevard and 108<sup>th</sup> Street and possibly move one signal closer to the limit line north of the Fire Department.

Mr. Chen stated that he would gather more information for the following Commission meeting.

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Chairperson Lewis introduced a motion to have the Red-Light Camera Project report redone. Commissioner Kaufman seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

b. Handicap Parking Space Policy on Residential Streets

Mr. Chen explained that there have been numerous requests from residents wanting handicap blue curbs in front of their residences. He explained that handicapped persons can park their cars in their driveways and if any resident were provided with a handicap blue curb, it would not prevent another handicap person from parking there because the City can not guarantee a parking space for one resident only. Mr. Chen said there is currently no formal policy regarding this. He stated that staff would like to have the Commission consider adopting this policy.

Commissioner De La Torre stated that he agrees with the City.

Mr. Chen explained that the City is willing to assist handicap residents with driveway parking. Driveway modifications are possible for residents that need wider access to their driveways.

Chairperson Lewis explained her concern about how we use the public street; as this must be thought through thoroughly because it is a public street.

Commissioner Wilson moved to have the Commission adopt the resolution. Commissioner Kaufman seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

**V. Public Comments:**

Robert Perry, Wilkie Block Club member, would like to have speed devices installed because Wilkie Street is a through street and motorists constantly speed up and down his street. He also expressed his concerns with the neighbors having excessive cars, boats, and trailers parked and stored on the street.

Commissioner Wilson stated that people will pass through regardless of the street and inquired if there is anything technology-wise to accommodate Wilkie Street.

Mr. Chen stated that there are other traffic calming measures to slow down traffic but all are costly and take time to be designed. He stated that staff may be reticent to implement many of the speed humps because they only push motorists to the next available street and not solve the problem. Mr. Chen stated that staff is working with the Councilmember to identify locations. He said that

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the police may be over-burdened handling speeding and Public Works Department will try other measures to address the problem.

Commissioner Wilson stated that city-wide there is a need to look at some streets for speed humps and that he is aware that there are certain humps that do not have the adverse effect previously discussed.

Paul Russell of the second district complained about the red-light cameras and the data from the report that was provided. He felt that the data in the report was inaccurate and incomplete and he blames the Public Works Department.

Commissioner Wilson responded that the Commission did not reject the report on the red-light cameras because it was bad but because it was not clear. He stated that the Public Works Department reported information that was given to them from other departments and that neither the Commission nor the Public Works department is certain that the information is accurate. He stated that the information is available somewhere but the right people have to share the information.

**VI Commissioner Initiatives:**

Commissioner Wilson stated that people should express their feelings without being critical and judgmental; and working together is the key to working out issues.

Commissioner Kaufman explained his concerns of the Fourth of July celebration in Centinela Park. He stated last Fourth of July the Police Department did a wonderful job patrolling the park and inquired if the Police Department will patrol again this Fourth of July.

Police Officer Medina said that the patrol would be at least equivalent to last year's Fourth of July celebration. He also stated that they were contemplating on stationing additional officers in the park.

Fire Captain Burton stated that the Fire Department worked along with the Police Department last year's Fourth of July celebration in the park and will do so again this year.

Chairperson Lewis thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.