

## **PARKING AND TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING**

**May 24, 2006**

### **COMMISSIONERS**

Lynette Lewis, Chairperson  
Richard Kaufman, District 1  
Charles Coronado, District 3  
Jose De La Torre, District 4

### **STAFF MEMBERS**

Charng Chen, Senior Transportation Engineer  
Pearlie A. White, Secretary

Chairperson Lynette Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- a. Roll Call: All four Commissioners were in attendance.
- b. Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Kaufman moved that the minutes of February 22, 2006, be approved. Commissioner Coronado seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 4-0 vote.

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

III. **Public Hearings**: None

IV. **Other Business**:

- a. Resolution for Permit Parking Vote Along Manchester Drive.

Senior Transportation Engineer Charng Chen stated that the existing permit parking restriction would be changed from 7 a.m.-10 p.m. to 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on all days to prevent business patrons from intruding into the neighborhood and occupying the streets, particularly Sizzler's customers, if approved by the residents.

Commissioner Coronado was concerned about the business customers not having any place to park, and Mr. Chen assured him that the City is in the process of creating more curb parking space for business customers.

Chairperson Lewis clarified that there is a church across the street and there are often mega superstars having concerts there, e.g., Madonna is appearing at the Forum tonight.

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Commissioner Kaufman moved that the resolution to initiate a permit parking change along Manchester Drive be approved. Commissioner Coronado seconded the motion. The resolution was approved with a 4-0 vote

b. Proposed Cul-de-sac Closure on Crenshaw Drive.

Mr. Chen described a proposed cul-de-sac at the north end of Crenshaw Drive at 82<sup>nd</sup> Street, including a new signal light at the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and 83<sup>rd</sup> Street. He explained how the role of the street would be reduced from that of an arterial. He said the purpose of this resolution is the Commission's approval to consider a re-designation of Crenshaw Drive in the General Plan revision.

Commissioner De La Torre expressed concern about moving too fast and recommended further study on how it will affect the residents.

Mr. Chen stated last month there was a public meeting where residents voiced their opinions, and the apparent consensus was that this plan could improve the general area.

Commissioner De La Torre stated he was at the hearing but he did not have an opportunity to ask questions or to find out who else could be affected due to the absence of the other commissioners.

Chairperson Lewis agreed with Commissioner De La Torre and stated that, since there was not a quorum for last month's meeting, she does not think the Commissioners have had an opportunity to get a feel for what all this will entail. Ms. Lewis stated this is a very densely populated area along Crenshaw Drive, and she stated she was concerned that they have not heard from the community there and they do not know what may occur with the vacant property.

Mr. Chen responded that this is just a proposed revision to the circulation element of the General Plan and there definitely will be other public hearings before adopting any changes into the General Plan. He said staff tonight is only asking for the Commission to allow the General Plan consultant to study this as a General Plan revision.

Chairperson Lewis stated she does not want to recommend this resolution at this time as there are too many unanswered questions.

Mr. Chen said staff can send out another notice to the residents inviting them to come back for another public meeting.

Commissioner De La Torre made a motion to table the matter. Commissioner Coronado seconded the motion. The motion approved by a 4-0.

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V. Public Comments

1. Linda Smith, 11225, South Van Ness Avenue, Inglewood, stated that Imperial Avenue and Van Ness Avenue are very busy streets but on the City of Inglewood side the curb is red pretty far down. She said she realizes there are quite a few accidents there, but she is concerned about residents who would like to entertain and not having a place for guests to park. Ms. Smith said she would like for the red curb to be shorten so that residents and their guests will have access to a few more parking spaces because, on the Hawthorne side, they do not have this problem with a red curb.

Mr. Chen stated the long red curb is for the south bound traffic on Imperial on Van Ness as it allows right-turning vehicles to have a chance to turn without waiting at the red signal light, because the City has received many complaints lot of complaints about the green light being too short.

Ms. Smith responded the red curb is not helping, and it might be better to have an arrow.

Mr. Chen said staff will re-evaluate the red curb and see if it can be shorten somewhat.

In response to a question from Ms. Smith, Mr. Chen stated that the redevelopment of the corner of Imperial Highway and Crenshaw Boulevard is still in review in the City's Planning Department.

Chairperson Lewis asked Ms. Smith to clarify if she wants the red curb shorten or whether she wants a right turn arrow. She stated she would like the red curb shorten now to have more parking spaces and later on to consider putting a right turn arrow there.

Commissioner Kaufman stated he thinks shortening the red curb would be better choice than installing an arrow because a right-turn arrow may lose even more green time for through-traffic and the flow of traffic

Mr. Chen stated he will be contacting Ms. Smith.

2. Dorothy Cole, 11203 South Van Ness, Inglewood. She stated there is much demand for parking and, in order to allow more parking, the City should put white marks for parking spaces.

Mr. Chen said he would look into installing marked spaces for this neighborhood, although it has not been done before in other residential areas.

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Mr. Chen also explained that parked vehicles are limited to 72 hours, but parking enforcement does not have sufficient manpower. He encouraged Ms. Smith to continue calling the Inglewood Police Traffic Division.

Commissioner Kaufman encouraged Ms. Smith and Ms. Cole to continue to request for more policemen for traffic enforcement. He stated they should attend Block Club meetings, Council meetings and community meetings.

Chairperson Lewis thanked them and stated the public testimony was concluded.

VI. Commissioner Initiatives.

Commissioner De La Torre wanted to know how much longer the street repair work will be on Doty Avenue before it is completed.

Mr. Chen stated he would report this problem to the engineer in charge of this project and have him contact Commissioner De La Torre.

Commissioner Kaufman requested that the City install better pedestrian/vehicle signs to prevent fatal pedestrian accidents, and that it would be a good idea to have some type of educational seminar available for pedestrians and motorists to learn about their responsibilities.

Chairperson Lewis stated that the crosswalk at Crenshaw Boulevard at 112<sup>th</sup> Street is not working and should be checked, as the led lights seem to be missing and another one is at Crenshaw and 102nd Street near Smart and Final.

Chairperson Lewis also asked if there is some way to synchronize the signal lights along Crenshaw Boulevard so that the traffic will move smoother from 104<sup>th</sup> Street to 108<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mr. Chen answered that the Public Works Department has initiated "safe zones for seniors" and "safe routes to schools" programs which are ongoing and include signage, flashing crosswalks, and yellow/white/wide striping. He said the City will increase funding for street paving and pedestrian improvements. He also said lighted crosswalks on Crenshaw Boulevard will have flashing beacons for both directions, as the City is aware of the problem.

Regarding signal timing on Crenshaw Boulevard, Mr. Chen said the City will be hiring an outside consultant to do a citywide traffic timing plan starting with Century and Crenshaw and those neighborhoods near new commercial areas where staff anticipates a lot of traffic problems. Also, as Hollywood Park will be developed in future years, he said the City will have to have new signal timing plans to ensure better traffic flow along major arterial.

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Commissioner Kaufman stated at the corner of Marlborough Avenue and Hyde Park Boulevard there are two crossing guards for the school who are working out well and are doing a superb job. Commissioner Kaufman asked Mr. Chen to pass this information to the Inglewood Police Traffic Division.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.