PARKING AND TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Minutes of June 28, 2006

COMMISSIONERS

STAFF MEMBERS

Lynette Lewis, Chairperson Richard Kaufman, District 1 Vacant, District 2 Charles Coronado, District 3 Jose De La Torre, District 4 Jerry M. Givens, Assistant City Adminiistrator William Barnett, Senior Transportation Planner Patrick Lui, Transportation Engineer Pearlie A. White, Secretary

Chairperson pro tem Richard Kaufman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

- a. <u>Roll Call</u>: Three Commissioners were in attendance. Chairperson Lynette Lewis was absent.
- b. <u>Approval of Minutes</u>: Commissioner Kaufman moved that the minutes of May 24, 2006, be approved. Commissioner Coronado seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.
- II. Referrals from City Council or City Departments: None
- III. Public Hearings: None
- IV. Other Business:
 - a. Proposed Reconfiguration of Crenshaw Drive at 82nd Street.

Transportation Planner William Barnett stated this matter is a continuation of an item scheduled two months ago when there was no quorum of the Commissioners; yet several residents had attended so a community discussion was still held. Mr. Barnett stated he could not attend that meeting, but the Assistant City Administrator, Jerry M. Givens, did attend and would be able to elaborate more on that meeting.

- Mr. Barnett said a staff report was presented last month to the Commission addressing the original proposal, but the Commission decided not to take any action until new notification could be sent out to the neighborhood so that Commissioners could speak directly with the residents on this matter.
- Mr. Barnett said new notices have been mailed, but during the past month staff considered the comments raised two months ago at the community meeting and have prepared an alternative proposal, again for discussion. He said the staff report includes the original proposal for a cul-de-sac at the north end of

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Crenshaw Drive, with 82nd Street having a full intersection with Crenshaw Boulevard; and also includes the new alternative proposal where Crenshaw Drive would not be closed off at a cul-de-sac, but realigned to intersect with 82nd Street east of Crenshaw Boulevard. He explained that 82nd Street west of Crenshaw Boulevard would be closed at this intersection with a cul-de-sac, except for a single one-way lane for southbound Crenshaw Boulevard traffic to enter that cul-de-sac, which is needed for access to one residential driveway at that location.

Mr. Barnett described the differences between the two proposals in further detail and stated staff has no particular recommendation on either scheme if either proves to be of interest to the residents or members of the Commission.

Assistant City Administrator for Operations, Jerry M. Givens, reiterated that the staff has no particular recommendation on either proposal, and thought it appropriate the Commissioners and the residents also be aware that future development is being considered for this site. Mr. Givens introduced the proposed developers and asked that they present their proposed plans.

Chairperson Lynette Lewis arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Mr. Harley Searcy and Architect Michael Anderson displayed architectural plans and described their proposal for eleven condominium townhouses on the vacant property at Crenshaw Drive at 82nd Street. Mr. Searcy said their proposal would be feasible with any of the Crenshaw Drive proposals

The Chairperson pro tem requested any comments from the audience.

- 1. **Curtis Woodle**, 3520 West 82nd Street, Inglewood, spoke favorably about the proposed development.
- 2. **James Burt**, 3516 W. 81st Street, Inglewood, stated he liked the first proposal as it would eliminate cut-through traffic.
- 3. **Bill James**, 3524 West 82nd Street, stated he disagreed with Mr. Burk because a Crenshaw Drive cul-de-sac would divert traffic onto West Boulevard and Victoria Avenue, and recommended closing West Boulevard at Manchester Boulevard.
- 4. **Bill Gaston**, 3501 West 82nd Street, stated he is against any cul-de-sac and he presented a depiction of a sign with yellow flashing lights placed over the street so that motorists would get a warning to slow down ahead of time.

At this point, Chairperson pro tem Kaufman announced he was turning the meeting over to Chairperson Lynette Lewis.

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4. **Diana Galbreath,** 3410 West 82nd Street, stated she was the block club captain for her block and supports having a cul-de-sac, but the lack of stop signs on the streets between Crenshaw Boulevard and West Boulevard permit motorists to speed on these streets. She recommended four-way stop signs be placed on these streets.

Chairperson Lynette Lewis asked Mr. Barnett to refresh her on the two alternatives, and he summarized what was stated earlier in the meeting.

A member in the audience asked if traffic volumes were ever metered on these streets. Mr. Barnett replied to Chairperson Lewis there are traffic counts for both streets in 15-minute intervals.

Chairperson Lewis reminded the audience that both proposals were only being discussed and evaluated and no final decision is about to be made.

Further discussion ensued between the Commissioners and members in the audience.

Commissioner Kaufman asked Mr. Gaston to elaborate on his proposal for flashing lights. Mr. Gaston stated the flashing lights would alert motorists to slow down.

Mr. Barnett explained that such flashing lights would constitute a warning to motorists not familiar with the street environment, but would likely have little affect on motorists who repeatedly drive these streets.

Commissioner De La Torre asked if staff would investigate other locations in this neighborhood in which a cul-de-sac or diverting traffic might alleviate the concerns of the residents about cut-through traffic, and return with this at a future meeting.

A member of the audience said the LAPD has provided camcorders with which citizens could take pictures of motorists running stop signs and traffic lights, and if Inglewood residents are serious about cutting down on traffic violations at West Boulevard and Manchester Boulevard, residents need to be willing to take down license plate numbers and photographs of motorists.

Commissioner Kaufman said the residents would have to be prepared to get on the witness stand.

6. **Bridgette Richard**, 3533 West 82nd Street, said she is very concerned about the increase in traffic and believes if a cul-de-sac is installed at West Boulevard and Manchester Boulevard, it could solve the problem.

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Commissioner Kaufman recommended that staff study the proposal to close Crenshaw Drive with a cul-de-sac as well as blocking West Boulevard between 85th Street and Manchester Boulevard.

Chairperson Lewis directed that staff do a study as proposed by Commissioner Kaufman, and to return at a future date to the Commission with the findings and any additional information about these proposals and alternatives.

Mr. Givens asked Chairperson Lewis to request that staff update its traffic counts on Crenshaw Drive, since the Briarwood development has opened its eastern gate. Chairperson Lewis so directed staff.

IV. b. Proposal to Modify Parking and Access around Crozier School

Mr. Barnett stated two years ago the Commission approved an interim circulation and parking plan around Crozier Middle School while the school was under construction. Mr. Barnett said the school is nearly complete so staff is presenting a permanent circulation and parking plan, including two-way traffic around the entire school. Mr. Barnett described the new parking restrictions around the school and the proposed new three-way stops on Grevillea Avenue at Regent Street and at the City Hall parking ramp.

In response to a question from Commissioner Kaufman, Mr. Barnett replied there will be no problem for the fire station because Regent Street is a wide roadway and this fire station has an exceptionally wide driveway.

Chairperson Lewis expressed concern about the Fir Avenue residents having their driveways blocked and said the City should have someone out there to direct the traffic since this plan will be new for the parents.

Commissioner Kaufman asked if stopping on Fir Avenue should be limited to 10 minutes instead of 20 minutes. Mr. Barnett stated that it has been staff's experience to see parents arrive 15 to 20 minutes before students exit.

Commissioner Kaufman moved that the Commission approve the attached resolution to establish specific parking limitations along the perimeter of Crozier Middle School and establish two-way traffic on Grevillea Avenue. Commissioner De La Torre seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Commissioner Initiatives:

Commissioner Kaufman stated that around Vincent Park, there have been numerous problems during past July 4th events. He suggested they move the display for fireworks from Vincent Park to either Hollywood Park or the Forum as this would take the traffic out of the neighborhood, people would have ample

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parking, and the neighborhood would be safer. Mr. Barnett said this request would be directed to Parks, Recreation and Community Services.

Chairperson Lewis commented on the sale of fire works which encourages illegal fireworks in Inglewood.

Commissioner De La Tore stated he would like to see more traffic enforcement in all neighborhoods.

Commissioner Kaufman stated he would like more traffic enforcement with parking enforcement.

Chairperson Lewis asked when could the speed-view sign at 84th Street be moved? Mr. Givens stated these signs have not yet been moved and stated, if the Commission wishes, they can recommend this for the upcoming budget.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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