

PARKING AND TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Minutes of May 28, 2008

COMMISSIONERS

Michael Benbow, Chairperson
Norris Turner, District 1
Elizabeth Weaver, District 2
Charles Coronado, District 3
Lynette Lewis, District 4

STAFF MEMBERS

Alan Mai, Associate Traffic Engineer
William Barnett, Senior Transportation Planner
Pearlie A. White, Secretary

- I. Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Michael Benbow at 7:05 p.m.
Commissioner Lynette Lewis arrived at 7:09 p.m.
 - a. Roll-Call: Four Commissioners were in attendance. Commissioner Weaver was absent.
 - b. Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Lewis moved that the March 26, 2008, minutes be approved. Commissioner Coronado seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a 3-0 vote with Commissioner Turner abstaining.
- II. Referrals from City Council or City Departments: None
- III. Public Hearings: None
- IV. Other Business:
 - a. La Cienega Boulevard Grade Separation Project.

Senior Transportation Planner, William Barnett described the proposed grade separation of La Cienega Boulevard to alleviate traffic congestion on surface streets in northwest Inglewood. Mr. Barnett said the City of Los Angeles, County and LAX have expressed support. He said the first step is to get the grade separation project on the long range transportation plans of the MTA and of the Southern California Association of Governments, and it already has been approved by the sub-regional council of government known as the South Bay Cities Council of Governments. He said if it is on the long range plans, the City then can seek funding from the State and the Federal level for this project.

Commissioner Benbow asked how it would impact businesses.

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Mr. Barnett stated it should favorably affect impact businesses because the streets that now serve them, Centinela and La Tijera, would no longer have this extreme congestion which should make businesses more accessible.

Commissioner Lewis asked where traffic would go once it is off Fairview Boulevard.

Mr. Barnett stated Fairview would no longer be a feeder street to La Cienega so anyone wanting to access La Cienega would use Centinela Avenue.

Commissioner Turner asked how it affects the traffic around the school.

Mr. Barnett said school traffic would not be affected, but overall traffic passing the school would be reduced.

Commissioner Turner asked about the signal at La Cienega Boulevard and Centinela Avenue

Mr. Barnett explained it is a four-legged intersection but the one leg that does not have a left turn is eastbound Centinela Avenue onto northbound La Cienega Boulevard because the City of Los Angeles expects anyone taking that route will take La Tijera instead.

b. Crenshaw-Prairie Transit Corridor Study

Mr. Barnett stated this is an MTA project, and there have been a couple of community meetings at Darby Park over the past several months. Mr. Barnett described the alternate routes being studied by the MTA.

Commissioner Benbow asked if there would be any benefit for Hollywood Park.

Mr. Barnett described the MTA alternative route being studied to Hollywood Park and also explained the possible use of a people-mover along Century Boulevard.

As a separate matter, Mr. Barnett stated that Commissioner Weaver had had some questions about the policy for handicap parking on residential streets, and he explained the City's policy to not install such handicap spaces.

V. Public Comments – None

VI Commissioner Initiatives

Commissioner Lewis commented on the handicap ramps she had requested earlier for her street and sidewalk, and asked about other projects taking priority.

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Mr. Barnett stated he has repeatedly told Mr. Kau and Goral Milunovic who are overseeing these projects about Ms. Lewis' request for handicap ramps, and he would do so again.

Commissioner Lewis asked if one is ticketed for turning right on a red light camera.

Mr. Barnett responded the red light violation cameras are not set for right turns.

Commissioner Coronado asked that red light cameras be installed at Inglewood Avenue and Manchester Boulevard to reduce accidents.

Mr. Barnett stated he will apprise the Public Works Director of Mr. Coronado's request.

Chairperson Benbow reported a detached trailer is parked on Hardy Street and 8th Avenue and a low trailer attached to a pickup with no license plate is parked between Hardy Avenue and Century Boulevard on 7th Avenue.

Mr. Barnett stated he will give both of these matters to Parking Enforcement.

Chairperson Benbow introduced and welcomed newly-appointed Commissioner Norris Turner. Commissioner Turner thanked Chairperson Benbow and expressed his appreciation for being appointed and looked forward to serving the community.

Commissioner Benbow declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.