

PARKING AND TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Minutes of April 23, 2009

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
Pearlie A. White, Secretary

I. Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Michael Benbow at 7:00 p.m.

a. Roll-Call of Commissioners

Five Commissioners were in attendance. Commissioner Lynette Lewis arrived at 7:05 p.m.

b. Approval of Minutes for Commission Meeting of February 25, 2009.

Commissioner Weaver asked that the minutes of February 25, 2009 be modified to include the following:

Commissioner Weaver requested that the Commission revisit and resolve the issue regarding the ticketing of residents due to post-holiday parking that conflicts with trash pickup operations.

Commissioner Turner made a motion that the minutes be accepted with the inclusion of the information requested by Commissioner Weaver —e.g., that the Commission at a subsequent meeting should resolve the matter regarding street parking and the ticketing of residents caused by post-holiday trash pickup schedules.

Motion was approved by 4-1. Commissioner Lewis abstained.

II. Referral from City Council or City Departments: None

III. Public Hearings:

a. Request for Permit Parking District on Pine Court and Pepper Court.

Associate Engineer Alan Mai recommended that the request for permit parking district on Pine Court and Pepper Court be continued and carried over to the next Parking and

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Traffic Commission to allow interested parties sufficient time to study and review the information and make appropriate comments, if any.

Commissioner Weaver asked if the public could be allowed to make comments now.

Commissioner Lewis said it was not fair to have the public come out expecting a hearing and then have the matter continued.

Commissioner Weaver said the Staff Report needed to be revised but suggested the public be allowed to speak to clarify for staff exactly what needs to be included in the report.

Chairperson Benbow said he agrees for the need of a staff report and not informing the public that this issue would be continued was unfair. However, Commissioner Benbow said that he preferred that a verbal staff report be given so the Commissioners could hear exactly what is being addressed and the findings of the staff so that they will be able to evaluate what is said by the public.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion allow the public to be heard to give their input to staff to provide a better idea of what to look for when conducting field investigations in the area required to make their determination.

Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion.

Motion was approved 4-1. Chairperson Benbow abstained.

Chairperson Benbow opened the meeting to the public.

1. Michael Beatty, a resident, stated the public will wait until staff gets the memo and present it to the Commission.
2. Darell Jerry, Jerry Family Childcare Facility, 5 Pine Court, Inglewood, CA

Mr. Jerry asked that the Commission do nothing that would impact their ability to conduct business from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Pine Court. Mr. Jerry said the City's Planning Commission granted the business permission to operate during these hours.

3. Councilwoman Dunlap stated for the record that she believed the action being contemplated is continuing the public hearing. If that language is not used, new notices will have to be issued for a public hearing.

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IV Other Business:

b. Overview of Hollywood Park Redevelopment Project Parking and Traffic Issues.

Mr. Mai stated that the Planning and Building Director, Wanda Williams will not be at the meeting as scheduled. She indicated that further review and scheduling of the proposed project by Planning will not conflict with any long term traffic or circulation program, or policy established by the Commission.

Commissioner Lewis suggested that Ms. Williams come in and make a presentation on the issue at the next meeting.

Chairperson Benbow asked that Ms. Williams be notified of the Commissioners' decision.

Mr. Mai said that he would notify Ms. Williams of the Commissioners' recommendation.

c. Crenshaw Boulevard and 84th Street Speed Hump Request.

Mr. Mai stated that staff received a request from a resident to add speed humps on Crenshaw Boulevard and 84th Street. Mr. Mai stated that since Crenshaw Boulevard is classified as a major arterial, speed humps cannot be installed. Speed humps are installed only on local residential streets. Therefore, staff does not recommend speed humps but will look into other methods of traffic calming.

Commissioner Weaver asked when were the traffic calming put into place relatively to all the accidents that have taken place.

Mr. Mai stated that the accident that occurred recently involved a speed that was more than double the posted speed limit. Mr. Mai stated that at that speed, whatever was done to calm traffic conditions would not have helped. There are warning signs and blinking yellow warning lights at the beginning of the curve in both north and south directions. Also, the accident occurred in the early morning.

Commissioner Weaver asked how long ago the blinking yellow warning lights were put into place.

Mr. Mai stated they have been there for quite some time.

Commissioner Lewis said anyone driving at that excessive high speed would have had an accident irrespective of what calming traffic signs were placed there.

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Commissioner Weaver stated that she was impressed by the number of accidents that had occurred at the location.

Mr. Mai stated that these accidents occurred over a 5-year period of time and all were at excessive speeds.

Commissioner Weaver stated that some of these accidents occurred at different hours of the day and not all of them in the early a.m.

Commissioner Turner suggested posting a "Danger S Curve" sign at that location with a speed limit of 25 miles per hour. He stated that if red lights were placed up high, people would recognize that it is a danger zone.

Mr. Mai said he would look into the "Danger S curve" idea and placing red lights high above.

Chairperson Benbow said something more has to be done to alert motorists about the most dangerous curve in the City.

Chairperson Benbow said he would like for Traffic Engineers to come back as soon as possible with some ideas and suggestions of what more can be done at this location.

Commissioner Weaver suggested that something be put up now, even if temporary, to calm the traffic at this curve.

Commissioner Lewis asked what the normal speed limits are for the City.

Mr. Mai stated they are between 30-40 miles per hour.

Commissioner Lewis suggested a photo red light camera be placed somewhere along that area to slow down motorists before they hit that dangerous curve.

Commissioner Turner asked that the sign be put up immediately.

Mr. Mai said he would put in a request for the sign right away.

Commissioner Turner made a motion that a "Danger S Curve" sign be placed at that location and lower the speed limit to 25 miles per hour as there is a school in that area.

Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion.

Motion was approved 5-0.

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Commissioner Lewis said it is essential that the Commissioners who have not attended a Parking and Traffic Commission Workshop do so as soon as one is available.

Commissioner Lewis stated that it is the State Attorney who sets the tone at these workshops. The Commission is not governed by the City of Inglewood but the State of California. The Commissioners make their presentations but the State Attorney knows what the Commissioners can and cannot do.

Commissioner Lewis also urged the Commissioners to be cautious and very careful about putting into law certain things that could end up becoming a law suit against the City. An example would be injury resulting from the installation of a speed bump at a location where it should not be.

Chairperson Benbow said that the Commission will be responsible for putting something at that location to resolve the problem of one of the most dangerous spots in the City.

Commissioner Benbow also asked that an engineer's study be done as soon as possible and report back to the Commission after the next meeting. He also asked that the City Administrator, Timothy Wanamaker be notified that this is an emergency.

Commissioner Weaver asked about personnel for the Transportation Section and if there was any feedback.

Chairperson Benbow said positions have been advertised.

Mr. Mai agreed that positions have been advertised but no one has applied.

V. Public Comments:

Laverne Mann, Holy Trinity Evangelical Church, Arbor Vitae and 8th Avenue, Telephone No: 323 777-4455.

On behalf of the Holy Trinity Evangelical Church, Ms. Mann would like the City to remove the "No Parking Any Time" signs that are around Warren Lane School. She stated the church is very active with lots of activities, particularly on Saturdays and Sundays. Ms. Mann said it doesn't make sense to have no parking at any time during summertime, evenings and other times. She requested that the signs be revised to read "No Parking from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m." during the week, and on weekends maybe 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

VI. Commissioner Initiatives.

Commissioner Weaver would like to revisit the issue of trash collection on the holiday schedules for District 1 and 2, as it was left unresolved due to a staffing problem. She

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would like to continue to bring the issue up until we have enough people to address it. Commissioner Weaver stated her concern is with the consecutive days. She requested another off day e.g., Monday and Wednesday instead of Monday and Tuesday. The impact is caused by the fact that it is one side of the street and the holiday schedule throws the pickup for the Monday side of the street to Tuesday and residents park on the Monday side of the street that says "No Parking." Commissioner Weaver believes other districts in the City already have that set up. They have Monday and Thursday, Tuesday and Friday so that there is a space in between so that if there is a holiday there is no impact.

Commissioner Weaver said she would like someone from Public Works to attend the next meeting to address the proposed change in scheduling in District 1 and 2 so that Waste Management can accommodate.

Commissioner Coronado stated everyone knows there are no trash pickups on holidays.

Commissioner Weaver stated it is not a matter of not picking up the trash on holidays but the impact the holidays cause.

Alan Mai stated that when the trash is picked up on Tuesday because Monday was a holiday, there is no need to move the cars for trash pickup. Cars must be moved for street sweeping only.

In reply to Mr. Mai, Commissioner Weaver said no one wants to risk having their cars damaged by Waste Management trucks picking up the trash.

Chairperson Benbow stated the rules about trash pickup and street sweeping are clear and are set so there must be a problem with educating the residents. Chairperson Benbow recommended ways to educate the residents.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion that the issue of parking and trash pickup days be put back on the agenda so that staff can look further into this request and make a resolution for change.

Commissioner Turner seconded it.

Motion was approved 4-1. Commissioner Coronado abstained.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.
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