

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the La Mesa Traffic Commission
Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.
City Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa. California

The Agenda for this meeting was posted on March 30, 2018.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: TRAFFIC COMMISSION

PRESENT: Chair Calandra; Vice Chair Krulikowski; Commissioners Ortega and Justice

ABSENT: Commissioner Paden

STAFF: Director of Public Works/City Engineer Richard Leja; Engineering Project Manager Jeffrey Manchester; Associate Engineer Michael Kinnard; Fire Marshal Chris Jensen; Administrative Coordinator Noemi Becerra; Administrative Assistant Daniela Rodriguez

INVOCATION – Chair Calandra

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. TRAFFIC ACTION ITEMS SINCE PREVIOUS TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING

Mr. Kinnard reported on the six items on the Traffic Work Order Log that were approved or completed since the March 7, 2018 Traffic Commission meeting. (See agenda attachment – Traffic Work Order Log 2018)

2. TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATE

Mr. Kinnard gave an update on the status of the traffic calming as of April 03, 2018. (See agenda attachment – Traffic Calming Status: Update 04-03-18)

A discussion followed regarding the importance and challenges of outreach to affected communities of traffic calming efforts. Mr. Kinnard explained “Community Champions” and mailers are currently being utilized for outreach. Director Leja stated the City is looking into using the Next Door app as another form of outreach.

Vice Chair Krulikowski suggested that traffic calming is not necessary on Guava Avenue due to the short length of the street and because it’s primarily a commercial street.

Chair Calandra asked to see the community approved design of Howell Drive as an informational item at a future meeting. Vice Chair Krulikowski suggested a

member of the commission be invited to future neighborhood meetings regarding traffic calming.

3. PERMIT PARKING POLICY FRAMEWORK UPDATE

Director Leja reported that the City Council accepted the Traffic Commission's permit parking policy framework recommendations, with the exception of exempting the Wellesley Street residents of the new rules, until such time that the district votes to un-exempt itself. Director Leja stated we currently have 3 requests for parking permit districts in the City. The Commission will next move forward with turning the framework into an actual policy.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – (TOTAL TIME – 15 MINUTES)

Dorcas Hermsmeier, 4827 Beaumont Drive

Ms. Hermsmeier made a public request that a discussion of speed humps be placed on a future Traffic Commission agenda. Ms. Hermsmeier stated that La Mesa's 50 percent approval requirement for speed humps and speed tables is too low. She would like the residential approval percentage increased to 75 percent for speed humps and speed tables to be installed.

Ed Kirkpatrick, 3915 Sacramento Drive

Mr. Kirkpatrick expressed that he is opposed to school busses using Sacramento Drive.

Frank Baggett, 3980 Sacramento Drive

Mr. Baggett urged the Commission not to approve the exemption for school busses. He feels it would be difficult to enforce. He also requests the Commission consider increasing the size of the No Turn signs at High Street and Sacramento Drive and to include fines on the signs. Mr. Baggett stated there is no enforcement of the 25 mph speed limit on Sacramento Drive. Finally Mr. Baggett asked the Commission to do anything it can to increase the safety of the residents on Sacramento Drive.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS (ACTION)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 7, 2018 TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING (ATTACHMENT)

ACTION: Vice Chair Krulikowski moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion which carried 4-0.

AYES: Chair Calandra, Vice Chair Krulikowski, Commissioners Ortega, Justice

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Paden

COMMISSION INITIATED ITEMS

Vice Chair Krulikowski stated that the overall conditions of the City's pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle facilities are good compared to others he's seen around the country. He applauded the City for applying for multiple grant opportunities.

Vice Chair Krulikowski requested speakers to limit themselves to the item before the commission. He urged that if a speaker wants to discuss an item not before the Commission it is suggested the speaker make a request to put it on the agenda for a future item.

Vice Chair Krulikowski spoke of the traffic side effects created every time the Commission takes an action. He emphasized the Commission must make sure the effect does not outweigh the action.

Chair Calandra discussed forming a vision safety program subcommittee. Chair Calandra and Commissioner Ortega volunteered to be part of the subcommittee. Director Leja stated that the City has seen an increase in accidents at the location of the vision safety zone, previously discussed on Parkway Drive. Vice Chair Krulikowski stated the development in the area may have exceeded the capacity of the road. Director Leja suggested the subcommittee meet later this month or in May and bring the results to the June 2018 meeting.

STAFF COMMENTS

Director Leja reported that the City has submitted a total of five SANDAG grant applications. He reported that SANDAG received \$55 million dollars in applications with only \$30 million dollars to award and that the City's chances look good. Regarding Senate Bill 1 (SB1), Director Leja stated City staff will present next year's streets list to Council soon. City staff will present the list of streets on May 2, 2018 to the Traffic Commission. Director Leja updated the Commission on current projects.

FUTURE ITEMS – (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

REQUEST TO EXEMPT SCHOOL BUSES FROM THE TIME RESTRICTION FOR RIGHT-HAND TURNING MOVEMENTS FROM HIGH STREET TO SACRAMENTO DRIVE (Continued to May 2, 2018)

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING IS May 2, 2018

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.