

Traffic Commission Meeting
December 5, 2005

Agenda Item 6b

To: Torrance Traffic Commission

From: Ted Semaan, Manager of
Transportation Planning, Engineering Permits and Records Division

Subject: Discussion regarding the update of the Circulation Element of the
City of Torrance's General Plan

RECOMMENDATION

The Community Development Director recommends that the Traffic Commission review the materials, take public input and provide comments to update the Circulation Element of the City of Torrance's General Plan.

BACKGROUND

City of Torrance is in process of updating the General Plan. As part of this process, different Commissions will have the opportunity to provide input for their respective components. In addition, The Citywide Traffic Study will provide further update and information for the Circulation Element.

The Circulation Element is that part of the General plan that sets City policy for transportation systems and citywide circulations. The four main components of the Circulation Element are:

1. Goals, Objectives and Policies;
2. The Transportation Plan;
3. Related Transportation Issues; and
4. Infrastructure Plan

ANALYSIS/TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Through Traffic Commission meetings, and public input, staff will provide recommendations and updates to the General Plan consultant and the Planning Commission regarding different components of the Circulation Element. These components are as follow:

I. Goals, Objectives and Policies: provides the direction and context for future circulation decision making in correlation with the Land Use Element. The goal for the Circulation element is:

A BALANCE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE SAFE, CONVINIENT AND EFFICIENT MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND GOODS THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND THE REGION.

Objectives:

- Responsiveness to the requirements of the Land Use Plan;
- Efficient use of the transportation resources;
- Mass Transit as an alternative to the automobile;
- Provision of adequate parking;
- Transportation Demand Management to conserve resources and protect the environment;
- Improving the quality of the environment for Pedestrians;
- Importance of the visual quality of roadways to the image of the City;
- Infrastructure to support the local economy and quality of life;
- Providing goods and services for business without disrupting neighborhoods;
- Bicycles as a pollution free travel mode; and
- Torrance airport.

II. Transportation Plan: focuses on the transportation component of the Circulation Element which includes:

- Transportation issues;
- Existing transportation system; and
- Future transportation system.

The Citywide Traffic Study is providing all the needed data for this component of the Circulation Element. Attached are the following documents for your review:

- 1999 Average Daily Traffic (ADT);
- 2005 Average Daily Traffic (ADT);
- 2005, and 1999 ADT comparison;
- Holiday vs. Non-Holiday ADT
- 2005 Level of service analysis (LOS)
- 1999 Level of Service analysis(LOS)
- 2005, and 1999 LOS comparison

In addition, the consultant has completed the base traffic model, which identifies the geometric characteristic of each intersection, such as number of lanes, ADT, LOS, and existing right of way. This model will be used to analyze traffic

operation for near-term, and long term conditions, incorporating recent or projected developments; identifying their impact on traffic operation, and recommending improvements to mitigate these impacts.

III. Related Transportation Issues: addresses issues such as parking and other modes of transportation. Although similar to the issues discussed in the Transportation Plan, addressing the following issues separately will allow for special emphasis:

- Parking;
- Roadway transportation of freight and goods;
- Bicycle Transportation;
- Pedestrian circulation;
- Railroads and Commuter Rail Service; and
- Torrance airport

IV. Infrastructure Plan: A part of Planning Commission Discussion.

The comments and input received tonight will be summarized and forwarded to the Planning Commission and the General Plan's consultant to be incorporated into the Circulation Element of the General Plan update.

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFERY W. GIBSON
Community Development Director

By _____
Ted Semaan, Manager
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Attachment A: Counts
Attachment B: ITS item
Attachment C: DIF brochures