

October 2, 2006

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TORRANCE TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Traffic Commission convened in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 2, 2006 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Santome.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Lee, Rische, Santome, Tsao, Ulrich, and Chairperson Lewis.

Absent: Commissioner Galvin.

Also Present: Transportation Manager Semaan and Project Manager Sedadi.

MOTION: Commissioner Santome moved to grant an excused absence to Commissioner Galvin for the October 2, 2006 Traffic Commission meeting. Commissioner Ulrich seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Tsao moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Santome seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Galvin).

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5a. MINUTES OF JUNE 5, 2006

Commissioner Rische expressed his objection that the minutes did not reflect comments that he said under Item 6a at the June 5, 2006 Commission meeting. He stated that he would like to have a ruling on what City Clerk Herbers has the right to edit in terms of meeting minutes.

Transportation Manager Semaan advised that the minutes would remain as they are and that Commissioner Rische could choose not to concur with the recommendation to approve them.

MOTION: Commissioner Ulrich moved for the approval of the June 5, 2006 meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Santome seconded the motion. The motion passed as reflected in the following roll call vote (absent Commissioner Galvin):

AYES: Commissioners Lee, Tsao, Ulrich, and Chairperson Lewis.
NOES: Commissioners Rische and Santome.

5b. MINUTES OF AUGUST 7, 2006

MOTION: Commissioner Santome moved to approve the August 7, 2006 meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Tsao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Galvin, abstention by Commissioner Ulrich).

6. ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION

6a. PROJECT UPDATE ON CITYWIDE TRAFFIC STUDY AND THE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (ITS)

Project Manager Sedadi presented background information and a status report on the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) and the Citywide Traffic Study. She requested that Commissioners receive and file the status report on previous projects brought to the Commission for their review and recommendation.

Referring to ITS, she stated that staff is anticipating a proposal and cost analysis from Econolite for implementation of different components. She reported that, based on the proposed scope of work, Econolite will: 1) upgrade Icons, the Traffic Control System, all necessary controller and cabinet upgrades, and communication network system upgrades; 2) provide Synchro and CCTV module; and 3) provide all necessary software, computers, license fees, training, and 4-year service agreement. She noted that the proposal entitled "Torrance System Upgrade Proposal" was included as Attachment A of the material of record. She advised that staff was in the process of negotiating with Los Angeles County that is funding the project.

She reported that the Citywide Traffic Study is 85% complete and that the consultant has: 1) completed the analysis of pass through data (Attachment B); 2) received and is currently reviewing the future land use designation, intensity, and density from the General Plan consultant (Attachment C) and started tabulating the long-term traffic projections; and 3) contacted Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to request different model runs (Attachment D).

In response to Commissioner Ulrich's inquiry regarding Attachment B, Project Manager Sedadi explained that pass through percentages reflect the number of cars that enter and exit the City through gateways without stopping, noting that the data was collected by video and license plate survey.

Referring to pages 7-3 and 3-9 of Attachment A, Commission Ulrich received clarification from Project Manager Sedadi that the budget proposal was still being negotiated. She explained that the City has some of the necessary equipment and has the option to participate in operating it. She estimated that the Citywide Traffic Study would be completed by the end of the year.

Responding to Commissioner's Rische's inquiry, Transportation Manager Semaan explained the Pass Through Summary in Attachment B. He noted that statistics were tabulated on individual streets and directions, and that percentages listed

are independent of each other and cannot be combined. He explained that the total number of vehicles listed in the summary provides a quantifiable way of measuring and identifying what has been expected to be pass through traffic in the City. He stated that the data would be useful in procuring outside funding sources for regional rather than local assistance.

When Commissioner Santome inquired how the acceptable percentage of pass through traffic is gauged, Transportation Manager Semaan stated that staff has not attempted to do a comparison with other cities.

Commissioner Santome suggested that it would be helpful for staff to provide an overlay with the percentages and the grading of level of service at intersections.

Chairperson Lewis stated that it was safe to assume that the number of pass through vehicles listed in the summary is minimal and does not account for drivers making turns.

7. ORALS

7a. Transportation Manager Semaan stated that staff would provide a report on the left turn phasing at 182nd Street and Van Ness Avenue at the November 6, 2006 Commission meeting.

7b. Commissioner Ulrich relayed a citizen inquiry regarding the need for the left turn phasing arrow on Skypark Drive entering a helicopter pad and suggesting that it be placed at Madison Street and Skypark Drive.

Transportation Manager Semaan stated that non-emergency vehicles also use the signal and that it is activated from the hospital.

7c. Commissioner Ulrich relayed a citizen concern about misplacement of a school zone sign on Newton Street.

7d. Commissioner Santome inquired about the status of the left turn lane at Skypark Drive and Hawthorne Boulevard.

Transportation Manager Semaan advised that it was in progress, that Lowe's was conditioned to make improvements, and that it needed to be approved by Cal Trans.

7e. Commissioner Tsao relayed a citizen request that a yield sign be installed at Abalone and 214th Street.

7f. Commissioner Rische inquired about potential effects on traffic if the Del Amo Boulevard extension is approved.

Transportation Manager Semaan indicated that traffic would increase traffic volumes on Del Amo Boulevard but reduce traffic on Torrance Boulevard and 190th Street. He added that it would take three to six months to complete the design of the project, with construction expected to begin in nine to 12 months. He noted that the

proposal to extend Jefferson requires cooperation between multiple agencies before it can move forward.

7g. Commissioner Rische requested an excused absence for the November 6, 2006 Commission meeting.

7h. Commissioner Ulrich stated that he would encourage that Commissioners' thoughts and exact statements be put in meeting minutes.

Transportation Manager Semaan stated that he would invite City Clerk Herbers to a future meeting to discuss protocol of meeting minutes.

7i. Chairperson Lewis stated that it was nice to see six of the Commissioners at the Commissioner Orientation.

7j. Commissioner Ulrich thanked staff for all that they do.

7k. Commissioner Rische added that staff was overworked and needed more help.

8. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:42 p.m., Chairperson Lewis adjourned the meeting to November 6, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved as Submitted November 6, 2006 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
