

April 4, 2005

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Traffic Commission convened in a regular meeting at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, April 4, 2005 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Ulrich.

3. **ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Transportation Manager Semaan and Project Manager Sedadi.

4. **AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner O'Brien moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MARCH 7, 2005**

Commissioner O'Brien noted the following corrections to the March 7, 2005 Traffic Commission meeting minutes:

Page 2, Paragraph 6, "...Madison Street..."

Page 3, 7E, "...Madison Street..."

**MOTION:** Commissioner O'Brien moved for the approval of the March 7, 2005 Traffic Commission meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (with Commissioner Santome abstaining).

6. **ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Transportation Manager Semaan distributed background information and correspondence regarding a request from Bambi Honda, 3675 W. 168<sup>th</sup> Street, to remove the red curb along 168<sup>th</sup> Street east of Cranbrook Avenue. He advised that the Commission could either direct staff to leave the curb as it is or request that the item be brought back for consideration.

In response to Chairperson Rische's inquiry, Transportation Manager Semaan stated that it was staff's recommendation to leave the 20 feet of red curb as it currently is

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to enhance visibility for drivers exiting Cranbrook Avenue onto 168<sup>th</sup> Street. He stated that there was no history of accidents, that parking was available on both 168<sup>th</sup> Street and Cranbrook Avenue, and that 20 feet of red curb was the standard recommendation when there was no stop sign or other means of controlling traffic. He noted that 20 feet of curb was one car length.

Bambi Honda, 3675 W. 168<sup>th</sup> Street, expressed concern that it was difficult to park near her home because residents of nearby apartment buildings took available parking, adding that she is unable to park in her garage or driveway. She further stated that she recommended the installation of stop signs to control speeding on 168<sup>th</sup> Street. She informed Commissioners that her neighbor, who originally requested installation of the red curb, no longer thought it enhanced visibility.

Commissioner Lewis relayed his conversation with Torrance Police Department Officer Heslep on April 4, 2004 regarding a large truck parked near the intersection that impeded visibility. He stated Officer Heslep informed him that a vehicle weighing more than 8,000 pounds was not allowed to park on residential streets more than one hour and that the vehicle would be cited.

In response to Commission Lee's inquiry, Transportation Manager Semaan stated that the Department probably would not have installed the red curb if a resident had not requested it due to the lack of any accident history.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Santome moved to direct staff to bring back an item for consideration at the May 2, 2005 Commission meeting regarding red curb removal along 168<sup>th</sup> Street east of Cranbrook Avenue. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ulrich and passed as reflected in the following 5-2 roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioners Lee, O'Brien, Santome, Ulrich, and Rische.  
NOES: Commissioners Lewis and Tsao.

Commissioner O'Brien requested that staff notify the resident who originally requested the red curb that the Commission would be considering its removal on May 2, 2005.

6a. **CITYWIDE TRAFFIC STUDY UPDATE**

Project Manager Sedadi provided background, objectives, and analysis of the Citywide Traffic Study update included in the material of record. With the aid of charts, she described data collected at Non-Holiday Study Roadway Segment Locations, Non-Holiday Study Intersections, Holiday Season Roadway Segment Locations, and Holiday Season Study Intersections. She described the consultant's scope of work once the traffic counts are completed that includes analyzing traffic operation for near-term and long-term conditions and identifying Pass-Through Traffic. She advised that the tentative completion date for the Citywide Traffic Study is October 2006, and that it is dependent on the completion of the Land Use Modification Element of the General Plan update.

Transportation Manager Semaan distributed copies of the Commissioners' Brown Act Orientation dated March 30, 2004. He encouraged Commissioners to attend the April 13, 2005 Planning Commission Workshop #4 on the circulation element, noting

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that traffic was a significant component of circulation. He advised that the workshop was solely for accepting information and that Commissioners who attend should identify themselves as residents, not Commissioners. He stated that all comments would be logged, and would be analyzed and evaluated by the Department at a later date. He anticipated that recommendations would be brought before the Traffic Commission in the latter part of summer or early fall 2005 depending on the consultant's completion of the traffic model.

Responding to Commissioner O'Brien's inquiry regarding data in Attachment B, Project Manager Sedadi explained that the traffic counts were collected northbound and southbound. She stated that these traffic counts were raw data and needed to be analyzed, and that all traffic counts were scheduled for completion by the end of school in June 2005.

A brief discussion centered on how traffic counts were taken and the accuracy of the counts.

Transportation Manager Semaan stated that the initial reason for preparing the Citywide Traffic Study was resident concerns about developments occurring in the City and that some developers were also required to do independent traffic studies. He stated that the Citywide Traffic Study would also provide them the opportunity for outside funding sources.

Chairperson Rische initiated discussion about the expansion of 223<sup>rd</sup> Street/Plaza del Amo. Transportation Manager Semaan explained that it was a component that would be looked at in the future. He stated that as the General Plan identified land uses and land use changes, the Citywide Traffic Study would identify today's volumes and expected growth as well as any changes due to land use changes that occur.

Chairperson Rische initiated discussion about traffic circulation on Palos Verdes Drive North, traffic patterns between Torrance and Rolling Hills Estates, and about what kinds of traffic are generated by various kinds of developments.

Commissioner Ulrich thanked staff for explaining the data in the Citywide Traffic Study update.

## **7. ORALS**

**7A.** Commissioner O'Brien stated that she was moving out of the City and would remain on the Commission through at least June 2005.

**7B.** Project Manager Sedadi advised that the Department was working with Los Angeles County to finalize the timing and synchronization plan at Madison Street and Sepulveda. Staff offered to accompany Commissioners to the intersection to observe their concerns.

**7C.** Project Manager Sedadi explained that there was no straight lane traveling eastbound on 237<sup>th</sup> Street at Crenshaw Boulevard due to concerns by residents at the time the industrial park was being developed.

**7D.** A brief discussion centered on the intersection at Hawthorne Boulevard and Skypark Drive.

**7E.** Transportation Manager Semaan advised that there would be a community meeting the week of April 18, 2005 in the Civic Center Library meeting room regarding recreational vehicle parking in the City.

**7F.** Commissioner O'Brien initiated discussion about the April 4, 2005 article in the Daily Breeze regarding the installation of a traffic signal at 235<sup>th</sup> Street.

**7G.** Commissioner Tsao informed staff that there was poor visibility traveling northbound on Ocean Avenue at Lomita Boulevard.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 8:47 p.m., Commissioner O'Brien, with a second by Commissioner Lewis, adjourned the meeting to Monday, May 2, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Rische so ordered.

Approved as Written May 2, 2005 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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