

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Traffic Commission convened in a regular meeting at 7:02 p.m. on Monday, October 1, 2007 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Clouch.

3. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Commissioner Galvin.

Also Present: Transportation Manager Semaan and Project Manager Sedadi.

MOTION: Commissioner Ulrich moved to grant an excused absence to Commissioner Galvin for the October 1, 2007 Traffic Commission meeting. Chairperson Santome 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 Lewis seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: AUGUST 6, 2007

MOTION: Commissioner Clouch moved for the approval of the August 6, 2007 Traffic Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Galvin and with Commissioners Rische and Ulrich abstaining).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

Dr. Randolph Lum, Maricopa Street, representing Belmar Community, requested that the Commission consider allowing parking on the north side of Maricopa Street between Hickory Street and Hawaii Street. He asked that Belmar residents be treated equitably by allowing them the same parking privileges as their neighbors on the south side of Maricopa Street. He noted that there were over 100 homes with 300 residents living at Belmar and distributed copies of a petition signed by 80% of owner residents. He requested that staff investigate the situation and place an item on next month's Commission meeting agenda.

Norman Nakamura, Maricopa Street, Belmar Community, echoed Dr. Lum's request, adding that the community has four-to-five bedroom homes with only three assigned parking spaces per unit.

Ryan Gagajeria, Maricopa Street, Belmar Community, described the difficulty his family has finding a parking space for its fourth car, often having to park a quarter mile away from the residence.

Douglas Winther, Maricopa Street, Belmar Community, stated that the request was fair and reasonable and would be a huge benefit to the community.

Alex Dong, Maricopa Street, Belmar Community, thanked the Commission for its time and stated that he also supported the request to allow parking on the north side of Maricopa Street.

Transportation Manager Semaan stated that he believed that the parking restriction was a condition of approval of the Planning Commission for the development. He offered to research the issue and make a determination if the request should go before the Planning Commission or could be considered by the Traffic Commission.

In response to Commissioner Lewis' inquiry, he explained that residents of Belmar Community were out of the area for the parking permit system for the south side of Maricopa Street and that an amendment to the Municipal Code would need to go to City Council for consideration.

Commissioner Ulrich requested that staff, in addition to conducting an engineering study, examine traffic flow on Maricopa Street and take input from the Torrance Police Department. He expressed concern that Maricopa is an extremely busy street and crossing it could be dangerous.

Chairperson Santome received clarification from staff that conditional use permits transfer to new property owners and should be disclosed in CC&Rs.

Transportation Manager Semaan stated that residents would be advised of staff's findings and which direction the item would take.

7. ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION

7a. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT OF CITYWIDE TRAFFIC ANALYSIS

Transportation Manager Semaan introduced the material of record and requested that Commissioners review the draft document and bring it back to the November meeting for further discussion.

Project Manager Sedadi provided background on the Citywide Traffic Analysis, noting that the draft was a conclusion of traffic counts, level of service, pass-through traffic and other data collected over the past two years. She asked that Commissioners consider how easy the material was to follow and understand as she reviewed the draft chapter by chapter.

She reviewed Chapter 1, an introduction that explains the purpose and background of the study and how it was conducted. She noted that the chapter also includes a before and after comparison of holiday traffic as well as information regarding pass-through traffic.

She stated that Chapter 2 shows existing conditions in 2005 and explained how to read the exhibits, using the intersection of 190th Street and Anza Avenue as an example.

Project Manager Sedadi stated that Chapter 3 was a projection of near-term traffic generated by all projects built or planning to be built within five years of the study. She explained how the consultant entered all collected data and was able to project a new set of level of service.

When Chairperson Santome indicated that the data could be used to bolster the credibility of a trip generation number, Transportation Manager Semaan explained that the document was a comprehensive City-wide traffic study that shows impact of an accumulation of projects, not a particular project.

Responding to Commissioner Clouch's inquiry, Project Manager Sedadi explained the two different methods for calculating level of service—HCM (Highway Capacity Manual) and ICU (Intersection Capacity Utilization), noting that the HCM methodology included in the study was based on delay.

When Commissioner Lewis questioned how applicable the document would be once completed, staff explained that the information was a baseline that could be updated and that the number of trip generations would reflect changes in land use designations.

When Commissioner Rische questioned the statistics for the intersection of Western Avenue and Del Amo Boulevard on page 62, staff determined that it was probably a miscalculation by the consultant and would be researched.

Chairperson Santome offered the suggestion to move references in the Introduction to the Executive Summary and Project Manager Sedadi offered to talk with the consultant about expanding the Executive Summary.

Commissioner Tsao questioned the placement of unrelated photographs in the document and why there were so many photographs of Del Amo mall.

Commissioners suggested placing a photograph of the Torrance bridge on the cover.

Project Manager Sedadi reviewed Chapter 4 beginning on page 87, the projected long-term analysis of traffic projections for years 2020-2025. She stated that the consultant met with the General Plan consultant to review all land uses in the City, noting that there were few changes in land use designations.

Transportation Manager Semaan added that the projected growth in the City and surrounding cities was also included in the projections.

In response to Commissioner Rische's inquiry, he stated that staff was optimistically projecting a completed draft of the General Plan by July 2008.

Responding to Commissioner Lewis' inquiry, Transportation Manager Semaan advised that the traffic study has a 20 year projected life. He noted that primary goal of the study is to project impacts in the future and to take steps to make improvements where needed. He added that utilizing outside funding sources to make improvements was a huge component but not necessarily mentioned in the document.

Project Manager Sedadi stated that Chapter 5, that details acceptable intersections, might not be included in the final document.

Chairperson Santome suggested adding a table that shows which streets and intersections are controlled by Cal Trans or shared with surrounding cities.

Project Manager Sedadi reviewed Chapter 6 that shows intersections that would be worse than level of service "D" by 2020. She noted that the consultant has been asked to include a cost analysis for each intersection improvement as well as aerial photographs.

Transportation Manager Semaan noted that some improvements have already been made when an opportunity presents itself, such as the intersection at Sepulveda Boulevard and Anza Avenue. He stated that projects implemented since the start of the study could be identified in the chapter.

Chairperson Santome suggested that goal dates be included on page 118.

Responding to Commissioner Lewis' inquiry, Transportation Manager Semaan stated that the document would not prioritize intersections that need improvements, and briefly discussed the five-year capital budget that the City utilizes.

Transportation Manager Semaan initiated discussion about the two methods of calculating level of service and how these calculations are utilized to determine improvements needed.

He provided a summary of the study and requested that Commissioners review the draft further and bring back recommendations to the November 5, 2007 meeting.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

8a. Transportation Manager Semaan stated that on October 1, 2007 staff spoke with the developer about the design and implementation of improvements at Hawthorne Boulevard and Skypark Drive.

8b. Transportation Manager Semaan advised that data was being collected in the area of Adolph Avenue and 242nd Street.

8c. Referring to the Levy school relocation, Transportation Manager Semaan stated that directed changes have been implemented and that it was determined to remove the barricade for eastbound movement on 229th Place to alleviate the gridlock in front of the school.

8d. Commissioner Rische asked staff to investigate placement of street name signs on eastbound Carson Street.

8e. Commissioner Lewis expressed safety concerns regarding buses parked on 182nd Street west of Hawthorne Boulevard in the City of Redondo Beach.

Transportation Manager Semaan offered to contact the Redondo Beach staff again and to look up accident reports for that area.

8f. Commissioner Ulrich suggested the possibility of installing flashing yellow signal phasing to allow left turn movements and received clarification from staff that protective permissive phasing would serve the same purpose.

8g. Chairperson Santome relayed a resident's request to install center striping on Spenser Street.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:02 p.m., Chairperson Santome adjourned the meeting to November 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room.

Approved as Submitted November 5, 2007 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
