

**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, November 12, 2012 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Siani led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Herring, Sargent, Siani,
Tsao, Walter, and Chairperson Rudolph.

Absent: Commissioner Furey.

Also Present: Engineering Manager Semaan,
Planning Associate Crump, and
Torrance Police Sergeant Koenig.

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 Herring seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5a. MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 2012

Chairperson Rudolph offered the following correction to the minutes: Page 3, 8g. "Chairperson Rudolph inquired how 182nd Street east of Hawthorne Boulevard..."

MOTION: Commissioner Sargent moved for the approval of the October 1, 2012 Commission meeting minutes as amended. Commissioner Walter seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Furey).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

Chairperson Rudolph explained the policies and procedures of the Traffic Commission, including the right to appeal decisions to City Council.

Bob Habel, West 181st Street, inquired about the status of his request that staff consider installing a four-way stop to include Sonoma Street to the west and Engracia Avenue to the east between Carson Street and Torrance Boulevard.

Engineering Manager Semaan informed him that staff reviewed the intersection, concurred with his suggestion, and has put in a service request.

7. ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION

7a. CONSIDERATION TO AMEND THE CITY'S TRUCK ROUTE SYSTEM TO INCLUDE THAT PORTION OF DEL AMO BOULEVARD BETWEEN PRAIRIE AVENUE/MADRONA AVENUE AND HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD

Planning Associate Crump provided background on the item and the request by the Traffic Commission and City Council for staff to review why the portion of Del Amo Boulevard between Prairie Avenue and Hawthorne Boulevard was not included in the Truck Route System. She expressed staff's concern that if this section were to be designated as a truck route it could potentially create a situation where truck drivers use it as a cut-through or for non-destination trips on Del Amo Boulevard. She presented staff's recommendation that this segment remain as a non-designated truck route.

Engineering Manager Semaan noted that there was supplemental correspondence available received after agenda packets were prepared. He added that staff looked at the pros and cons of amending the Truck Route System and determined that there was no true benefit of designating that portion a truck route.

Commissioner Walter concurred with staff's recommendation due to the existence of truck routes on both sides of this portion of Del Amo Boulevard.

In response to Commissioner Sargent's inquiry, Engineering Manager Semaan stated that staff has not evaluated the pavement on Del Amo Boulevard for truck traffic because it did not find the merits to make the recommendation to include it.

Daniel Stock, Del Amo Boulevard, stated that his apartment building and windows are not designed for trucks going by and that his bedroom window faces the street. He added that he has seen an increase in car traffic and that he is in favor of trucks using the existing truck routes.

Responding to Chairperson Rudolph's inquiry, Mr. Stock stated that he occasionally sees trucks coming out of Mariner Avenue to turn east on Del Amo Boulevard as well as delivery trucks and garbage trucks.

Patricia Mock, Madison Street, expressed concern that the proposal would further encroach on the neighborhood by adding more traffic, noise, and pollution. She stated that apartments and condominiums along this portion are located very close to the street and that safety for pedestrians crossing at Mariner Avenue is another concern.

Rami Radi, Roslin Avenue, stated that there is more car traffic now on Del Amo Boulevard and that he does not want trucks too. He voiced safety concerns, noting that it is already a challenge to come out of cul de sacs now.

Mr. Stock pointed out safety concerns for cars parallel parking and cars parked along Del Amo Boulevard.

Commissioner Tsao concurred with staff's recommendation and voiced support for maintaining the quality of the residential area.

Commissioner Siani agreed that the proposal is inappropriate because of the residential nature of the street.

Commissioner Sargent pointed out that there is no compelling reason to amend the Truck Route System.

Responding to Chairperson Rudolph's inquiry, Engineering Manager Semaan explained that trucks are required to follow a truck route if they are over 8,000 pounds. He stated that any time a truck needs to make a local delivery or pickup, or return from a delivery or pickup, it is allowed to use a non-truck route with the intention of getting back to the truck route. He added that there is signage positively identifying truck routes.

Sergeant Koenig offered an example that cement trucks would exceed the weight limit, but most delivery trucks would not.

MOTION: Commissioner Sargent moved to concur with staff recommendation to not include the portion of Del Amo Boulevard between Prairie Avenue/Madrona Avenue and Hawthorne Boulevard in the City's Truck Route System. Commissioner Walter seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Furey).

7b. PRESENTATION BY CABLE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION OF THE CITY MANAGERS OFFICE ON THE CITY'S CITISOUNDS AM 1620 RADIO STATION

Engineering Manager Semaan requested that this item be continued to the December 3, 2012 Commission meeting. He distributed an informational sheet from the Office of Cable Communications webpage.

In response to Commissioner Herring's inquiry, he explained that the item was coming to the Commission at the request of a Commissioner.

7c. QUARTERLY TRAFFIC COMMISSION SUMMARY OF REQUESTS

Engineering Manager Semaan presented the Traffic Commission Summary of Requests encompassing the period of September 2011 to December 2012. He noted that this is a receive and file item and that it has been updated.

Commissioner Sargent stated that the Summary of Requests is working well and doing exactly what the Commission wanted.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

8a. Engineering Manager Semaan presented potential dates for a joint meeting with City Council. Following a brief discussion, it was decided that January 15, 2013 should be the target date, with February 5 and February 26 as alternate dates.

Commissioners and staff discussed possible topics for the joint meeting agenda. Engineering Manager Semaan suggested that the meeting be a summary report of the Commission's work plan items—identify what the findings are, what actions have been taken, and what is still being worked on.

8b. Engineering Manager Semaan stated that City Council is awarding a design contract for Protected Permissive Left Turn signals at its November 6, 2012 meeting.

8c. Commissioner Siani initiated a brief discussion about the Rock n' Brew and the City of Redondo Beach's request for installation of a right turn lane from Pacific Coast Highway onto Palos Verdes Boulevard.

8d. Commissioner Walter inquired about raising the speed limit on Maple Avenue between Maricopa Street and Del Amo Boulevard and Engineering Manager Semaan advised that it is justifiable to maintain the 30 mph speed limit because of the residences.

8e. Commissioner Sargent received clarification from staff that the railroad tracks crossing Del Amo Boulevard at Crenshaw Boulevard are not active but that the spur may be connected in the future.

8f. Chairperson Rudolph expressed concern about drivers turning illegally into and out of the In 'N Out on Del Amo Boulevard and Hawthorne Boulevard as well as making U-turns to enter Chick fil A on 182nd Street and Hawthorne Boulevard.

Engineering Manager Semaan advised that staff is discussing the problems with the Police Department, that officers are conducting enforcement, and that they will continue to monitor the situation.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:36 p.m., Chairperson Rudolph adjourned the meeting to December 3, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room, Torrance City Hall and, hearing no objection, he so ordered.

Approved as Submitted December 3, 2012 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
