

Traffic Commission Meeting of
September 6, 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL #1

TO: Traffic Commission
FROM: Craig Bilezerian, Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Supplemental Material for Agenda Item No. 7a

Attached is email correspondence received after the distribution of public notices on August 24, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAIG BILEZERIAN
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

By 
Brenda Moun
Engineering Manager

Attachments:
15 emails from Residents.

[REDACTED]

From: Keven MacGowan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 7:34 AM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Resident Parking on Paseo De La Playa

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Hello,

I am writing to make the city aware of how changing the parking hours on Paseo De La Playa has adversely affected the residents. The change to no overnight parking has made life very difficult for residents to access their homes, especially any elderly residents who may not be capable of walking long distances home, especially if they have groceries or other items they need to bring home.

Please help us with this situation, if possible issue permits to the residents, or possibly placards we could display on our dashes, or if these are not possible repeal the no overnight parking ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration, if you have any questions for me please contact me at: 310-508-4088

Keven MacGowan
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 12:02 PM
To: PWTraffic; City Council
Subject: Parking Paseo de la Playa (Calle Miramar and Via Riviera)

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As a resident of Torrance, as well as a beach goer, I am well aware of the problems with the parking in this area. For quite some time that stretch of road became occupied full time by many people living in their vehicles. In addition to taking parking away from residents and beach goers, it also led to people using the ice plant for their human waste when the beach facilities were closed. This was never the intended use for that area.

When the night time parking restriction signs were posted, it did solve that problem, but I do believe the residents of that area should be able to park there overnight.

The obvious solution would be for the City to issue overnight permits for residents only. I believe the City of Redondo Beach does this for some of their Avenue Streets and it works quite well.

I hope you will consider this solution and not revert back to the way it was.

Thank you,
Virginia Bredesen
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 4:01 PM
To: PWTraffic; City Council
Subject: Parking Conditions on Paseo de la Playa between Calle Miramar and Via Riviera

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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As a resident of Torrance, as well as a beach goer, I am well aware of the problems with the parking in the area. For quite some time that stretch of road became occupied full time (except on street sweeping hours) by many people living in their vehicles (motorhomes, vans etc). As well as taking parking away from the residents and beach goers, it also led to people dumping trash, debris and human waste onto the city streets, sidewalks and landscaping when the beach facilities are closed. This was never the intended use for that area.

When the night time parking restriction signs were posted, it did solve that problem, but I do believe there residents of that area should be able to park there overnight.

Since the signs were removed - I spotted 3 vehicles (which appears to have people living in them)parked back along Paseo de la Playa for the last 3 days - they have not moved yet and I assume they will not move again until street sweeping day...

The obvious solution would be for the City to issue overnight permits fro residents only. The city of Redondo Beach seems to have a resident only permit solution that works quite well for their city.

I hope you will consider this solution and not revert back to the way it was.

Best Regards,

Debbie Sannes
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Liz Keran [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 4:50 PM
To: PWTraffic; City Council
Cc: Chen, George; Mattucci, Aurelio
Subject: Traffic commission meeting regarding parking on Paseo de la Playa

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Dear City Council Members and Members of the Traffic Commission,

I am writing in response to the 3rd Meeting Notice of Traffic Commission regarding the parking conditions on Paseo de la Playa between Calle Miramar and Via Riviera.

Next month will mark the 10th year my husband and I have been Torrance residents living on Paseo Miramar. We moved to the area from Redondo Beach so we could be closer to the beach and the safeness of the neighborhood .

We have watched our streets become a haven for unhoused individuals choosing to live for free on our streets in vans overnight that do not have running water or proper sanitary needs (disposing of human waste). The first step taken, limiting the parking on Paseo de la Playa between 1 am-5 am seemed like a small victory that the city actually was trying to make a stand for property owners and taxpayers. This however did cause at least 3 vans to take up residence on Via Riviera between Paseo de la Playa and Calle Miramar. The vans move on Monday and Tuesday for street cleaning days but otherwise park there for the rest of the week. The 72 hour parking rule does not get enforced.

This is tremendously upsetting. I asked you, how would you feel if you had someone living on the street in front of your home? What would you do?

One of the options mentioned in the first call regarding this matter was the suggestion of "resident" permit parking. This would solve the issue as long as the other streets, Paseo de la Concha and Via Riviera are also included. The resident permits would be issued to someone who can provide either a rental lease or tax bill and be a source of income for the city.

I look forward to hearing a response from a representative and would gladly be available for a phone conversation.

Best regards,

Elizabeth Keran
Scott Keran
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Terri Dunn [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 8:36 AM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Parking on Paseo de la Playa between Calle Miramar and Via Riviera

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I am a resident at [REDACTED], and my family and I are thrilled that this issues is finally getting the attention it deserves.

Covid wreaked havoc on the parking on this street, but it was there prior to Covid, and it needs to be managed.

My family is in favor of "NO OVERNIGHT PARKING- EXCEPT BY PERMIT" on the entire length of this street.

Allow residents to purchase an overnight parking pass, renewal yearly. This system is very effective in PVE and RB

Thank you.

Terri Dunn
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Moun, Brenda

From: Isabelle Royer [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 1:53 PM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Parking conditions on Paseo de la Playa

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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To whom it may concern,

Please do NOT lift the 1-5am parking restrictions on Paseo de la Playa between Calle Miramar and Via Riviera.

Lifting the ban does not help free parking for residents; it encourages transient visitors to access prime beach front spaces to extend their stay, overuse the beach bathrooms/trash receptacles in that area, without paying taxes or participating in our local economy.

Please maintain the night-time parking ban to minimize the overnight loitering and camping of small RVs/campers etc in our streets.

Thank you

Isabelle Royer
Pronouns: She/Her

Moun, Brenda

From: Robert Amador [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 4:59 PM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Parking at Paseo de la Playa between Calle Miramar and Via Riviera-hearing on September 6 2022

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I reside at [REDACTED], one block from the subject street. My opinion is that the solution is a permit requirement for overnight parking. To get a permit you need to be a local resident in the area and the owner of the subject vehicle. Plus vehicles need to be moved periodically.

Otherwise, that street will (is) a free RV-type parking lot in violation of zoning and traffic laws.

Please make my comments and recommendations part of the public record.

P.S. Why are the parking restrictions being removed August 25 before the hearing on September 6?

Thank you.

ROBERT S. AMADOR [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Moun, Brenda

From: Philip Jay [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2022 12:04 PM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Paseo de la Playa Campers

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Dear Commissioners:

I am sorry to hear the Commission apparently has given up on its recent measure to deal with the problem of derelict motorhomes and illegal campers on Paseo de la Playa. The ban on overnight parking actually worked and most of the illegal motorhomes and campers disappeared.

Now the Commission invites public comment, after it already decided to remove the restrictions. It's not clear what we can comment on since the decision to remove the restrictions is already a done deal.

Not surprisingly, the situation is returning to how it was before the ban. More and more of the same derelict campers are returning, and the same blighted conditions are beginning again. Trash, barely operable pieces of junk, and eyesores are spoiling one of the nicest beach areas in the South Bay. Many of the vehicles have out of state license plates. The word is out and the situation will continue to deteriorate to the point we can have our own Venice shanty town complete with human feces, litter, disturbances, and people camping out wherever they please.

Please consider the following as possible remedies.

1. Enforcement of the existing motorhome parking restrictions. I believe the city already has an ordinance prohibiting the parking of oversize vehicles, such as RVs, on residential streets. This would eliminate some of the larger vehicles currently on Paseo de la Playa and get rid of some of the worst offenders.
2. Develop some kind of permit system that allows residents to park overnight while prohibiting the situation we have now. I have seen such systems implemented, successfully, in many cities. Some cities have installed parking meters limiting parking to some number of hours, with residents allowed to have overnight or permit privileges.
3. Explore the possibility of prohibiting overnight camping on residential streets. I know staff will immediately declare that the coastal commission and court cases won't allow this, but a referral should be made to your city attorney for an analysis on what measures could be explored. The tendency is to simply give in and not explore solutions for fear of being told you cannot do it without even making an attempt or thinking "outside the box" for alternate solutions.

This is the type of condition that has to be stopped and dealt with before it gets so out of hand that our city will look like what we see in areas of Los Angeles with streets clogged with junk vehicles, piles of rubbish, and health hazards.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Philip M. Jay



Virus-free www.avast.com

Moun, Brenda

From: Jill Thomas [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2022 12:22 PM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Comment for Parking Conditions on Paseo de la Playa

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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in regards to the removal of parking restrictions for overnight parking on Paseo de la Playa between Calle Miramar and Via Riviera. We have seen the recent restrictions as a benefit to the neighborhood and would like to advocate to keep the restrictions in place. With the increasing homeless population and people living in their vehicles we believe removing the restriction will allow for this problem to continue to perpetuate in the neighborhood.

Ideally this restriction can remain in place, while residents could be given parking permits to allow for overnight parking in the neighborhood. The use of overnight permits for local homeowners would resolve the negative impacts of the parking restrictions for residents while also discouraging homeless individuals from camping out.

Thank you for your consideration!

-Jill Thomas
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Jewel Nicholson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2022 10:24 AM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Torrance Beach Parking

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Sirs,

My condominium faces Paseo del la Playa and I think it would be appropriate to issue parking stickers to full time residents along Paseo del la Playa that face the parking along Torrance Beach. I am not in favor of allowing overnight camping in cars or vehicles along the road.

Thanks for your efforts.

Jewel Nicholson
[REDACTED]

Moun, Brenda

From: Chris Bredeesen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 2, 2022 3:41 PM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: RE: City of Torrance – Parking Conditions and Homeless along Via Riviera (our Park area)

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I would like to **STRONGLY Support the City of Torrance to institute a parking permit program for residents and no overnight parking without a permit for Paseo de la Playa, Via Riviera and other impacted neighborhood streets.**

We can not allow these types of issues to begin in our community.

Chris Bredeesen
[REDACTED]

See below:

To: The Riviera Colony Homeowners

Sept. 2

RE: City of Torrance – Parking Conditions and Homeless along Via Riviera (our Park area)

Attachment: City of Torrance Notice of Traffic Commission Meeting, September 6, 2022

Dear TRBC Shareholders,

You will know we have had an influx of homeless parking their vans and living along our Via Riviera Park. The movement of the homeless occurred months ago after the city instituted “no night parking” along Paseo de la Playa.

Over the past two months, on numerous occasions, Judy and I have protested the way the City Traffic Commission managed this matter as their restrictions did not include the needs of the entire area including but not limited to Paseo de la Playa, Via Riviera, and Paseo de la Concha. The homeless population living along

our Via Riviera park have left overflowing trash cans, human feces, and damage to our park landscape. Our protests have been successful, and the Paseo de la Playa parking restrictions have been removed. Unfortunately, the homeless have become attached to our beautiful park, several remain, and we have noticed a new addition.

I will attend the Torrance City Council meeting Tuesday, September 6, 2022, 7:00 PM as representative for 28-homeowners of The Riviera Beach Colony. We will reiterate our suggestion for Torrance to institute a parking permit program for residents and no overnight parking without a permit for Paseo de la Playa, Via Riviera and other impacted neighborhood streets.

Please let us know if you have any input to this situation. Please join us at the City Council meeting September 6.

Faithfully yours,

Michael Lombard – President

Joe Berenato – Treasurer

Tom Harrison - Secretary

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Christopher Bredesen
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

From: Shannon [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 04, 2022 1:40 PM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Parking on Paseo de la Playa

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hello,

I live at [REDACTED]. I'd like to express my concern and frustration with the high volume of individuals living in their vehicle on the street in front of my house.

These individuals live out of their vehicles full time. They are there in their cars on Paseo de la Playa when I go for a morning walk and they are there in the evenings when I turn out my lights for bed. Almost every single car parked on the street is a homeless person versus a local resident. Isn't living in your vehicle illegal? And long term residence on the street illegal? The RVs parked there every night 365 days per year don't have permits.

The side effects are unwanted homeless people in this neighborhood who smell, litter, throw and break glass liquor bottles, cause noise disturbance at all hours and make me feel unsafe.

I'd like to see enforcement of making individuals living out of their vehicles leave this area. Additionally I'm in support of prohibiting evening parking on Paseo de la Playa. Please have this start at 10pm and go until 6am. The suspect behavior and noise disturbance is unacceptable and makes me feel uncomfortable in my own neighborhood.

Thank you,

Shannon Bullinger
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Matt Burns [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 04, 2022 1:43 PM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Paseo de la Playa Nighttime Parking Situation

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To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to express my concern over the new removal of nighttime parking restrictions on Paseo de la Playa. The removal of restrictions has made the living situation for residents almost unbearable. Listed below are the noticeable changes to the living situation:

- Homeless and vagrants are sleeping in their cars - using our street as their personal RV park. We've witnessed drug use and what appears to be drug dealing.
- Drastic increase in homeless and drug-influenced vagrants loitering in the area
- Homeless making intoxicated threats to residents as they walk at night
- Loud disturbances are now commonplace at night. Fighting, glass breaking, loud music, and loitering.

The downside of having restricted parking (residents not having easily available nighttime street parking) are drastically outweighed by these problems that are making the living situation for residents terrible. Please reinstate the parking restrictions, allow for resident parking permits - or have a full time police presence to make the area safe again for residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Matt Burns
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Larry Griego [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 04, 2022 2:23 PM
To: PWTraffic
Subject: Over Nite parking on Paseo de la Playa

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I'm a resident on [REDACTED]... we have many people not residents using our beautiful street by the Sea ...as a place to live .. their behavior and presence makes the residents feel unsafe.. their loud, use drugs,throw trash and urinate on the sidewalk.. I feel they r checking out the neighborhood late at night.. I know we need parking overnight for the residents..parking passes r necessary..
Thanks for hearing r point of view... much appreciated Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Robin Geissler [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 04, 2022 10:11 PM
To: PWTraffic; City Council
Subject: Parking on Paseo de La Playa (Calle Miramar Via Riviera)
Attachments: Parking on Paseo de La Playa.docx

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Dear City of Torrance Traffic Commission and City Council:

I am a resident of Paseo de La Playa who is concerned about overnight parking on my street.

Please submit my attached letter to the Commission for the meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 7 pm regarding overnight parking on my street.

Thank you,
Robin B. Geissler

September 4, 2022

Dear City of Torrance Traffic Commission and City Council Members:

I live at [REDACTED] and am very concerned about the overnight parking conditions between Calle Miramar and Via Riviera. Our family supports the parking restriction staying in place.

We used to feel safe walking in the evening and early morning on our street, but with the glut of motor homes, vans, and cars parked along the street overnight, that changed. We felt safer with the restriction and enforcement against overnight parking in place to protect residents and families.

The area between the sidewalk and the beach on the ice plant became like an outdoor bathroom facility for those who parked overnight. The stench was overwhelming, not to mention the threat to public health. With the resurgence of polio and smallpox in our country, it can't help having open sewage near the road. What's next, a TB outbreak?

My family pays an enormous amount of taxes to live in this beautiful spot. By allowing this street to become a crash pad, all of our property values are adversely affected.

If residents who live on Paseo de La Playa were to register with the city for a permit to park overnight in front of their homes, I would be fine with that as a possible solution. But of utmost concern is keeping our street safe and sanitary, which means no overnight parking by people from outside of this area.

Sincerely,

Robin Bacon Geissler

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]