

**PLACENTIA TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
November 21, 2011**

The Regular meeting of the Placentia Traffic Safety Commission of November 21, 2011 was called to order at 7:10 p.m. in the Community Meeting Room, 401 E. Chapman Avenue Placentia by Vice Chair Chadha.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Commissioner Labreche

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Vice Chair Chadha  
Commissioner Brusckke  
Commissioner Hutain  
Commissioner Labreche

Absent: Commissioner Stafford  
Commissioner Gorman  
Commissioner Hernandez

**STAFF PRESENT:** Ruth Smith, Traffic Engineer  
Scott Millsap, Traffic Sergeant  
Sara Salazar, Administrative Assistant

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The approval of the May 16, 2011 minutes was tabled to the next regular meeting.

**SWEARING-IN OF COMMISSIONERS:**

Bruce Hutain was sworn in prior to the start of the meeting.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

The election of Chair and Vice Chair was tabled to the next regular meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Vice Chair Chadha invited public comments on items which are not public hearings.

Mr. and Mrs. George and Sarah Guidi, 531 W. Madison Avenue, addressed the Commission concerning the lack of parking available in their neighborhood, the poor condition of the surface of Madison Avenue as well as the low frequency of street sweeping due to cars not being moved on sweeper days.

Commissioner Brusckke asked Mrs. Guidi if she preferred permit parking or parking restrictions. Mrs. Guidi responded that she prefers no overnight parking. Sgt. Millsap stated there are currently no overnight parking restrictions in the City. Mrs. Guidi asked if she was allowed to paint her curb red. Commissioner Labreche responded no, residents are not allowed to paint their curbs red.

Commissioner Bruschke advised Mr. and Mrs. Guidi of two (2) options, to request a parking restriction or to request permit parking. Mrs. Guidi indicated she would like permit parking.

Commissioner Labreche asked Mrs. Guidi if other neighbors are complaining about this issue. Mrs. Guidi responded, no, not that she knows of. One of her neighbors previously had the permit parking rescinded.

Commissioner Labreche asked if the problem existed prior to the previous permit parking being established. Mrs. Guidi responded yes.

Commissioner Hutain asked what is on the other side of the street. Mr. Guidi responded that there are more houses on the other side of the street.

Commissioner Bruschke added in response to concerns about street sweeping frequency, that the City does not post street sweeping signage on arterial streets; therefore cars do not get moved. Mrs. Guidi expressed some frustration. Ms. Smith stated she would speak with the City's maintenance crew about a solution.

Mrs. Guidi asked when Madison Avenue will be re-paved and asked if it was in the budget. Commissioner Bruschke advised that those decisions are not made by the Traffic Safety Commission.

Vice Chair Chadha closed the public comments.

## **REPORTS:**

### **I. TRAFFIC CONTROL: TSC NO. 11-04 Bradford Avenue at Valencia High School Requested by Steve Umber, PYLUSD**

This is a request to install "No Stopping 7 to 8 AM, 2 to 4 PM, School Days, Buses Exempt" signage on the east side of Bradford Avenue north of Anned Drive to establish a bus loading zone for Valencia High School (see Exhibit 1).

Ms. Smith gave the staff report and the follow recommendation was made:

1. Creation of a bus loading zone by installing "No Stopping 7 to 8 AM, 2 to 4 PM, School Days, Buses Exempt " signs on the east side of Bradford Avenue to 1,750 feet north of Anned Drive.

Ms. Smith invited Mr. Umber to address the commission on the item. Mr. Steve Umber, Director of Transportation for PYLUSD 1301 E. Orangethorpe Avenue, stated that loading and unloading as well as parking has been a problem at Valencia High School for many years. These signs will allow the buses to more easily load and unload.

Commissioner Hutain asked if the proposed loading zone is wide enough. Ms. Smith responded that the lane is wide enough to accommodate the buses and will aid in calming traffic as vehicles will slow down to pass. Commissioner Hutain proposed having buses unload in the school parking

lot. Mr. Umber stated that all available parking spaces are needed and that buses are not conducive to the parking lot.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LABRECHE SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BRUSCHKE TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TSC NO. 11-04; PASSED 4-0-3 (GORMAN, HERNANDEZ AND STAFFORD ABSENT).**

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**PRESENTATION:**

**O.C. Bridges Grade Separation Project Status**

Presenters: City Project Manager Roy Stephenson and OCTA Staff

Ms. Tresa Oliveri, Public Communications External Affairs at OCTA 550 S. Main St Orange, 92863 began the presentation. She presented renderings of what Placentia Avenue and Kraemer Boulevard will look like when complete.

Commissioner Labreche asked how long the project would take for completion. Ms. Oliveri responded approximately two (2) years.

She stated that Kraemer Blvd. and Placentia Ave. will be constructed at the same time because the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad requires a 'shoofly', or a temporary train track, to allow trains to continue running. However, the quiet zone will not be in effect during this time due to construction activity. Night work will occur up to 150 evenings at Kraemer Blvd. because BNSF will dictate when OCTA can work in their right of way.

Commissioner Brusckhe asked if the quiet zones would still be effect during daytime construction. Ms. Oliveri replied that the quiet zones will not be in effect at all and therefore contractors will take measures to avoid causing excessive horn blowing by the train engineers.

Commissioner Labreche asked where Placentia Avenue would be closed. Ms. Oliveri passed out maps which detailed road closures and designated detours.

Commissioner Brusckhe asked if the State College Boulevard closure has been coordinated with the Placentia Avenue closure. Ms. Oliveri responded that the work on Placentia Avenue will be almost finished when State College Blvd. construction begins in 2013.

Commissioner Hutain asked if the work on Rose Drive will occur simultaneously with Kraemer Blvd. Ms. Oliveri responded that yes it will, but Rose Drive will have a bypass road that will remain open during construction.

Commissioner Labreche asked about the closure of the shopping center at the North East corner of Rose Drive and Orangethorpe Avenue. Ms. Oliveri stated the connector of the overpass will be constructed at that location.

Commissioner Hutain asked if the timing of the traffic signals will be adjusted. Mr. Stephenson responded that the City has control of the signal timing.

Ms. Oliveri then showed a simulation video from OCTA's website of what the Grade Separations will look like once they are complete.

Mr. Stephenson advised the Commission that both the Kraemer Blvd. and the Placentia Avenue Grade Separations projects have been awarded to contractors by OCTA. The City, along with neighboring cities, will issue OCTA an Encroachment Permit with terms and conditions for the construction. Extensive traffic management plans have been prepared in an attempt to address any traffic issues that arise. The City will retain the responsibility for traffic signal timing.

Mr. Umber asked if the passing trains will slow down for the construction. Mr. Stephenson responded that it will depend on the judgment of the train engineer.

Mr. Stephenson expressed concern over the designated detour routes and the impact it will have on surrounding streets if traffic does not follow them. Cameras will be installed in the downtown area to monitor peak hour congestion and funds are available in the case that additional enforcement is needed by the Police Department. The traffic management plan is extensive; however OCTA will be reactive to whatever modifications are necessary. Construction is scheduled to begin after the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2012 with the closure of Kraemer Blvd. estimated around June 2012. Placentia Avenue is scheduled to remain open except for a period of 54 total days.

Mr. Umber asked if the school district and other affected entities could be given 60 days notice of the closure of Kraemer Blvd. once a date is known. Mr. Stephenson responded that it is possible. Ms. Oliveri added that currently OCTA is receiving schedules from the contractor, which must be received before the Notice to Proceed will be given.

Commissioner Labreche asked if the contractors are local or out of state. Ms. Oliveri responded that both contractors are local and came in under the engineers estimates. Part of the Grade Separations Project funding will come from Proposition 1b funds which are first come first served.

Commissioner Hutain asked if there are any bike lanes in the plans. Mr. Stephenson responded that the plans do not include bike lanes however there are bike routes around the projects. Commissioner Hutain asked about the bike routes from North to South. Mr. Stephenson advised the bike route around Placentia Avenue is Santa Fe Avenue to Melrose Street and around Rose Drive would be Jefferson Avenue.

### **INFORMATION/COMMUNICATIONS:**

#### Police Department Traffic Summary

Sergeant Millsap presented the Police Department Traffic Summary.

Accidents are down 5% from last year with no Fatal Accidents year to date. Personal injuries are up 14% which could be a result of more carpooling vehicles. Property damage collisions are down 14%. Pedestrians injured are up 100%. Bicyclists injured are up 46% and Hit and Run Accidents and still going down, currently by 18%. Total Citations are down 10% from last year, D.U.I. Accidents are up 7% and D.U.I. Arrests are down by 9%. He went on to say that the Police

Department was not able to get the D.U.I. grant renewed due to more applications from other Agencies and improved D.U.I. rates.

Commissioner Chadha asked how much the D.U.I. grant typically is for. Sgt. Millsap replied that it is usually for a few hundred thousand dollars.

Sgt. Millsap indicated the City of Placentia will be participating in the North County Avoid Grant with the Anaheim Police Department which includes a checkpoint, a multi-agency checkpoint and five (5) saturation patrols.

Commissioner Hutain asked which intersections pedestrians are getting injured at. Sgt. Millsap responded that there are no intersections in particular; pedestrians are injured all over the City.

Ms. Smith asked if the statistics include the pedestrians injured at Golden Avenue and Valencia Avenue earlier in the year. Sgt. Millsap responded that those statistics will be included in next month's report.

Sgt. Millsap spoke about the monies that OCTA will contribute for enforcement in the downtown area and the video monitors that will be set up. He stated that until the roads are closed and construction begins they don't know what to expect.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS BY TRAFFIC ENGINEER**

Ms. Smith advised the Commission of upcoming meeting items. A request was received from residents on Harmony Lane for permit parking due to the high volume of college students using the street. Commissioner Brusckke stated the City of Fullerton has just implemented two (2) hour parking which may be pushing more students to find parking in Placentia. Another item is to close a pedestrian gate on Seville Drive to re-route parents who are dropping off students, to the pedestrian gate on Trumpet Avenue. Ms. Smith advised the Commission that the General Plan Circulation Element is in the process of being updated. Traffic counts are being conducted in the City for the General Plan update, citywide speed limit updates as well as grant applications. Sgt. Millsap asked if a speed survey will be conducted at the newly signalized intersection of Bradford Avenue and Madison Avenue for speed enforcement. Ms. Smith stated that she would work on having a city-wide speed survey done in the next 12 months.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Vice Chairman Chadha adjourned the Traffic Safety Commission meeting at 8:40 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on January 16, 2012 at 401 East Chapman Avenue, Placentia.



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RUTH SMITH, P.E., Traffic Engineer  
Secretary to the Traffic Safety Commission