

**PLACENTIA TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
November 15, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Placentia Traffic Safety Commission of November 15, 2010 was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Community Meeting Room, 401 E. Chapman Avenue, Placentia, California by Chairman Faia.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Stafford

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioner Bruschke
Chairman Faia
Commissioner Gorman
Commissioner Hernandez
Commissioner Labreche
Commissioner Stafford

Absent: Vice Chairman Chadha

STAFF PRESENT: Steven Drinovsky, Public Works Director
Jonathan Wu, Associate Engineer
Ruth Smith, Traffic Engineer
Richard Pascarella, Traffic Lieutenant
Sara Salazar, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Chair invited the public to make oral comments on matters not on the agenda, but none were offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LABRECHE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 12, 2010; SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ. PASSED 6-0-1 (CHADHA ABSENT).

REPORTS:

- I. **TRAFFIC CONTROL: TSC NO. 10-07 (*item resubmitted*)
Two-hour Parking on Kraemer Boulevard at Orangethorpe Avenue
Requested by The Daleo Family Trust**

Ms. Smith gave the staff report and recommended the removal of the current 20-minute green zone and installation of signs to establish a No Parking Any Time Zone on the west side of Kraemer Boulevard from Orangethorpe Avenue to the south City limit.

Chairman Faia opened up the Public Comments.

Mr. Stan Shcharber of Schorr Metals at 837 S. Kraemer Blvd, Placentia, addressed the Commission. He stated that Randy Daleo, the owner of the building next door at 847 S. Kraemer Blvd., Placentia, only became concerned with the parking in front of the buildings when he lost a tenant. He then passed out to the members of the Commission, a written response to TSC Report No. 10-07 as well as letters from customers supporting the safety of the sight distance in front of Schorr Metals. He asked Ms. Smith if a complaint regarding the sight distance in front of Schorr Metals was ever received at the City. Ms. Smith responded that there were none to her knowledge and she was only aware of the collision records. Mr. Shcharber expressed that he felt that the number of collisions compared with the amount of vehicles which exit his business every month, is not indicative of an unsafe driveway.

Commissioner Labreche advised Mr. Shcharber that the reason this item has been brought before the Commission is due to a safety concern, not because of a complaint.

Mr. Randy Daleo, the owner of 847 S. Kraemer Boulevard, Placentia, addressed the commission. He stated that he did not request to have the parking eliminated on Kraemer Blvd. entirely; however there is a problem that needs to be addressed there. He added that because the Schorr Metals employees are not permitted to park their vehicles on the Schorr Metals property, they have to park on the street which makes the sight distance extremely difficult when exiting.

Ms. Smith advised that because a problem was reported, the City investigated and confirmed that there were collisions. Therefore, the City has been put on notice and if another collision occurs, the liability would be very high.

Mr. Shcharber suggested an alternative solution be found, such as no left turns.

Chairman Faia closed the Public Comments.

Commissioner Labreche asked about the warrants of sightlines in the zone. Ms. Smith presented a diagram and explained where the driveways to both buildings were as well as the required sight distances. She concluded that more distance than is currently provided is needed for vehicles exiting the driveways.

Commissioner Hernandez asked at what level the drivers' eyes are measured. Ms. Smith responded that they are measured at four (4) feet; however, the recommendation was based on a horizontal test, not a vertical test. The results of this test indicate that all street parking should be removed.

Commissioner Gorman asked how many parked cars fit in the zone. Ms. Smith responded approximately nine (9) parked cars in total.

Commissioner Brusckke asked for clarification on the warrants of sight distance. Ms. Smith responded that it is a gray area due to the zone having driveways instead of an intersection. Commissioner Brusckke asked if the sight distance would be

adequate if this were an intersection. Ms. Smith responded that if this were an intersection, it would be recommended that the parking be removed.

Commissioner Gorman asked if parking is permitted on the opposite side of Kraemer Blvd. Ms. Smith responded that yes, parking is permitted on the other side as well as just south of the zone in the City of Anaheim.

Chairman Faia asked Lt. Pascarella if he wanted to add any comments. Lt. Pascarella responded that it may be easier for a commercial vehicle to see oncoming vehicles from the driveways due to its height. Although the number of collisions may indicate there is an issue, he did not feel it was significant.

Commissioner Labreche asked what impact the Grade Separation may have when construction begins. Mr. Wu responded that when construction begins, the traffic volume will be reduced and may alleviate some of the problem. Commissioner Labreche asked if he thought speeds would increase after construction is done due to the loss of the train. Ms. Smith responded that she did not feel speeds would increase because the signal will still be there.

Mr. Daleo added that his building is currently leased to a dance studio and therefore the customers are not driving commercial trucks.

Commissioner Hernandez stated the importance of the vehicles approaching the driveways to be able to see the vehicles exiting the driveways, not just the vehicles leaving to be able to see oncoming traffic. Ms. Smith agreed.

Commissioner Labreche stated the City is on notice and therefore will be liable. Chairman Faia added that the City also has a moral obligation to keep its residents safe. Commissioner Stafford added that the injured parties care a great deal about safety.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LABRECHE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER STAFFORD TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION FOR TSC REPORT NO. 10-07. PASSED 6-0-1 (CHADA ABSENT).

**II. TRAFFIC CONTROL: TSC NO. 10-13
Residential Permit Parking Zone Rescission on Steinbeck Street
Requested by Kathleen McBenttez**

Ms. Smith gave the staff report and recommended that the rescission of the residential permit parking zone on Steinbeck Street be approved.

Chairman Faia opened the Public Comments.

Chairman Faia closed the Public Comments.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER GORMAN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BRUSCHKE TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION FOR TSC REPORT NO. 10-13. PASSED 6-0-1 (CHADHA ABSENT).

INFORMATION/COMMUNICATIONS:

1. CURRENT SERVICE REQUEST LIST

Ms. Smith stated there were none, however, she would have some at the next meeting.

2. POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC SUMMARY

Lt. Pascarella summarized three months of traffic accident and enforcement data. The highlights included: total accidents are down by 8%, pedestrians injured is down by 65% and hit and run accidents are up by 27%. Total citations are down 24%, in part due to the Police Department being down two (2) motor officers. Parking citations are down by 26%, H.B.D. (Had Been Drinking) accidents are up 67% and D.U.I. (Driving Under the Influence) accidents are up by 107%.

A recently received \$108,000 grant will fund 8 D.U.I. checkpoints, 10 Saturation Patrols, warrant service details as well as court stings. An executive summary sent to the Office of Traffic Safety from a previous grant detailed that out of 6 D.U.I. checkpoints, 7 D.U.I. arrests and 9 criminal arrests were made as well as 103 impounds. Out of 10 saturation patrols, 11 D.U.I. arrests, 5 criminal arrests were made and 39 vehicles were impounded. Additionally 2 warrant service details cleared out 125 warrants and resulted in 5 arrests. These figures help in determining future grants.

Commissioner Gorman asked which offenses are targeted in checkpoints. Lt. Pascarella responded that checkpoints are designed to educate the public and a methodology is used to determine which vehicles will be screened.

Commissioner Labreche asked if any checkpoints will be conducted between Thanksgiving and New Years Day. Lt. Pascarella responded, yes, there will be a checkpoint in December and patrols are always out on New Year's Eve.

Chairman Faia asked why hit and runs have increased. Lt. Pascarella responded that there is no way to prevent hit and runs. However, our hit and run numbers are 1.5 times lower when compared to other cities of similar size.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS BY TRAFFIC ENGINEER

Mr. Wu updated the Commission on various City projects. These included a project to widen Bradford Street and Madison Avenue, which also involves the installation of a traffic signal. A construction start date had not yet been set. A pavement rehabilitation project on Van Buren Street has been approved by the County and will begin in the upcoming months. A traffic coordination project on Rose Drive is currently underway to coordinate traffic flow through the City. In addition, the Orange County Transportation Authority is starting a traffic coordination project on Orangethorpe Avenue, which is scheduled to be complete in January 2011.

Commissioner Gorman asked what kind of work was being conducted on Chapman Avenue. Mr. Wu responded that Golden State Water Company was working on a water main.

Commissioner Stafford asked how much of Bradford Street will be widened. Mr. Wu responded that the project begins at the City limit to the North and goes South, ending at the first church.

Commissioner Gorman asked if the City had to purchase property. Mr. Wu responded that over the last 15 years the City has acquired the right-of-ways either through purchase or dedication from the property owners.

Chairman Faia requested a presentation from the consultant working on the OCTA Grade Separations, Mr. Roy Stephenson, at an upcoming meeting. Mr. Wu responded that he would coordinate with Mr. Stephenson.

4. RESPONSE TO PRIOR MEETING ITEMS

Ms. Smith updated the Commission on the removal and installation of signage around the City, including the signage at Golden Elementary School.

The Commission briefly discussed postponing the next regular meeting from the 3rd Monday in January 2011 to the 4th Monday in January 2011, due to the holiday and city closure. Staff was in agreement.

NON AGENDA ITEMS:

ADJOURNMENT: 8:05 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COMMISSIONER GORMAN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER LABRECHE, CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT 6-0-1 (CHADHA ABSENT), TO ADJOURN TO A REGULAR MEETING ON JANUARY 24, 2011.



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

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