

MINUTES

PLACENTIA TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

November 16, 2009

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:03 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Stafford

ROLL CALL: Members Present: BRUSCHKE, CHADHA, FAIA,
GORMAN, HERNANDEZ, LABRECHE,
STAFFORD

STAFF PRESENT: Jonathan Wu, Associate Engineer
Sara Salazar, Administrative Assistant

ABSENT: Sergeant Richard Pascarella

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Comments were heard from Paul Rogers of 3055 N. Valley View Street Orange, on behalf of the Placentia United Methodists Church. He requested signage at the entrance of the church so that its patrons could more easily locate the driveway. Mr. Wu gave a brief summary of the proposed Religious Organization Directional Sign Policy which was on the meeting agenda for discussion.

Comments were then heard from Shawn Graham. He spoke on behalf of his in-laws, who reside at 712 N. Placentia Avenue concerning the lack of available parking in the neighborhood. He explained that he felt the problem was partly due to the Cal State Fullerton Students parking on Placentia Avenue and partly because not all of the Placentia Avenue residents were issued parking permits. A request for parking permits was made. Commissioner Labreche agreed that parking is a problem in the area. Mr. Wu suggested the City Attorney make a determination if the affected Placentia Avenue residents can be issued parking permits. Commissioner Brusckhe added that a revision to the language in the Permit Parking Policy may be warranted. Chairman Gorman requested an update at the next meeting.

Comments were also heard from Jose Jimenez of 706 Placentia Avenue concerning the lack of available parking in front of his home. He added that because the portion of the street in front of his home belongs to the City of Fullerton, street sweeping is not done regularly and the street is often left dirty. Mr. Wu offered to address this issue.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LABRECHE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2009 SUBJECT TO THE CORRECTION OF '960' ON PAGE 6; SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BRUSCHKE AND CARRIED BY A MAJORITY VOICE VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT 7-0.

REPORTS:

I. SUPPLEMENTAL PARKING STUDY:

PYLUSD request for on-street parking on La Jolla in front of Valadez Middle School

Mr. Wu gave a brief summary of the parking study addendum and made a recommendation to the Commission to approve the removal of the parking restriction on the north side of LaJolla Street.

Commissioner Chadha asked approximately how many cars could fit in the requested space. Mr. Wu responded six (6) cars could fit in the space, however there is no guarantee that only those having business with the school will park in the space.

Commissioner Labreche expressed concern over the safety of removing the parking restriction. Mr. Wu responded that the only safe recommendation is to remove the parking restriction on the north side of La Jolla Street.

Commissioner Labreche asked about the sight line distance for the ingress and egress of the faculty parking lot, as it was noted by Mr. Wu that is the area in which students were observed crossing outside of a crosswalk. Mr. Wu responded that the sight distance should be ten (10) feet. Commissioner Labreche added that he felt the distance would not be adequate for the area's traffic. Mr. Wu responded a sight line study could be done. A discussion ensued. Mr. Wu suggested increasing the set back distance to twenty (20) feet from the curb face.

Steve Umber of Valadez Middle School Academy at 1301 E. Orangethorpe Avenue Placentia, offered to address the Commission and was granted permission. He explained that the number of vehicles entering and leaving the faculty parking lot while students are being loaded or unloaded is very low. He added that the area with the highest student and parent traffic is at the farthest end of the school in comparison to the area being discussed.

Commissioner Stafford referred to an area of the diagram and asked if there were crosswalks at the location. Mr. Umber responded no, the school does not want crosswalks at the location as they do not want students crossing there.

Chairman Gorman requested staff verify with City Code, the required sight distance. Mr. Wu agreed to confirm compliance.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LABRECHE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FAIA TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR PARKING ON LAJOLLA STREET AT VALADEZ MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMY. PASSED 7-0.

INFORMATION/COMMUNICATIONS:

1. APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Bruschke was nominated by Commissioner Labreche for the Bicycle Safety Subcommittee. Commissioner Hernandez graciously volunteered

2. CURRENT SERVICE REQUEST LIST

Mr. Wu stated there were currently no service requests for discussion.

3. POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC SUMMARY

None.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS BY ASSOCIATE ENGINEER

Mr. Wu stated that recent requests for signage from religious organizations have brought forth a need for a Religious Organization Sign Policy. The policy will address which organizations may have a sign, its location, the appearance, whom is responsible, etc.

There was a brief discussion by the Commission.

Commissioner Stafford asked if the policy would be the same for any type of organization. Mr. Wu responded no, the policy only pertains to religious organizations.

Commissioner Bruschke asked how the City is going to differentiate between religious organizations and other types of organizations. Mr. Wu responded there must be a specific designation.

Commissioner Faia asked if the proposed policy has been approved by the City Council. Mr. Wu responded that staff is requesting the Traffic Safety Commission approve the proposed policy and recommend approval to Council.

Commissioner Chadha expressed concern that organizations would be limited to using only one sign vendor, as shown in the proposed policy. Mr. Wu explained that religious organizations may use any sign company which meets the City's sign specifications and that additional vendors could be added to the policy.

Commissioner Stafford expressed concern over verbiage in the policy pertaining to the City's right to remove signs without notification or replacement of such.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LABRECHE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FAIA TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION POLICY WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF ADDITIONAL SIGN VENDORS BEING AVAILABLE TO ORGANIZATIONS. PASSED 6-1-0 (STAFFORD OPPOSED).

5. RESPONSE TO PRIOR MEETING ITEMS

None.

NON AGENDA ITEMS:

Commissioner Labreche spoke about the new center islands at the intersection of Bastanchury Avenue and Kraemer Boulevard. He stated the curbs need reflectors to be more visible at night. Mr. Wu responded he would suggest reflectors be added.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COMMISSIONER STAFFORD, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BRUSCHKE, CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT 7-0, TO ADJOURN TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING.

JONATHAN WU, P.E., Associate Engineer
Secretary to the Traffic Safety Commission

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