

**MINUTES
OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11, 2017 AT 6:30 P.M.
IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5655 JILLSON STREET, COMMERCE, CA 90040**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Caldera at 6:33 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE &
INVOCATION**

Vice-Chairperson J. Hernández led those present in the pledge of allegiance and Invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Commission:

Chairperson Caldera, Vice-Chairperson J. Hernández, Commissioners Runningwolf, R. Hernández and Maravilla

Staff:

Traffic Commission Liaison Seung Yang
Administrative Assistant Martha Gomez
Public Safety Manager Laura Tilley
E.L.A. Sheriff's Sergeant Abel Jiménez

Absent:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The parties present elected to speak during Scheduled Matters Item No. 3 Revised Blue Curb Parking Policy.

**SCHEDULED
MATTERS**

**1. APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Chairperson Caldera moved and Commissioner Runningwolf seconded the motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 13, 2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners R. Hernández, Maravilla, Runningwolf, Vice-Chairperson J. Hernández, and Chairperson Caldera (5)

**2. APPOINTMENT OF
TRAFFIC
COMMISSIONERS TO
THE I-710 LOCAL
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

Liaison Yang presented this item and provided an overview of the staff report. He explained that the Commission needs one representative to serve on said committee and an alternate.

After a brief discussion, Chairperson Caldera appointed Commissioner Runningwolf as the Commission's representative on the I-710 Local Advisory Committee and Commissioner R. Hernández as the Alternate.

Chairperson Caldera moved, and Commissioner Runningwolf seconded the motion to approve the appointment of Commissioner Runningwolf as the Commission's representative to the I-710 Local Advisory Committee and Commissioner R. Hernández as the alternate. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners R. Hernández, Maravilla, Runningwolf, Vice-Chairperson J. Hernández, and Chairperson Caldera (5)

**3. REVISED BLUE
CURB PARKING
POLICY**

Liaison Yang presented this item and provided an overview of the staff report and explained that this item was continued from its meeting of September 13, 2017, due to the amount of speakers that spoke at the last meeting.

Chairperson Caldera mentioned that the City of Commerce should look at what other neighboring cities have in place as suggested by a speaker at the last Commission meeting. She mentioned that the biggest complaint of the state of California is the abuse of the disable person placard privileges. She also stated that other cities charge an application fee of \$75.00 that is non-refundable. She added that the purpose of the rules and parameters discussed within the policy is to avoid fraud, and the administration of these blue curb privileges should be controlled.

Commissioner Runningwolf suggested that the City should implement a designated loading and unloading area under the blue curb policy with a 20-Minute time frame. Chairperson Caldera responded that this could be a potential ordinance to be brought to the City Council for consideration.

Commissioner Maravilla expressed his concern of other residents taking advantage of the blue curb in front of his residence and therefore, he is not able to use it to accommodate his disabled daughters. Liaison Yang responded that legally the blue curb in front of any resident's home is not dedicated to that resident exclusively, but to anyone with an issued blue placard.

**REVISED BLUE CURB
PARKING POLICY
(Continued)**

Commissioner R. Hernández commented on the struggles the disabled residents face when not able to use the blue curb in front of their residence to its full potential. He asked other residents to be considerate of their privileges.

The following residents opted to speak under this item rather than "Public Comment" due to the fact that all public comment pertains to the Blue Curb Parking Policy:

Mr. Vernon Lucero of 5240 Harbor Street addressed the Commission and mentioned that he had applied for a blue curb over two years ago and wanted to know how long the approval of the application would take. Liaison Yang gave Mr. Lucero a brief background on the blue curb policy. Mr. Lucero also mentioned that there are cars in his neighborhood that park and do not move for long periods of time, even on street sweeping days. Public Safety Manager Tilley responded with her input.

Ms. Rita Guzman of 6039 Bartmus Street addressed the Commission and said that she has a blue curb in front of her house and was surprised to know that the City had an annual reapplication process, which she has only reapplied twice, in all the years she has had the blue curb. She also reported that several residents in her neighborhood have been illegally renting out their garage conversions, which in turn has contributed to the limited on-street parking due to multiple families living at one address.

Mr. Alfred Nuniz of 2139 Wilma Avenue addressed his concern about the cost efficiency of the blue curb policy (i.e., installation, maintenance, and removal). He mentioned that tax payers' money should be used efficiently. He asked for the number of existing blue curbs in the city. He also addressed the issue of limited on-street parking on his street due to the influx of Steven's Steakhouse customers that park in his neighborhood, often times even at the blue curb in front of his residence. He thanked the Commission for hearing out his concerns. Liaison Yang responded to some of his concerns and said that he would provide him with the number of existing blue curbs. Public Safety Manager Tilley also responded to his concerns.

Chairperson Caldera moved, and Commissioner Maravilla seconded the motion to approve the revised Blue Curb Policy and direct staff to present to the City Council for final approval and adoption. The motion carried by the following vote:

**REVISED BLUE CURB
PARKING POLICY
(Continued)**

AYES: Commissioners R. Hernández, Maravilla, Runningwolf, Vice-Chairperson J. Hernández, and Chairperson Caldera (5)

**4. STAFF REPORT
UPDATES**

Liaison Yang announced to the audience that the matter of the blue curb policy is completed and mentioned that if they wanted to stay for the rest of the meeting, they were more than welcome.

Liaison Yang reported that four of the five Commissioners attended the 2017 Traffic Commissioners Workshop sponsored by the City Traffic Engineers Association at Cal Poly Pomona on Saturday, September 16th. He noted that it was a worthwhile event. Chairperson Caldera thanked staff for this opportunity.

Liaison Yang mentioned that a group photo of the Traffic Commission will be taken just prior to the next regularly scheduled Traffic Commission meeting; and also mentioned that all newly appointed Traffic Commissioners are in receipt of their jackets and business cards.

Liaison Yang reported that the previous Traffic Commission had approved the installation of speed humps on Malt Avenue. The Malt Avenue Street Racing Mitigation Improvement Project was awarded on August 19, 2017, and construction is scheduled to commence on October 15, 2017.

Administrative Assistant Gomez announced to the Commission about the upcoming Clippers Community Night event on November 1, 2017 at the Staples Center, and asked if they are interested in attending to let her know as soon as possible.

Liaison Yang announced that prior to the next meeting there will be a Thanksgiving potluck for the Commission in the Public Works & Development Services Department conference room.

**5. PUBLIC SAFETY
REPORT**

Public Safety Manager Tilley reported the following: 1.) She apologized for not having the newly hired CSO's present to introduce to the Commission. They were called out to Slauson Avenue to assist with traffic control due to a water main break; 2.) announced that the next Neighborhood Watch Meetings are scheduled for October 19, 2017 in the ABC neighborhood on the corner of Ayers and Leonis and on November 2, 2017 with the location to be determined; 3.) a couple of new CSA's (Crossing Guards) have been hired and an additional one will be assigned to Rosewood Park School at the lighted crosswalk on Harbor Street by the Rosewood Park/Aquatorium Community Center;

**PUBLIC SAFETY
REPORT (Continued)**

and 4.) a recruitment process is underway for a vacated Animal Control Officer position. Once the position is filled she will introduce the individual to the Commission.

6. SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sergeant Jiménez provided the Commission and staff with the L.A. County Sheriff's Department "Traffic Analysis Report" for the month of September 2017, and briefly explained the statistics of the report. He mentioned that there will be a street racer training provided by the LAPD due to major street racing. He also reported a fatality last Friday involving a pedestrian that was struck on the Amtrak railway tracks. He noted that it was an accident and an investigation was in the process. Sergeant Jiménez responded to questions and comments from the Commission.

**7. COMMISSIONERS'
REPORTS**

Commissioner R. Hernández attended the Traffic Commissioners Workshop at Cal Poly Pomona. He mentioned that it was not long enough, but noted that it was very informative. He also shared that on his way to this meeting, he had encountered a motorist who was tailgating him and was exhibiting signs of road rage.

Vice-Chairperson J. Hernández mentioned that there was a Boxing match at Veterans Parks and he assisted with handing out trophies.

Commissioner Maravilla also attended the Traffic Commissioners Workshop at Cal Poly Pomona, but unfortunately was cut short due to illness. He reported that the signs posted on Washington Boulevard are obstructed by the new trees.

Commissioner Runningwolf mentioned that he attended the meeting the night prior to this meeting regarding the Blue Curb Policy. The president of the Homeowners Association (HOA) of Gage Avenue Senior Complex agreed to extend the implementations of the Blue Curb Policy to the senior complex. Commissioner Runningwolf suggested that there should be a map of all the existing blue curb locations in the city. He also informed Sgt. Jiménez that he has noticed more motor officers present in the City, as requested in the previous Traffic Commission meeting and thanked him.

Chairperson Caldera mentioned that she had found recipes for a set of non-alcoholic beverages for holiday parties and wanted to know if anyone was interested in obtaining a copy of her recipes. She added that she approached Sgt. Jiménez about implementing an educational program for public safety.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Caldera announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Traffic Commission is **Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.** in the **City Council Chambers, 5655 Jillson Street, Commerce.**

Chairperson Caldera moved and Commissioner Maravilla seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners R. Hernández, Maravilla, Runningwolf, Vice-Chairperson J. Hernández, and Chairperson Caldera (5)

Meeting Adjourned at 8:03 p.m.