

**MINUTES
OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018, 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**

Commissioner Maravilla led those present in the pledge of allegiance and gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Commission:

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

Staff:

Traffic Commission Liaison Selung Yang
Administrative Assistant Martha Gómez
E.L.A. Sheriff's Sergeant Abel Jiménez

Absent:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sharon L. Basic of 5502 E. Village Drive addressed the Commission with the following two concerns: 1) She noticed that while driving Goodrich Boulevard there are still significant parked trucks and vans that the homeless are using and inquired why the No Parking signs have not been posted. However, she did notice that Union Pacific Avenue no longer had this problem. She indicated that this part of the City looks very unbecoming and the volume of trash that the homeless generate and place in the public right-of-way is only getting worse; and 2) there is a safety issue that she witnessed for the past four months in which motorists are disregarding the STOP sign at the T-Intersection of northbound Village Drive and Plaza Street. Not only are they failing to stop, but are speeding as fast as 40+ mph. If staff needs any data or information, she can provide it.

Liaison Yang briefly gave Ms. Basic an update on the status of the installation of the No Parking Signs that were approved and also indicated that enforcement will be provided by the City's law enforcement officers to cite violators for running the STOP sign.

**PUBLIC COMMENT
(Continued)**

Councilmember Leonard Mendoza of 2317 Hepworth Avenue addressed the Commission regarding Item No. 4 on the Traffic Commission Agenda as it relates to "No Trucks" signs being posted along Noakes Street and along South Eastern Avenue, as well as "No Thru Traffic" signs being posted along Duncan and McBride Avenues. He indicated that he has always supported this matter due to the concern of the neighborhood residents, and thanked staff for addressing this matter. He also thanked staff for the recent STOP signs that were installed at the intersection of Triggs Street and Duncan Avenue. However, he would also like staff to look into installing either speed humps or a STOP sign for eastbound Noakes Street at McBride Avenue.

**SCHEDULED
MATTERS**

**1. APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Commissioner R. Hernández moved and Commissioner Maravilla seconded the motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting held on August 8, 2018. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**2. ON-STREET
PHYSICALLY
CHALLENGED
ACCESSIBLE
PARKING SPACE FOR
2377 COUTS AVENUE**

Liaison Yang addressed the Commission and provided a brief background on this item. He reported that staff visited said location and based on a field review of the subject property, along with applicant Ms. Irma Fernández submitting all her required documents, staff concluded recommending approval of said request.

After a brief discussion, Chairperson Caldera moved, and Commissioner Betancourt seconded the motion to approve the request to provide an on-street physically challenged accessible parking space at 2377 Coutts Avenue. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**3. ON-STREET
PHYSICALLY
CHALLENGED
ACCESSIBLE
PARKING SPACE FOR
4561 LEONIS STREET**

Liaison Yang addressed the Commission and provided a brief background on this item. He reported that staff visited said location and based on a field review of the subject property, along with applicant, Ms. Juana Sánchez, submitting all her required documents, staff concluded recommending approval of said request on the Ayers Avenue side since the entrance to her

**ON-STREET
PHYSICALLY
CHALLENGED
ACCESSIBLE
PARKING SPACE FOR
4561 LEONIS STREET
(Continued)**

residence is at the corner.

Liaison Yang responded to questions and comments from the Commission.

After a brief discussion, Chairperson Caldera moved, and Commissioner R. Hernández seconded the motion to approve the request to provide an on-street physically challenged accessible parking space at 4561 Leonis Street. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**4. "NO TRUCKS"
SIGNS ALONG
NOAKES STREET
AND "NO THRU
TRAFFIC" SIGNS
ALONG DUNCAN
AVENUE AND
MCBRIDE AVENUE**

Liaison Yang addressed the Commission and provided a brief background on this item. He reported that Councilmember Mendoza requested that staff look into the possibility of installing the traffic regulatory signs due to the concerns raised by the residents in the Bristow area as it relates to large trucks that often enter their neighborhood. Due to the narrow streets, many of these truck drivers are unfamiliar with the area and become "stuck" or immobilized, because of parked vehicles on the street and thereby not able to back out, and at times hit parked vehicles.

Liaison Yang also mentioned that during staff's investigation and analysis, staff did reach out to the various trucking companies that the City would be proposing said signs to be installed, and they indicated it would not affect their business.

Steve Equihua of 1500 S. Duncan Avenue addressed the Commission regarding this item and concurred with Liaison Yang's report regarding this matter. He is one of many that live with this situation day-in and day-out. He commented that it's bad enough that they have to deal with the exhaust fumes from the I-710 Freeway, but dealing with the exhaust from the large trucks that find their way into their neighborhood is also affecting their health. He also mentioned that in the past he had requested a STOP sign at Noakes Avenue and Triggs Street and also at Triggs Street and Duncan Avenue, due to speeding motorists.

Liaison Yang responded to questions and comments from the Commission.

After a brief discussion, Chairperson Caldera moved, and Vice-Chairperson J. Hernández seconded the motion to approve the

**“NO TRUCKS” SIGNS
ALONG NOAKES
STREET AND “NO
THRU TRAFFIC”
SIGNS ALONG
DUNCAN AVENUE
AND MCBRIDE
AVENUE (Continued)**

installation of five (5) “NO TRUCKS” signs and poles along Noakes Street between South Eastern Avenue and McBride Avenue and along South Eastern Avenue between Dunham Street and Noakes Street; and also to install ten (10) “NO THRU TRAFFIC” signs along Duncan Avenue from Triggs Street to Noakes Street and along McBride Avenue from Triggs Street to Noakes Street. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**5. STAFF REPORT
UPDATES**

Liaison Yang gave an update on the following: 1) Bandini Elementary School traffic control implementation plan was continued by City Council, due to parking issues raised by the residents in the vicinity of the school. Staff may need to revisit the parking plan and readdress the item with the Traffic Commission in the near future; 2) mentioned that there was an item before City Council to consider consolidating the Community Services Commission with the Traffic Commission. The pros and cons were discussed and it was decided not to move forward with this item; and 3) reported that another beautification project will be presented to City Council, at its meeting of September 18th, for approval of the construction project plans, specifications, and estimates for the Atlantic Boulevard Corridor Improvement Project, and authorized staff to advertise the Notice Inviting Bids. Liaison Yang briefly responded to questions from the Commission.

6. SHERIFF’S REPORT

Sergeant Jiménez provided for the Commission and staff the L.A. County Sheriff’s Department E.L.A. Station “Traffic Analysis Report” for the month of August 2018. He briefly explained the statistics of the report. He mentioned that this past weekend, he was successful in obtaining some grant funding for Commerce in order to provide more enforcement, and he and three (3) motor deputies were busy enforcing speed, seat belt, and running of STOP signs, to name a few, throughout the City. He also mentioned that it was a good opportunity to talk to the citizens and explain why they were being cited. Sergeant Jiménez responded to questions from the Commission.

**7. COMMISSIONERS’
REPORTS**

Commissioner R. Hernández reported the following: 1) He received a complaint from a resident, Carlos Sandoval, who resides in The Village neighborhood and often uses the mailbox on Commerce Way in front of City Hall, but lately has not been able to access the mailbox because vehicles park within the white “Loading & Unloading” zone. Commissioner R. Hernández

**COMMISSIONERS'
REPORTS (Continued)**

requested for enforcement so that vehicles do not park within the white zone; 2) asked staff to look into a possible problem with the traffic signal pedestrian button on the northwest corner of Washington and Atlantic Boulevards. He noticed that each time the pedestrian button is activated, it resets the countdown; and 3) he inquired what can be done to prevent the intersection of Atlantic Boulevard and Jardine Street from grid-lock. He mentioned that it is nearly impossible to cross Atlantic Boulevard or turn left or right from Jardine Street, especially during the traffic peak hours.

Commissioner Maravilla – No report

Vice-Chairperson J. Hernández reported that his neighbor leaves his trash receptacles in the street all week and motorists cannot park their vehicles. He also mentioned that when the street sweeper passes on Emil Avenue between Lanto Street and Gage Avenue, the driver is leaving more trash behind instead of sweeping it up.

Chairperson Caldera asked Liaison Yang to explain to the Commission the meaning of “abstaining” when voting on action items on the Traffic Commission meeting agendas. She reminded the Commission that they are within their right to vote, but abstain if there is a conflict. She also inquired why the Traffic Commission is not offered educational seminars or conferences to attend and participate in, while other commissions, such as the Planning Commission, attend a variety of educational seminars. She expressed much interest in the Commission attending a leadership and/or a public policy training.

Commissioner Betancourt thanked Sergeant Jiménez for the morning patrol on Commerce Way and Harbor Street in front of Rosewood Park School.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Caldera announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Traffic Commission is **Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.** in the **City Council Chambers, 5655 Jillson Street, Commerce.**

Chairperson Caldera moved and Vice-Chairperson J. Hernandez seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

