

MINUTES
GARDEN GROVE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Tuesday
March 7, 2006

PLEDGE: Commissioner Kirkham led the Pledge of Allegiance

CALL TO ORDER: The regular session of the Traffic Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Community Meeting Center.

PRESENT: Chair Marcario, Vice Chair Ettlin, Commissioners Kirkham, Feather and Alejandro

ALSO PRESENT: Executive Secretary, George L. Allen, Officer Chris Wasinger, and Recording Secretary Rosemarie Jacot

ORAL
COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

APPROVAL
OF MINUTES: The minutes of January 3, 2006 were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS

STOP CONTROLS

Dewey Drive
Biscayne Court

Staff report dated March 7, 2006 was introduced. This item is being brought back from City Council because they believed the Commission was not able to give it their full consideration because only three Commissioner were at the previous meeting.

It is staff's recommendation not install an all-way stop control at Dewey Drive and Biscayne Court.

Commissioner Kirkham was at the Council meeting when Council deliberated about this item. He stated that Councilman Leyes and Councilman Rosen did not go along with the Commission's recommendation.

Mr. Allen stated that the Council was concerned with the fact that this item did not meet the warrants and that it could possibly start a precedent throughout the City.

Chair Marcario inquired about the centerline being painted along Biscayne.

Mr. Allen stated that this centerline has already been painted.

Commissioner Alejandro clarified that the centerline was the one on Biscayne Court.

Chair Marcario moved, seconded by Commissioner Feather to accept staff's recommendation not install an all- way stop at Dewey Drive and Biscayne Court.

The foregoing motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, VICE CHAIR ETTLIN, COMMISSIONER FEATHER,
COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM AND COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

JERRY LANE
OAKWOOD STREET

The staff report dated March 7, 2006 to consider a request for the installation of stop signs at the intersection of Jerry Lane and Oakwood Street was introduced.

Staff conducted a stop sign study at the subject intersection. The study showed that the intersection did not meet the warrants for the installation of stop signs.

It is staff's recommendation to deny the request of the installation of a three-way stop at the intersection of Jerry Lane and Oakwood Street.

Commissioner Kirkham visited the site and spoke with the resident on who's property the sign would be installed. Commissioner Kirkham agreed with her that the stop sign is not needed as there are enough stop controls in this area.

Commissioner Kirkham moved, seconded by Commissioner Ettlín to accept staff's recommendation not install a stop control at the intersection of Jerry Lane and Oakwood Street.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, VICE CHAIR ETTLIN, COMMISSIONER FEATHER,
COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM AND COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

CENTRAL DRIVE
DONEGAL AVENUE

The staff report dated March 7, 2006 to consider an all-way stop at the intersection of Donegal Drive and Central Avenue was introduced.

The intersection is controlled by stop signs on Central Avenue at Donegal Drive.

Staff conducted a study of the intersection to determine if an all-way stop is warranted. It was determined that the subject intersection did not meet the minimum requirements to install an all-way stop.

It is staff's recommendation not install an all-way stop at the intersection of Donegal Drive and Central Avenue.

Mr. Allen noted that the median on Belfast is ready to go out to bid then a neighborhood meeting will be held. However the median should solve any existing problems.

Chair Marcario inquired if Ms. Rose Nelson was informed about the median being built.

Mr. Allen stated that, yes Ms. Nelson was informed about the median.

Commissioner Feather visited the site several times and did not find any site or visibility problems.

Chair Marcario moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirkham to accept staff's recommendation and not install an all-way stop at the intersection of Donegal Drive and Central Avenue.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, VICE CHAIR ETTLIN, COMMISSIONER FEATHER,
COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM AND COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

TRAFFIC SIGNALS

BROOKHURST STREET
RUSSELL STREET

The staff report dated March 7, 2006 to consider the request to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Brookhurst Street and Russell Street was introduced.

A traffic signal warrant study was conducted to determine if a traffic signal is warranted at the subject intersection. Of the eleven warrants evaluated, only one warrant was satisfied. Warrant 3, Peak Hour Warrant, takes into account only the highest hourly volume. Satisfying this warrant by itself does not justify constructing a new traffic signal.

It is staff's recommendation not to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Brookhurst Street and Russell Street.

Commissioner Kirkham noted that the intersection is offset and that an elementary school is located on this corner. He noted that there is a long line of traffic waiting to pull out on to Brookhurst Street. His suggestion is to install "Keep Clear" pavement legend on Brookhurst Street in front of Russell Street.

Commissioner Alejandro noted that the traffic congestion is probably due to the construction of the SR22.

Commissioner Feather also concurs with Commissioner Kirkham. This is the route she takes to work and is cognizant of the traffic congestion.

Commissioner Kirkham moved, seconded by Commissioner Alejandro to accept staff's recommendation and not install a traffic signal at the intersection of Brookhurst Street and Russell Street.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, VICE CHAIR ETTLIN, COMMISSIONER FEATHER,
COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM AND COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Chair Marcario moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirkham to install "Keep Clear" pavement legend on Brookhurst Street in front of Russell Street.

The foregoing motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, VICE CHAIR ETTLIN, COMMISSIONER FEATHER,
 COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM AND COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO
 NOES: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE

ADULT CROSSING GUARD

LEWIS STREET
DOWNIE PLACE

The staff report dated March 07, 2006 to reconsider installing an adult crossing guard at the intersection of Lewis Street and Downie Place was introduced. This item was sent back from the City Council because they believed it had not been given the Commissions full consideration due to only three Commissioners at the meeting and the motion passed by a narrow margin. Council would like the item reexamined by the full Traffic Commission.

The City Council does not wish to deviate from the established crossing guard criteria so as to not set a precedent for other schools.

The warrants for an adult crossing guard were not met for this intersection; therefore, it is staff's recommendation not to install an adult crossing guard at the intersection of Lewis Street and Downie Place.

Commissioner Feather inquired as to the cost of an adult crossing guard.

Mr. Allen stated that it the cost is \$10,000 per year, paid by the City not Garden Grove Unified School District. The vehicle code does state that the school district can participate in the cost of a study if they wish but does not have to contribute to the cost of the crossing guard.

Commissioner Ettliln inquired as to the comments from the City Council.

Mr. Allen explained the Council would like full participation from the Traffic Commission as well as they did not wish to deviate from the criteria as set by the California Traffic Control Manual. This area does not have cut-through traffic and is mostly local traffic.

Chair Marcario reiterated the reasons behind the vote from the last Traffic Commission meeting and still disagrees with staff's recommendation. She is in favor of placing an adult crossing guard at this location.

Commissioner Kirkham also disagrees with staff's recommendation and stated that since this Commission is an advisory Commission to City Council that he is willing to bring forth necessary items he believes will help the community.

Commissioner Alejandro asked if the budgeted monies come from the police department.

Mr. Allen stated the money is budgeted through the police department.

Commissioner Feather spent a few hours at the location and also noted the high density, however, she also believes that if the criteria is not followed it will set a precedent. She also noted that most of the children were supervised, there were many parents as well as teachers supervising the children. Also of note she did not view much in the way of a speeding issue, the crosswalk is clearly marked and there is plenty of signage that keeps the flow of traffic moving.

Commissioner Kirkham moved, seconded by Chair Marcario to **deny** staff's recommendation **not install** an adult crossing guard at the intersection of Lewis Street and Downie Place.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, VICE CHAIR ETTLIN, COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM
NOES: COMMISSIONER FEATHER AND COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

2nd Motion

Commissioner Kirkham moved, seconded by Chair Marcario **to install** an adult crossing guard at the intersection of Lewis Street and Downie Place.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: CHAIR MARCARIO, VICE CHAIR ETTLIN, COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM
NOES: COMMISSIONER FEATHER AND COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

TRAFFIC & PARKING CONCERNS

BLACKMER STREET

The staff report dated March 7, 2006 to reconsider parking concerns on Blackmer Street.

Mr. Linzner is again concerned about controlling the traffic and parking problems on Blackmer Street. His letter and pictures were introduced into the record. Mr. Linzner has been unable to attend any of the public meetings.

The pictures clearly show there is no problem. The police have used the speeding trailer as well. Officer Chris Wasinger also stated that no speeding citations have been issued in this area. Staff previously conducted field reviews on Blackmer Street regarding the parking concerns in front of Mr. Linzner's house, 11741 Blackmer Street and 11751 Blackmer Street. These field reviews were conducted in April and August of 2005. During these months staff did not witness any problems with the frequency and duration of vehicles parked in front of either of these two addresses.

These reports were presented to the Traffic Commission at the May 3, 2005 and September 6, 2005 meetings. During both meetings the Traffic Commission denied his request for "One Hour Parking" restriction in front of 11741 Blackmer and 11751 Blackmer Street.

Staff also conducted a stop sign study sign at the intersection of Blackmer Street and Santa Catalina Avenue for the September 6, 2005 Traffic Commission meeting. This study revealed that the intersection did not meet the warrants for the installation of stop signs. As a result of the study, staff recommended that stop signs should not

be installed at the intersection. The Traffic Commission agreed with staff's recommendation.

Since Mr. Linzner's concern regarding traffic on Blackmer Street is related to speeding, an option to consider would be the installation of Radar Speed Feed Back Signs on Blackmer Street. These are the same ones that were installed on Royal Palm Boulevard. These have proven to be very effective. High-level police enforcement in the area is also an option that has been utilized.

It is staff's recommendation to deny the installation of "One Hour Parking" signs in front of 11741 and 11751 Blackmer Street.

Cameron Shaw, 11821 Blackmer Street, addressed the Commission. Mr. Shaw stated that the problem is speeding not parking. He believes that most of the traffic comes from Cypress. He also stated that he and his neighbors do not want a stop sign. They would like to have speed bumps installed.

Henry Freeman, 5581 Santa Barbara Avenue, addressed the Commission. He agrees with his neighbor speeding is the problem. The speeding mostly occurs early in morning and in the evening hours. Mr. Freeman would also like to see speed humps installed.

Mr. Allen explained the policy regarding speed humps. The City Council is not in favor of installing speed humps as various studies have shown that they slow down emergency response vehicles i.e. fire trucks, paramedics and ambulances.

Commissioner Kirkham suggested a neighborhood meeting.

Commissioner Alejandro commented that an inordinate amount of time and effort has been spent on this issue. He agrees a neighborhood meeting is needed.

Commissioner Feather inquired about having the Radar Feed Back sign data available for the neighborhood meeting.

Mr. Allen stated that the data is available and will be brought to the neighborhood meeting.

Chair Marcario asked about the comparison of volumes on Royal Palm Drive and Santa Catalina/Blackmer Street.

Mr. Allen stated that on Santa Catalina/Blackmer has approximately twice as much volume (traffic) than Royal Palm Boulevard.

Chair Marcario moved, seconded by Vice Chair Ettlín to accept staff's recommendation and not install "One Hour Parking" signs in front of 11741 and 11751 Blackmer Street.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	CHAIR MARCARIO, VICE CHAIR ETTLIN, COMMISSIONER FEATHER, COMMISSIONER KIRKHAM AND COMMISSIONER ALEJANDRO
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

MATTERS FROM
COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Kirkham would like to have a representative from OCTA give the Traffic Commission an update on the construction of the SR 22.

Chair Marcario brought to staff's attention a large pothole on southbound Brookhurst Street at the exit of Shoe City just north of Chapman Avenue.

On Dale Street and Lampson Avenue there is a stop sign that she would like "Stop Ahead" pavement legend painted.

Chair Marcario also inquired about other areas in the City that may have been identified as areas to install Radar Feedback Signs.

Mr. Allen commented that at this time no other areas have been identified, however, staff does have a request in for 5 more school pedestrian actuated signals and notification should be in by the end of July 2006. To purchase radar feedback signs requires incorporating them into the budget for fiscal year 2006/2007.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

All the Commissioners have been registered for the upcoming Traffic Commissioners Workshop slated for Saturday April 1, 2006.

The Commissioners received a copy of the type of notice that will go out with an attached agenda that encourages the residents involved in an item to come to the Traffic Commission meeting. This is mailed to the property owners. It also is mailed to managers of town homes, apartments, and condominiums if they are involved and the managers are asked to post it for the tenants. For neighborhood meetings staff will be sure to notify all the residents involved in the immediate area.

STATUS REPORT

Commissioner Kirkham inquired about the time line of the Belfast Median.

Mr. Allen stated that this is ready to go out to bid, along with the median on Chapman Avenue, the extension of the median on Garden Grove Boulevard just east of Fairview Street, and the median on Garden Grove Boulevard from Magnolia Street to Fern Avenue; these areas will be encompassed in one project. The design and specs are complete; authorization to advertise for bids passed Council last month.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:30 p.m. the Traffic Commission adjourned to closed session

RECONVENE

At 7:40 p.m. the Traffic Commission reconvened, there being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Rosemarie Jacot, Recording Secretary