
**CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS
TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission of the City of Laguna Hills, California, was called to order by Vice Chair Jones at 7:00 PM in the Laguna Hills City Council Chamber, 24035 El Toro Road, Laguna Hills, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Jones.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

Present: Vice Chair Mark Jones, Commissioner Len Herman, Commissioner Greg Staar, and Commissioner Larry Woodruff.

Absent: Commissioner David Wheeler

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Motion was made by Vice Chair Jones to open nominations to elect a new Chair. Commissioner Woodruff nominated Vice Chair Jones. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Staar. There were no further nominations.

APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0, VICE CHAIR JONES ABSTAINED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER ABSENT.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Motion was made by Vice Chair Mark Jones to open nominations to elect a new Vice Chair. Vice Chair Jones nominated Commissioner Woodruff. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Staar. There were no further nominations.

APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0, COMMISSIONER WOODRUFF ABSTAINED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER ABSENT.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nena Del la Torre, owner of Golden Touch Auto Center and resident of Laguna Hills, requested parking restrictions on El Pacifico Drive and Verdugo Drive to allow the street sweeper better access and to alleviate the issue of vehicles being stored on the street.

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Thomas Chancler, a resident and Board member of Laguna Village, spoke against allowing parking on Ridge Route Drive. Mr. Chancler said Laguna Village is in the process of implementing a community parking policy, and allowing parking on Ridge Route Drive would allow the Laguna Village residents to circumvent the new parking policy.

Janel Cranch, a resident and Board member of Laguna Village, spoke in favor of parking on Ridge Route Drive. Ms. Cranch said allowing parking on Ridge Route Drive would help alleviate parking within the Laguna Village community.

4. MINUTES

THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18, 2017, REGULAR MEETING, BY M/COMMISSIONER WOODRUFF, S/COMMISSIONER STAAR.

APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0, COMMISSIONER HERMAN ABSTAINED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER ABSENT.

5. PRESENTATIONS

There were no Presentations.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

6.1 TRAFFIC ENGINEERING EVALUATION – SANTA VITTORIA DRIVE BETWEEN RIDGE ROUTE DRIVE AND LAKE FOREST DRIVE

Associate Civil Engineer Amber Shah, indicated residents of Laguna Village contacted staff regarding concerns of speeding, cut-through traffic and collisions on Santa Vittoria Drive between Ridge Route Drive and Lake Forest Drive. Staff initiated a traffic engineering evaluation, performed by Hartzog and Crabill, Inc., and the results were presented by Jerry Stock, P.E, T.E., a principal with Hartzog and Crabill, Inc., and author of the report. Ms. Shah introduced Mr. Stock, and he presented the findings of his report.

Mr. Stock indicated the data on Santa Vittoria Drive showed traffic speed to be consistent with the speed limit; the traffic volumes to be consistent with historic counts, and well below the traffic carrying capacity of the roadway; the cut-through traffic to be in the low range; and no traffic collision history related to traffic speed. Based upon the findings of the report, Santa Vittoria Drive is performing as expected.

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Patti Casas, resident of Laguna Hills, spoke in favor of increased traffic enforcement by the Sheriff's Department.

Janel Cranch, resident and Board member of Laguna Village spoke in favor of a traffic signal at the intersection of Santa Vittoria Drive and Ridge Route Drive, and also spoke in favor of road bumps along Santa Vittoria Drive.

**THAT THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION RECEIVED AND FILED THE REPORT.
M/VICE CHAIR JONES, S/COMMISSIONER HERMAN.
APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 4-0, COMMISSIONER WHEELER ABSENT.**

6.2 REVIEW OF ON-STREET PARKING ON EL DORADO DRIVE

Associate Civil Engineer Amber Shah, indicated Staff was contacted by a resident regarding parking of vehicles on the easterly side of El Dorado Drive adjacent to a landscape parkway and the I-5 freeway wall. The resident stated suspicious activities have occurred in the area believed to be associated with the parked vehicles. A search of the Sheriff's records showed there have been 20 calls related to parking complaints on El Dorado Drive in the past year. Half of the calls were generated from regular patrols, and the balance originated from the public. Only two calls resulted in vehicle code citations.

El Dorado Drive is a relatively straight street with a width adequate for parking on both sides and two lanes of traffic. Based upon the configuration of the neighborhood, the traffic volumes on this street would likely be very low. There does not appear to be any traffic engineering basis to implement parking controls. Police enforcement of driver behavior is the best and appropriate remedy for this location and issue of concern.

**THAT THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION RECEIVED AND FILED THE REPORT.
M/COMMISSIONER WOODRUFF, S/COMMISSIONER STAAR,
APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 4-0, COMMISSIONER WHEELER ABSENT.**

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7.1 SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT VERBAL REPORT

Sergeant Prince gave a verbal report updating the Traffic Commission on traffic issues in the City. Every year the Sheriff's Department provides an annual report to the City. Sergeant Prince indicated the two Motor Deputies in Laguna Hills had issued a total of 2,863 citations for moving violations during the past year. The Traffic Enforcement Index is a mathematical equation which takes into account

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the injury and non-injury accidents verses citations. Laguna Hills Traffic Enforcement Index was listed as 16.34, out of an optimal range of 12-25. Sergeant Prince indicated this index number demonstrated the Sheriff's Department is working with the community to proactively enforce traffic safety, and not writing an excessive number of citations for revenue generation.

7.2 RADAR SPEED TRAILER

Staff submitted the schedule for the radar trailer.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

There were no Commissioner Comments.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Traffic Commission at this session, Vice Chair Jones declared the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Prepared By:

Amber Shah, P.E.
Associate Civil Engineer

Approved By:

Chair Mark Jones