
**CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS, CALIFORNIA
TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 20, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission of the City of Laguna Hills, California, was called to order by Chair Ed Rowe at 7:01 p.m. in the Laguna Hills City Council Chamber, 24035 El Toro Road, Laguna Hills.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Ed Rowe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Present: Ed Rowe, Chair
 Donald Froelich, Vice Chair
 Steven Beeuwsaert, Commissioner
 Michael Caputo, Commissioner
 Rick Frazier, Commissioner

Absent:

Staff Present: Humza Javed, Associate Civil Engineer; Sergeant Robin
 Shirakawa; Cindy Sands, Administrative Assistant

- 1. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 2. MINUTES**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER DONALD FROELICH,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STEVEN BEEUWSAERT, TO
APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2013, TRAFFIC
COMMISSION MEETING.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Beeuwsaert and Frazier, Vice Chair
 Froelich, and Chair Rowe
NOES:
ABSTAIN: Commissioner Caputo

- 3. PRESENTATIONS**

None

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

4.1 REGULATION OF PARKING IN CITY-OWNED PARKING LOTS

Staff stated that vehicles are parking overnight in City-owned parking lots, particularly the Community Center and Sports Complex, and reducing the parking supply for scheduled events. As a result of this issue, staff consulted with the City Attorney's office and they have advised the City has authority to regulate parking in public parking lots with the adoption of an Ordinance. The proposed parking regulations would apply to three sites: Cabot Park, Community Center and Sports Complex, and Civic Center. Staff stated that typically the City would prohibit parking between the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and would be done in accordance with California Vehicle Code Section 22651, which provides authority to tow vehicles that are parked illegally on City property, and Sections 21113 and 22519, which discuss the authority of the City to regulate parking on City property. It is recommended that the Traffic Commission recommend to the City Council the amendment of Laguna Hills Municipal Code Chapter 11-12 in order to regulate parking in City-owned parking lots.

Commissioner Beeuwsaert inquired about what type of issues had been reported, i.e. number of cars, criminal activity, etc. The Commission engaged in a discussion with staff regarding the various issues and options available to address the situation such as hours of regulation and authority to tow vehicles.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CAPUTO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BEEUWSAERT, TO CONTINUE THIS ITEM TO THE MEETING OF JANUARY 15, 2014, FOR CLARIFICATION ON THE OPTIONS AVAILABLE AND FLEXIBILITY OF THE GUIDELINES TO AMEND LAGUNA HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 11-12.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Beeuwsaert, Caputo, and Frazier,
Vice Chair Froelich, and Chair Rowe
NOES:
ABSENT:

4.2 INSTALLATION OF RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACONS AT TWO EQUESTRIAN TRAIL CROSSINGS

Staff stated that after City Council approved the installation of LED flashing lights at two equestrian trail crossings (Nellie Gail Road 500' south of Oso Parkway and Nellie Gail Road 200' north of Lost Colt Drive), the City contracted Hartzog and Crabill, Inc. (HCI) to provide engineering plans for the installation of new LED flashing lights; however, HCI is recommending the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs). Staff stated that RRFBs are a more established and standard flashing traffic control device and have been used in other locations in Southern California. In accordance with HCI's recommendations, staff is recommending that the Traffic Commission recommend to the City Council the use of RRFBs rather than the previously approved LED flashing warning lights.

The Commission inquired about the differences in the sign construction and the cost difference.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER FRAZIER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FROELICH, TO RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL THE USE OF RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACONS RATHER THAN THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED LED FLASHING WARNING LIGHTS AT THE EQUESTRIAN TRAIL CROSSINGS ON NELLIE GAIL ROAD 500' SOUTH OF OSO PARKWAY AND NELLIE GAIL ROAD 200' NORTH OF LOST COLT DRIVE.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Beeuwsaert, Caputo, and Frazier,
Vice Chair Froelich, and Chair Rowe
NOES:
ABSENT:

4.3 REQUEST FOR LEFT-TURN MOVEMENT RESTRICTION AT NEW VISTA SCHOOL

Staff stated that a Board Member at New Vista School had contacted the City with a request to restrict left-turn movements in and out of the school driveway located at 23092 Mill Creek Drive. The request was made due to traffic congestion during school drop-off and pick-up hours. As a result of this concern, staff performed a site review and observed the following: the school driveway gets overwhelmed with traffic turning into and out of

the driveway; there is double-yellow striping along the centerline of Mill Creek Drive allowing left-turn movements in and out of the driveway; and there is a No Right Turn sign on school property for vehicles exiting the driveway. At this time, staff is recommending that a No Left Turn sign be posted opposite the school driveway. This additional signage will allow vehicles to continue making lefts into the driveway, will eliminate left-turns out of the driveway, and will enforce the existing Right Turn Only out of the driveway. Staff is recommending that the Traffic Commission recommend to the City Council the establishment of a No Left Turn exiting the driveway at 23092 Mill Creek Drive at New Vista School.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CAPUTO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BEEUWSAERT, TO RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NO LEFT TURN EXITING THE DRIVEWAY AT 23092 MILL CREEK DRIVE AT NEW VISTA SCHOOL.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Beeuwsaert, Caputo, and Frazier,
Vice Chair Froelich, and Chair Rowe
NOES:
ABSENT:

4.4 ALL-WAY STOP ANALYSIS AT MUSTANG DRIVE AND RED CORRAL ROAD

Staff stated that a request had been received from a resident to evaluate the need for an all-way stop sign at the intersection of Mustang Drive at Red Corral Road. The resident expressed concerns about vehicles speeding through this uncontrolled intersection. As a result of this concern, staff requested that the City's Consulting Traffic Engineers of Hartzog & Crabill, Inc. perform an all-way stop sign analysis in accordance with the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Results of the analysis determined that this intersection does not meet the State standards for an all-way stop sign control. Staff noted that a review of the accident history from the California Highway Patrol Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS) did not reveal any accidents over the last six years. However, staff is recommending that the Traffic Commission recommend to the City Council the installation of a one-way stop sign control on Red Corral Road at Mustang Drive to assist with right-of-way assignment.

Commissioner Caputo inquired about the number of complaints received, noise issues related to the installation of a stop sign, and asked that the City survey residents in the area to see if they are in support of the recommendation. Staff stated that the City would send a survey to residents in the vicinity requesting their input. The Commission engaged in a discussion with staff regarding the various issues and options. The Commission made a motion with the understanding that a survey would be conducted.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER FROELICH, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BEEUWSAERT, TO RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL THE INSTALLATION OF A STOP SIGN ON RED CORRAL ROAD AT MUSTANG DRIVE.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Beeuwsaert, and Frazier, Vice Chair
Froelich, and Chair Rowe
NOES: Commissioner Caputo
ABSENT:

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5.1 SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT VERBAL REPORT

Sergeant Robin Shirakawa stated that she had nothing to report at this time.

5.2 TRAFFIC CONTROL REQUEST AT THE INTERSECTION OF EL PRADO & ALAMEDA

Staff stated that a resident had contacted the City with concerns regarding traffic safety at the T-intersection of El Prado Street and Alameda Avenue. Staff reported that the radar trailer was placed at the location and no speeding issues were found. Staff has requested the Sheriff's Department to monitor the location.

5.3 CHAMPLAIN ROAD SPEEDING COMPLAINT

Staff stated that a resident had contact the City with concerns regarding speeding on Champlain Road. As a result of this concern the City placed the radar trailer at this location and it was determined that the 85th percentile speed was less than 30 miles per hour per data collected on two occasions. No further actions are necessary at this time.

5.4 RADAR SPEED TRAILER

Staff submitted the schedule for the radar trailer and asked the Traffic Commission if they have any locations they would like to recommend to the list.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Frazier inquired about DUI checkpoints, in the past Commissioners had been invited to participate. Sergeant Shirakawa stated she would check into it and pass the information along.

Commissioner Caputo inquired about the intersection of Moulton Parkway and La Paz Road. He stated that he was familiar with a couple of accidents at the intersection and was wondering about the cause.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Traffic Commission at this session, Chair Rowe declared the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m. to the meeting of January 15, 2014.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Humza Javed, P.E.
Associate Civil Engineer

Ed Rowe
Chair