
**CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS
TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission of the City of Laguna Hills, California, was called to order by 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 Chair Jones.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

Present: Chair Mark Jones, Commissioner Len Herman and Commissioner David Wheeler.

Absent: Vice Chair Larry Woodruff and Commissioner Greg Staar.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments.

2. MINUTES

THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 19, 2017, REGULAR MEETING, BY M/CHAIR JONES, S/COMMISSIONER HERMAN.

APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0, (VICE CHAIR WOODRUFF AND COMMISSIONER STAAR ABSENT).

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 UPDATE OF THE ALICIA PARKWAY REGIONAL TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION PROJECT (RTSSP)

Mr. Chalap Sadam, P.E., Albert Grover & Associates, Project Manager for the Alicia Parkway Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Project (RTSSP), gave the Traffic Commission an update on the Alicia Parkway RTSSP. Mr. Sadam indicated signal equipment and timing modifications were completed on August 21, 2017, for Alicia Parkway at Hon Avenue and Alicia Parkway at Community Center Drive. Mr. Sadam indicated traffic and pedestrian movements at these locations have been monitored since the modifications were completed and all

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operations were functioning as intended. The implementation phase for the overall Alicia Parkway Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Project is estimated to be completed in the Spring of 2018, and Albert Grover & Associates will continue to monitor and fine tune the timing for a period of two years after implementation is completed.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

4.1 REVIEW OF TRAFFIC SPEED CONDITIONS ON HIDDEN TRAIL ROAD AT PINESTRAP CIRCLE

Associate Civil Engineer Amber Shah, indicated Staff was contacted by a resident regarding concerns of vehicular speeding on Hidden Trail Road near Pinestrap Circle. In accordance with the Residential Streets Management Policy, Staff initiated a review of the speeds on Hidden Trail Road.

The speed surveys, performed by Hartzog and Crabill, Inc. determined the 85th percentile speeds on Hidden Trail Road as 33.4 mph and 30.9 mph, north and south of Pinestrap Circle, respectively. While the regulatory speed limit on a residential street is 25 mph, Staff's experience has found the typical prevailing speed range on residential streets in the City as being between 32 and 34 mph, without adverse traffic collision history. Staff recommended additional enforcement activity including a radar trailer to increase driver education and awareness.

Sergeant Matthew Prince, Orange County Sheriff's Department, indicated over the last 30 days, the Deputies had written 63 stop sign violations, as part of an additional traffic enforcement effort.

Chris Wulf, resident of 27695 Hidden Trail Road, spoke in favor of speed controls, including a control to prevent using Hidden Trail Road as a cut through for traffic.

Joe Anaya, resident of 27692 Hidden Trail Road, spoke in favor of speed controls, including a control to prevent using Hidden Trail Road as a cut through for traffic and his concern regarding backing out of his driveway.

**THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION RECEIVED AND FILED THIS REPORT AND DIRECTED STAFF TO PERFORM ADDITIONAL RESEARCH ON THIS ITEM, BY M/CHAIR JONES, S/COMMISSIONER HERMAN.
APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0, (VICE CHAIR WOODRUFF AND COMMISSIONER STAAR ABSENT).**

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**4.2 REVIEW OF TRAFFIC SPEED CONDITIONS ON NELLIE GAIL ROAD
BETWEEN GLEN CANYON DRIVE AND CABOT ROAD**

Associate Civil Engineer Amber Shah, indicated Staff was contacted by a concerned resident regarding speeding on Nellie Gail Road approaching Cabot Road. In accordance with the Residential Streets Management Policy, Staff initiated a review of the travel speeds and traffic collision history on Nellie Gail Road between Glen Canyon Road and Cabot Road.

The results of the speed survey, performed by Hartzog and Crabill, Inc., concluded the 85th percentile speeds on Nellie Gail Road as 31.1 mph and 28.1 mph, west of and east of Desert Trail, respectively. Although the posted speed limit is 25 mph, Staff experience has found the typical prevailing speed range on residential streets in the City as being between 32 and 34 mph, without adverse traffic collision history. The 85th percentile speeds determined in this speed survey are below typical speeds. Accordingly, Police enforcement of driver behavior is the best and appropriate remedy for this location and issue of concern. While the prevailing speed is unremarkable, Ms. Shah indicated Staff will work with the Sheriff's Department on enforcement activity in this area and post the radar trailer in this area to increase driver education as to the appropriate speed on Nellie Gail Road.

**THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION RECEIVED AND FILED THIS REPORT, BY
M/COMMISSIONER WHEELER, S/COMMISSIONER HERMAN.
APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0, (VICE CHAIR WOODRUFF AND
COMMISSIONER STAAR ABSENT).**

**4.3 REVIEW OF TRAFFIC SPEED CONDITIONS ON RAPID FALLS ROAD
BETWEEN LOST TRAIL DRIVE AND CABOT ROAD**

Associate Civil Engineer Amber Shah, indicated Staff was contacted by a concerned resident regarding speeding on Rapid Falls Road approaching Cabot Road. In accordance with the Residential Streets Management Policy, Staff initiated a review of the travel speeds and traffic collision history on Rapid Falls Road between Lost Trail Drive and Cabot Road.

The results of the speed survey, performed by Hartzog and Crabill, Inc., concluded the 85th percentile speeds on Rapid Falls Road as 34.8 mph and 31.3 mph, west of and east of Sundowner Drive, respectively. Although the posted speed limit is 25 mph, Staff experience has found the typical prevailing speed range on residential streets in the City as being between 32 and 34 mph, without adverse traffic collision history. The 85th percentile speeds determined in this

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speed survey are relatively consistent with our experience although the 85th percentile speed west of Sundowner Drive was slightly exceeding this range. Accordingly, Police enforcement of driver behavior is the best and appropriate remedy for this location and issue of concern. Ms. Shah indicated Staff will work with the Sheriff's Department on enforcement activity in this area and post the radar trailer in this area to increase driver education as to the appropriate speed on Rapid Falls Road.

**THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION RECEIVED AND FILED THIS REPORT, BY M/COMMISSIONER HERMAN, S/COMMISSIONER WHEELER.
APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0, (VICE CHAIR WOODRUFF AND COMMISSIONER STAAR ABSENT).**

4.4 2017 TRAFFIC FLOW MAP

Associate Civil Engineer Amber Shah, indicated the City performs traffic volume counts every two years in order to measure traffic flow and patterns throughout the City. The City's Traffic Engineering Consultants, Hartzog and Crabill, Inc., recently completed a 2017 Traffic Flow Map along with an Average Daily Traffic (ADT) count for the arterials and collector streets in the City.

**THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION RECEIVED AND FILED THIS REPORT, BY M/CHAIR JONES, S/COMMISSIONER HERMAN.
APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0, (VICE CHAIR WOODRUFF AND COMMISSIONER STAAR ABSENT).**

4.5 DYNAMIC SPEED FEEDBACK SIGNS

In accordance with the request of the Traffic Commission, Staff performed a literature review on the effectiveness of dynamic speed feedback signs (DSFS). DSFS are traffic control devices programmed to provide drivers with feedback about their speed in relationship to the posted speed limit. We refer to our DSFS as a "Radar Speed Trailer." Ms. Shah indicated although the results of the studies are mixed, Staff considers the DSFS to be an educational device and a tool utilized in addressing resident concerns of vehicle speeds.

**THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION RECEIVED AND FILED THIS REPORT, BY M/COMMISSIONER WHEELER, S/COMMISSIONER HERMAN.
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4.6 CITYWIDE STREET MAINTENANCE PROJECT

Associate Civil Engineer Amber Shah, indicated the City implements a Capital Improvement Project (CIP) to perform maintenance on a portion of the City's street system on a biennial basis. A currently planned project, known as CIP No. 101-J, will perform pavement maintenance, including either a slurry seal or asphalt concrete overlay, on selected streets in accordance with the City's Pavement Management Plan for the preservation of this asset. CIP No. 101-J was approved as part of the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Capital Improvement Budget. It is anticipated construction work will begin in late October 2017, for a period of three months.

**THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION RECEIVED AND FILED THIS REPORT, BY M/COMMISSIONER WHEELER, S/COMMISSIONER HERMAN.
APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0, (VICE CHAIR WOODRUFF AND COMMISSIONER STAAR ABSENT).**

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5.1 SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT VERBAL REPORT

Sergeant Prince explained the Superior Court utilizes the 85th percentile speed as indicated on the validated traffic and engineering survey, to establish a reasonable speed. Although the posted speed limit may be 25 mph, if the 85th percentile is higher than the speed limit citation, the citation and any associated fine or penalty is often dismissed.

5.2 RADAR SPEED TRAILER

Staff submitted the schedule for the radar trailer.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Herman commented the Sheriff's Deputies he met when he went on a ride along were exceptionally polite when interacting with the public, and Commissioner Herman was very impressed with the Deputies demeanor and training.

Commissioner Wheeler commented the Traffic Commissioner's Workshop at Cal Poly Pomona was a great learning experience.

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7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Traffic Commission at this session,
Chair Jones declared the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Prepared By:

Amber Shah, P.E.
Associate Civil Engineer

Approved By:

Chair Mark Jones