

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF LA MIRADA**

May 23, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Public Safety Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vice Chairman Morfin in Council Chambers at City Hall, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Vice Chairman David Morfin
Commissioner Narcis Brasov
Commissioner Amy Day
Commissioner Mark Madison

Absent:

Chairman Desiree Johnson

Staff:

Mark Rounds, Senior Administrative Analyst
Irena Guilmette, Los Angeles County Traffic Engineer
Sergeant Denney, Sheriff's Department
Emily Benavidez, Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 25, 2019

Commissioner Day moved and Commissioner Brasov seconded to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2019 meeting of the Public Safety Commission.

MOTION PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Brasov, Day, Madison, Vice Chairman Morfin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Chairman Johnson
ABSTAIN: None

COMMUNICATIONS

2. MONTHLY TRAFFIC REPORT – MARCH 2019

Commissioner Madison moved and Commissioner Brasov seconded to receive and file the Traffic Report for March 2019.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

**AYES: Commissioners Brasov, Day, Madison, Vice Chairman Morfin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Chairman Johnson
ABSTAIN: None**

3. MONTHLY CRIME REPORT – APRIL 2019

Commissioner Brasov moved and Commissioner Madison seconded to receive and file the Crime Report for April 2019.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

**AYES: Commissioners Brasov, Day, Madison, Vice Chairman Morfin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Chairman Johnson
ABSTAIN: None**

4. MONTHLY TRAFFIC STUDY STATUS REPORT – MAY 2019

Commissioner Madison moved and Commissioner Day seconded to receive and file the Traffic Study Status Report for May 2019.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

**AYES: Commissioners Brasov, Day, Madison, Vice Chairman Morfin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Chairman Johnson
ABSTAIN: None**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. TRAFFIC STUDY OF ARMSDALE AVENUE AND RICHVALE DRIVE

Senior Administrative Analyst Rounds introduced the City's Traffic Engineer Irena Guilmette. He said the City's Traffic Engineer studied the location.

Traffic Engineer Guilmette reported that the City received a request from resident Pamela Cwierz for the installation of red curb on the east side of Armsdale Avenue

north and south of Richvale Drive. She said Ms. Cwierz reported that vehicles park too close to the intersection and make it difficult to make left turns onto Armsdale Avenue from Richvale Drive.

Ms. Guilmette gave a description of the location. She reported that field observations indicated that visibility could be enhanced if red curb were installed on the east side of Armsdale Avenue north and south of Richvale Drive.

Ms. Cwierz addressed the Public Safety Commission. She thanked the City for trimming the trees earlier this year. She also thanked the Public Safety Commission for approving the installation of red curb at the location.

Commissioner Day asked if 25 feet of red curb would be sufficient.

Vice Chairman Morfin asked if the equivalent of one car length is 25 feet.

Traffic Engineer Guilmette responded and said that 25 feet is longer than one car length. She said 25 feet of red curb is standard.

Commissioner Day moved and Commissioner Brasov seconded to approve the installation of 25 feet of red curb on the east side of Armsdale Avenue north and south of Richvale Drive.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Brasov, Day, Madison, Vice Chairman Morfin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Chairman Johnson
ABSTAIN: None

6. TRAFFIC STUDY OF ESCALONA ROAD

Senior Administrative Analyst Rounds introduced the City's Traffic Engineer Irena Guilmette. He said the City's Traffic Engineer studied the location.

Ms. Guilmette reported that at the March 12 City Council Meeting, several residents addressed the Council and presented a proposal for traffic safety measures to enhance safety near Escalona Elementary School. She said that at the March 28 Public Safety Commission Meeting, the Commission assigned the Traffic Engineer to conduct a traffic study around Escalona Elementary School.

Ms. Guilmette gave a description of the location. She said 24-hour traffic volume counts, speed measurements, and field observations during arrival and dismissal times were taken around Escalona Elementary school.

She said a review of the five-year collision history ending September 30, 2018, indicated there were seven midblock collisions on Escalona Road between Alondra Boulevard and Rosecrans Avenue's south frontage road. Ms. Guilmette said the primary

collision factors included five improper turning movements, one unsafe speed and one vehicle right-of-way violation at a driveway.

Traffic Engineer Guilmette said the Stop signs and Stop Ahead signs adjacent to Escalona Elementary School should be replaced with newer signs equipped with retro-reflectivity. Ms. Guilmette also said the northbound "Dips" sign on Escalona Road preceding Barnwall Road should be upgraded to the FYG "Dip" sign and an additional "Dip" sign should be installed for southbound Escalona Road preceding Barnwall Road with "15 mph" advisory speed plaques below the "Dip" signs.

She said flashing beacons on school zone signs are typically installed on multi-lane roadways to identify an area where the speed limit is reduced from a higher speed limit to 25 mph when children are present or at uncontrolled crosswalk locations. She said flashing beacons were not recommended.

Ms. Guilmette said relocating the school bus zones on Escalona Road from the front of the school would increase driver maneuverability on Escalona Road and visibility for motorists exiting the main school driveway. She said if a school bus zone was relocated to the east side of Boca Chica Drive near the school's westerly parking lot, an additional school bus zone space could be installed along Excelsior Drive on the south side of Excelsior Drive near the school's northerly entrance gate.

Traffic Engineer Guilmette recommended the following:

1. Upgrade all school zone signs on roadways adjacent to Escalona Elementary School to the newer FYG signs with retro-reflective material;
2. Install additional FYG school zone signs on La Capelle Road and Neartree Road;
3. Install No Pedestrian Crossing/Use Crosswalk with arrow signs for pedestrians attempting to cross Escalona Road at La Capelle Road;
4. Replace all Stop signs and all Stop Ahead signs with newer signs with retro-reflectivity and install All-Way plaques below the new Stop signs at the intersections of Escalona Road at Neartree Road and Escalona Road at Excelsior Drive;
5. Replace the northbound "Dips" sign with a "Dip" sign with a "15 mph" advisory speed plaque below the "Dip" sign for northbound Neartree Road approaching Barnwall Road;
6. Install a southbound "Dip" sign with a "15 mph" advisory speed plaque below the "Dip" sign for southbound Neartree Road approaching Barnwall Road;
7. Install a northbound left-turn sign with a "15 mph" advisory speed plaque placed below the advisory sign on the east side of Escalona Road approaching the Rosecrans Avenue south frontage road;

8. Install an eastbound right-turn sign with a "15 mph" advisory speed plaque placed below the advisory sign on the south side of the Rosecrans Avenue south frontage road approaching Escalona Road;
9. Replace the northbound retro-reflective left-arrow sign with an object marker below for northbound Escalona Road at the Rosecrans Avenue south frontage road;
10. Install an eastbound right-arrow sign with an object marker below for the eastbound Rosecrans Avenue south frontage road at Escalona Road;
11. Submit an application to the State of California Department of Transportation to reclassify the functional classification of Escalona Road from a "major highway" to a "local" on the California Road System Map on file with the Federal Highway Administration;
12. Install "Radar Enforced" plaques below the "25 mph" speed limit signs on Escalona Road after Escalona Road is reclassified to a "local" road;
13. Advise the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District of the recommendation to move the location of the school bus drop off zones to Boca Chica Drive or Excelsior Drive;
14. Deny the request to install flashing beacons on school zone signs;
15. Deny the request to install "SLOW SCHOOL XING" pavement markings in advance of marked school crosswalks at stop-controlled locations on Escalona Road, Neartree Road, Excelsior Drive, Boca Chica Road and La Capelle Road;
16. Deny the request to install a marked school crosswalk on Escalona Road at La Capelle Road; and
17. Deny the request for the installation of speed humps on Escalona Road between Neartree Road and Excelsior Drive.

Residents Andrew and Lillian Anavisia addressed the Public Safety Commission. They live on Neartree Road. Mr. Anavisia said that reclassifying Escalona Road to a "local" roadway would help since it is suggested as a bypass route by smartphone apps currently. He said that moving the bus loading zones to the back of the school is a good idea and will better serve the students. They also said that traffic enforcement would help deter speeders and the installation of radar plaques would allow for that.

Commissioner Brasov asked the reason for upgrading to the reflective signage. He asked if there is a crosswalk at the back of the school.

Commissioner Day said that she grew up in the Escalona neighborhood. Ms. Day said she would be willing to speak with the principal about the recommendations. She said that the buses need to be moved to the back of the school to relieve a lot of the congestion.

Vice Chairman Morfin thanked the residents in the audience for being involved community members. He also thanked staff for their quick and diligent work.

Traffic Engineer Guilmette responded and said that the retro-reflective material on the signs is for night awareness. She said the school crosswalks are at each corner.

Senior Administrative Analyst Rounds said that the City would arrange to meet with the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District regarding relocating the bus zones. He also said the City would submit an application to the State of California Department of Transportation to reclassify the functional classification of Escalona Road from a "major highway" to a "local" on the California Road System Map on file with the Federal Highway Administration.

Commissioner Brasov moved and Commissioner Day seconded to approve the modifications to street markings and signage as specified by the Traffic Engineer.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Brasov, Day, Madison, Vice Chairman Morfin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Chairman Johnson
ABSTAIN: None

NEW BUSINESS

7. REQUEST FOR A TRAFFIC STUDY OF WEEKS DRIVE AT LA MIRADA BOULEVARD

Senior Administrative Analyst Rounds reported that a resident submitted a request through the My La Mirada smartphone application for the installation of a traffic signal at La Mirada Boulevard and Weeks Drive. He said the resident indicated the number of vehicles traveling north and south on La Mirada Boulevard make it difficult for vehicles entering La Mirada Boulevard from Weeks Drive.

Commissioner Day moved and Commissioner Brasov seconded to assign the Traffic Engineer and Vice Chairman Morfin to study the location and report their findings at a future meeting.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Brasov, Day, Madison, Vice Chairman Morfin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Chairman Johnson
ABSTAIN: None

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Day requested the newer FYG retro-reflective signage be installed at all the schools.

Traffic Engineer Guilmette responded and said that she has been working with La Mirada's Public Works Department to systematically upgrade signage around each school.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the Public Safety Commission adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Submitted:



Emily Benavidez, Secretary

Attest:



David Morfin, Vice Chairman