

# MINUTES

## Meeting of the San Marcos Traffic Commission

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017 | 6:00 PM

City Council Chambers, 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chairman Rico called the Traffic Commission Meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Commissioner Buckley

**ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: NICKEL, MAKROGIANNIS, RICO, MUSGROVE, SAVOVIC, BUCKLEY

ABSENT: MASTERSON, COLLINS, HANSEN

**ALSO PRESENT:** Senior Traffic Engineer, Mike Rafael; Principal Traffic Engineer, Nicholas Abboud; Sheriff Deputy, Mark Foster; and Traffic Commission Secretary, Denise Avila.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Jack Wright resides at 547 Wildhorse Lane, expressed concerns about the amount of traffic and the safety of children walking to school along Oleander Avenue. Mr. Wright is concerned about the lack of sidewalk and the amount of traffic, specifically of big delivery trucks, that drive on Oleander Avenue at various hours of the day. Mr. Wright mentioned a STOP sign was added at the intersection of Oleander Avenue and Alamitos Way but this new sign has not helped with the safety of the area. He expressed the interest of installing speed bumps and additional speed limit signs to help with the issues.

Engineering staff to report back to the Traffic Commission on findings and recommendations after completion of their investigation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 7, 2017**

Commissioner Buckley makes a motion to accept the minutes as recorded. Commissioner Nickel seconds the motion. Motion carries.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: NICKEL, MAKROGIANNIS, RICO, MUSGROVE, SAVOVIC, BUCKLEY

NOES: COMMISSIONERS:

ABSTAINS: COMMISSIONER:

**6) OLD BUSINESS**

- a. None

**7) NEW BUSINESS**

- a. San Elijo Hills Traffic Safety Proposals (Warren Witt)

City staff conducted a series of engineering investigations to determine the feasibility of implementing Mr. Witt's proposed recommendations:

- 1. Replace the missing speed limit sign below the Double Peak K-8 school on S. Twin Oaks Valley Road. Staff recommends removal of 50 MPH speed limit sign and installation of new 45 MPH speed limit sign and pavement legends with a new "SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT END" sign.
- 2. Extend the 25 MPH speed limit zone in the San Elijo Hills Town Center. City staff recommends a longer transition speed zone to effectively reduce the posted speed limit from 45 MPH to 25 MPH into the town center and a new 35 MPH speed zone be set on San Elijo Road between Stephanie Court and Elfin Forest Road.
- 3. Remove the 25 MPH school speed limit signs located in Eastbound side of San Elijo Road and move westbound school flashing beacon/speed feedback sign on San Elijo Road closer to San Elijo Elementary School. Staff recommends removal of existing 25 MPH school zone sign "WHEN CHILDREN ARE PRESENT" and "END SCHOOL ZONE" signs within the Town Center.
- 4. Add more 25 MPH speed limit signs in the San Elijo Town Center on both sides of the San Elijo Road to reinforce the speed limit. Staff recommends installation of additional 25 MPH signs at the town center couplet in the northbound direction and relocation of the existing speed feedback sign display on northbound San Elijo Road.

- 5. Extend the left turn lane on the westbound San Elijo Road at Schoolhouse Way during school-time hours due to the significant block of through traffic. Staff has implemented signal timing adjustments to allow the signal to serve the left turn movements into Schoolhouse Way twice in a signal cycle during the AM peak. Due to video detection issues the City has replaced with high performance thermal cameras which will improve the traffic signal operations at the intersection.
- 6. Widen the right turn lane on the eastbound side of San Elijo Road turning right into Schoolhouse Way. Right turn volumes are due to school peak traffic during limited times of the day and do not warrant a separate right turn lane based on City design standards.
- 7. Timing of the crosswalk lights in the San Elijo Hills Town Center delay traffic regardless of whether pedestrians are crossing or not. City staff will also modify the pedestrian signal timing to deactivate pedestrian recall after 7pm and will be reduced the LPI (lead pedestrian interval) to 3 seconds from 5 seconds to continue to serve the purpose of providing advance walk. Staff will continue to monitor the town center's traffic flow and update signal timing in the next few months.
- 8. Create a safe a passageway for pedestrian traffic on S. Twin Oaks Valley Road by erecting a guardrail from Double Peak K-8 school to S. Village Drive. Based on Caltrans criteria for guardrail installation, guardrails are not warranted for this roadway segment. Staff provided the School District with a recommended safe route to school path that identifies the west side of San Elijo Road as the preferred walking route.
- 9. Widen the northbound side of Twin Oaks Valley Road at East Barham Drive to create a dedicated right turning lane. City staff to recommend that this improvement be further evaluated and possibly programmed into the CIP budget for the future. In the interim, City staff will continue to monitor and evaluate the traffic signal timing at the intersection and make timing adjustments as needed.
- 10. Create a bicycle-shared lane on both sides of Melrose Drive between Sparrow Lane and San Elijo Road. Due to the insufficient right-of-way to construct a standard bike lane, Staff recommends the installation of "Bicycles May Use Full Lane" signs on Melrose Drive.

- **11.** New Right turn lane for High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV) only onto East Highway 78 from northbound TOVR (#3 lane). Caltrans has proposed a modified shared lane configuration, but to allow only HOV vehicles to make the right turn onto the SR-78 on-ramp from the #3 lane. Single-occupancy vehicles could continue to use the #3 lane for northbound through movement.

Additional Information: City staff will survey existing vegetation and trees that are currently blocking existing traffic signs to allow visibility. City Staff does recommend new curve warning and Chevron signs on Southbound Twin Oaks Valley Road approaching South Village Drive will be installed.

Commissioner Buckley makes a motion to accept staff recommendations. Commissioner Makrogiannis seconds the motion. Motion carries.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: NICKEL, MAKROGIANNIS, RICO, MUSGROVE, SAVOVIC, BUCKLEY

NOES: COMMISSIONERS:

ABSTAINS: COMMISSIONER:

- b. Reevaluation of ALL WAY STOP Controls at Linda Vista Drive and Private Driveway (County of San Diego)

The County of San Diego traffic engineers provided their independent review and assessment of the traffic conditions at the intersection since the conflicting eastbound approach of the intersection falls within their jurisdiction, and concluded that the existing STOP signs should remain per CA MUTCD, Section 2B.07, Option C.

City staff concurs with the County's assessment and thereby recommends that the existing STOP signs remain in operation at this location. City staff also recommends that the Sheriff's Department enforce violations for motorists "running" the existing STOP signs at the intersection.

Commissioner Musgrove makes a motion to accept staff recommendations. Commissioner Nickel seconds the motion. Motion carries.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: NICKEL, MAKROGIANNIS, RICO, MUSGROVE, SAVOVIC

NOES: COMMISSIONERS: BUCKLEY

ABSTAINS: COMMISSIONER:

**8) REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

- a. Work Order Updates
- b. San Diego County Sheriff's Department Traffic Collision Summary And Accident Investigation Log - Will be presented in the October 4, 2017 Traffic Commission meeting
- c. Traffic Commission Commentary
- d. Staff Commentary

**9) ADJOURNMENT:** Vice Chairman Rico adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm.



Arturo Rico, Vice Chairman  
Traffic Commission

ATTEST:



Denise Avila, Secretary  
Traffic Commission