

AGENDA

Meeting of the San Marcos Traffic Commission

Meeting Date: JUNE 2, 2021 | **Meeting Time:** 6:00 PM

Location: Teleconference and Electronic Means

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, and Executive Order N 33-20 dated March 19, 2020, issued with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic, this Traffic Commission meeting will be conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means. In the interest of reducing the spread of COVID-19, members of the public may only call in to hear the meeting and may not be present in the Council Chamber. The public will dial using your phone to 1-866-899-4679 and enter Access Code: 568-583-013

Public Comment: To submit a public comment at the Traffic Commission meeting, please email gjackson@san-marcos.net and write "Public Comment" in the subject line, or identify the number of the Agenda item on which you are commenting. In the body of the email, include the item number and/or title of the item as well as your comments. Email comments on matters not on the agenda must be submitted prior to the time the Chair calls the Oral Communications item. Email comments on any agenda item must be submitted prior to the time the Chair closes public comments on the agenda item. Please be advised that all emailed comments are subject to the same rules as would otherwise apply to speaker comments at any Traffic Commission meeting, and that electronic comments on agenda items for this meeting may only be submitted by email. Comments via text message and/or social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) will not be accepted.

The Traffic Commission Secretary will read all email comments, provided that the reading will not exceed five (5) minutes, or such other time as the Chair may provide, consistent with its ability to set time parameters for public comment at the Traffic Commission meeting. If persons submitting comments do not want their comment to be read out loud at the meeting (not to exceed five minutes), they should write "Do Not Read Out Loud at Meeting" at the top of the email. All emailed comments received by 4:00 pm will be provided to the Traffic Commission members and included as "Supplemental information" on the City's website prior to the meeting. Those comments received after 4:00 pm and prior to the close of public comment on the applicable agenda item will be added to the record and will be shared with the Traffic Commission members at the meeting.

Americans with Disabilities Act: If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk Department at (760) 744-1050, ext. 3105. Notification 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Assisted listening devices are available for the hearing impaired. Please see the City Clerk if you wish to use this device.

Agendas: Agenda packets are available for public inspection 72 hours prior to scheduled meetings at the Information Desk counter located on the first floor of City Hall, 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, during normal business hours or online at www.san-marcos.net.

Agenda-related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet will be available for public inspection at the time of distribution at the Information Desk counter located on the first floor of City Hall, 1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA, during normal business hours.

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Anyone wishing to speak to the Commission on any item must first complete a Request to Speak form and turn it in to the secretary

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Persons wishing to speak on a matter not on the agenda may be heard at this time; however, no action will be taken until placed on a future agenda.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 5, 2021

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Request for “No turn on red” sign at San Elijo Rd/Twin Oaks Valley Rd and Equestrian Court/Double Peak K-8 School Driveway

8. REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Work Order Updates
- b. San Diego County Sheriff's Department Traffic Collision Summary And Accident Investigation Log
- c. Traffic Commission Commentary
- d. Staff Commentary

ADJOURNMENT

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO) ss.
CITY OF SAN MARCOS)

I, Gina Jackson, Secretary, San Marcos Traffic Commission, hereby certify that I caused the posting on May 27, 2021 of this agenda in the glass display case at the north entrance of City Hall.

DATED: May 27, 2021

Gina Jackson,
Traffic Commission Secretary

MINUTES

Meeting of the San Marcos Traffic Commission

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021 | 6:00 PM

Teleconference and Electronic Means

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Rico called the Traffic Commission Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Commissioner Schellenger

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS: *KOVIRIG, *ERICKSON, *HOAGLIN, *RICO, *HANSEN, *BRIDGE,
*SCHELLENGER

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

*Members of the Traffic Commission attending the meeting via teleconference pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20.

ALSO PRESENT:

Principal Traffic Engineer, Nicholas Abboud; Senior Traffic Engineer, Mike Rafael; Associate Civil Traffic Engineer, Manas Bista; Sergeant, Charles Morreale; Traffic Commission Secretary, Gina Jackson.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

The following residents emailed comments. Comments read out loud by Chair Rico:

Heidi Willard – concerned about traffic at Double Peak School. Concerns include; cars not being able to turn left into the school due to excessive traffic turning right into the school.

Karl Sagermark – concerned about traffic at Double Peak School. Concerns include; traffic backing up at the light and causing traffic blocks. Suggest adding a "No turn on red" sign for traffic turning right into the school.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 3, 2021

Commissioner Kovrig makes a motion to accept the minutes as recorded. Commissioner Hoaglin seconds the motion. Motion carries.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: *KOVIRIG, *ERICKSON, *HOAGLIN, *RICO, *HANSEN

NOES: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

ABSTAINS: COMMISSIONERS: *BRIDGE, *SCHELLENGER

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Traffic Signing and Striping Improvements – Mulberry Drive and Rose Ranch Road Intersection

From 2017-2020 a pattern of vehicular collisions traveling in the northbound Mulberry Drive direction at the signalized intersection with Rose Ranch Road alerted Engineering staff to conduct an investigation. The collisions involved motorists causing significant City property damage and injuries. Interviews with the residents also indicated that vehicles are excessively speeding and running the red light. Engineering staff initiated a traffic safety evaluation of the signalized intersection. The collision history for the last three (3) years was reviewed by the Engineering staff and found that there were six “Fixed Object” type collisions, and involved vehicles traveling in the northbound Mulberry Drive direction which resulted in property damage to the existing raised “pork chop” island and/or existing traffic signal poles. All reported collisions have been attributed to unsafe speeding, unsafe turning and DUI. There were no collisions that involved pedestrians or bicycles at the intersection.

RECOMMENDATION

Engineering staff requests that the Traffic Commission approves staff’s recommendations for the installation of additional traffic signing and striping improvements consistent with CAMUTCD standards as low-cost and effective countermeasures for reducing vehicular speeds. The improvements are expected to warn drivers of the roadway curvature, and enhance visibility of the intersection. Engineering staff also recommends intermittent enforcement by the Sheriff’s Department to help reduce red-light running and excessive speeding through the intersection.

Senior Civil Engineer Mike Rafael presented the staff report and presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION INCLUDED: install a cushioning or barrier such as the ones on a freeway to reduce property damage or adding a roundabout; concerned if drivers can still make a right turn on Rose Ranch Road; after the fix is made, how long before a different solution is added; concerns about costs.

CITY STAFF responded that the barriers used on a freeway are used on construction areas. Warning signs will be used to separate the traffic. Roundabouts were considered but will monitor the area for a year before considering adding more improvements. If a roundabout is warranted, then the City will apply for funding. Drivers will still be able to make a right turn on Rose Ranch Road. The signage and striping will be done in-house to keep costs down.

Commissioner Kovrig made a motion to adopt staff's recommendation. Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion. Motion carries.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: *KOVIRIG, *ERICKSON, *HOAGLIN, *RICO, *HANSEN, *BRIDGE, *SCHELLENGER

NOES: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

ABSTAINS: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Work Order Updates:

Melrose Drive bike lanes – new sharrows painted along Melrose Drive.

B. San Diego County Sheriff's Department Traffic Collision Summary And Accident Investigation Log

(5) DUI/Alcohol Arrests

(10) DUI Accidents

(7) Injury Collisions

(27) Non-Injury Collisions

(8) Persons Injured

(0) Pedestrian Collisions

(0) Pedestrians Injured

(0) Bicyclist Collision

(0) Bicyclist Injury

(1) Motorcycle Collision

(1) Motorcyclists Injury

C. Traffic Commission Commentary:

Commissioner Erickson alerted Engineering staff of a line of site issue at Center Drive and Aveneda Ricardo (Nordahl Marketplace). The sign from businesses is causing visibility issues and cars are inching out into lane of oncoming traffic. Suggest adding a "No turn on red" sign or striping.

City staff responded that they will do an evaluation.

Commissioner Kovrig asked if the citation logs can be included in future packets.

Sergeant Morreale responded that he will put the request in.

Commissioner Erickson asked if the accidents from Highway 78 can be included in the Sheriff Traffic Collision Summary.

Sergeant Morreale responded that CHP related items will not be on their summary.

Commissioner Kovrig alerted Engineering staff to another line of site issue on Vineyard towards Rose Ranch, SB on Mulberry, a hedge is making visibility of incoming traffic difficult.

City staff responded that they will do an evaluation.

Commissioner Kovrig inquired about the Twin Oaks Valley painting project, if the patch on the road was finished yet.

City staff responded that construction crews are working on the patch. Twin Oaks Valley Road to Barham through 78 will have slurry seal.

Commissioner Hoaglin indicated that there crossing guards for Double Peak School are holding up the traffic which is causing congestion.

City staff responded that they are aware of the traffic issue and are working with the school district on a solution.

D. Staff Commentary:

Senior Civil Engineer Mike Rafael indicated that the City was awarded a Federal HSIP grant that will be used to install retroreflective back plates to 120 traffic signals. Caltrans has already started replacing their back plates at the ramp intersections. Engineering staff is evaluating Oleander Avenue for traffic calming countermeasures and truck weight restrictions, evaluating the Rancho Dorado Neighborhood for speeding and cut-through traffic issues. Engineering staff is also developing a Guardrail Feasibility Study to evaluate major roadways in San Marcos such as San Elijo Road, Twin Oaks Valley Road, and San Marcos Boulevard. Engineering staff will be researching grant funding opportunities for design and construction of proposed guardrails.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Rico adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Arturo Rico, Chairman
Traffic Commission

ATTEST:

Gina Jackson, Secretary
Traffic Commission

AGENDA REPORT

Meeting of the San Marcos Traffic Commission

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2021
AGENDA ITEM NO: 7A
SUBMITTED BY: Manas Bista, P.E. – Associate Civil Engineer
APPROVED BY: Nic Abboud, P.E. – Principal Civil Engineer
SUBJECT: Request for “NO TURN ON RED” sign at San Elijo Rd/Twin Oaks Valley and Equestrian Court/Double Peak K-8 School Driveway

BACKGROUND:

Traffic Engineering Division received several requests to install “No turn on Red” regulatory sign at the intersection of San Elijo Rd/Twin Oaks Valley Rd and Equestrian Court/Double Peak K-8 School. Due to constant flow of eastbound traffic turning into the school grounds, traffic making westbound left into the school is not able to turn as the queue of waiting vehicles fills up the school driveway. It also causes conflict with the students as vehicles back up into the roadway, blocking the crosswalk.

DISCUSSION:

Traffic Engineering and Public Works Staff made several visits to this location during school drop-off and pick-up times to observe the traffic pattern and assess the feasibility of installing “No turn on Red” sign.

During one site visit, eastbound right turn traffic was observed to constantly fully-occupy the school driveway, depriving westbound left turn movement of its opportunity to turn left on green. It was also observed that eastbound right turn traffic was constantly “sneaking” during red thereby causing hazardous condition both for vehicles and pedestrians.

City Staff also met with the San Marcos Unified School District regarding this issue and proposed extending the available queueing area to the existing parking lot, in order to accommodate a larger volume of vehicles during pick-up and drop-off and help alleviate queueing issues. The Principal of the Double Peak school mentioned that she will explore the feasibility of this proposal with her staff.

Per the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD), Section 2B.54, No turn on Red sign should be considered if one or more of the conditions are met:

- a) Inadequate sight distance to vehicles approaching from the left (or right if applicable);

- b) Geometrics or operational characteristics of the intersection that might result in unexpected conflicts;
- c) An exclusive pedestrian phase;
- d) An unexpected number of pedestrian conflicts with right-turn-on red maneuvers, especially involving children, older pedestrians or persons with disabilities.
- e) The skew of the intersecting roadways creates difficulty for traffic approaching from left.

Based on satisfying the CAMUTCD criteria (a) and (d) for “No turn on Red” sign, **it is recommended that a NO TURN ON RED regulatory sign be installed facing the northbound/eastbound approach of San Elijo Rd/Twin Oaks Valley Rd at Equestrian Court/Double Peak K-8 School driveway to improve the operation of the signal and reduce potential conflicts with students.** The new sign to be installed on the far signal pole and should be oversized (36”X48”) for better visibility. (see attached exhibit). In addition, enforcement of this regulatory sign by the Sheriff’s Department will be requested.

Meanwhile, Engineering staff will continue to work with School District toward extending the queuing area to allow for accommodating a larger volume of traffic to alleviate congestion at the school driveway during pick-up and drop-off times.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

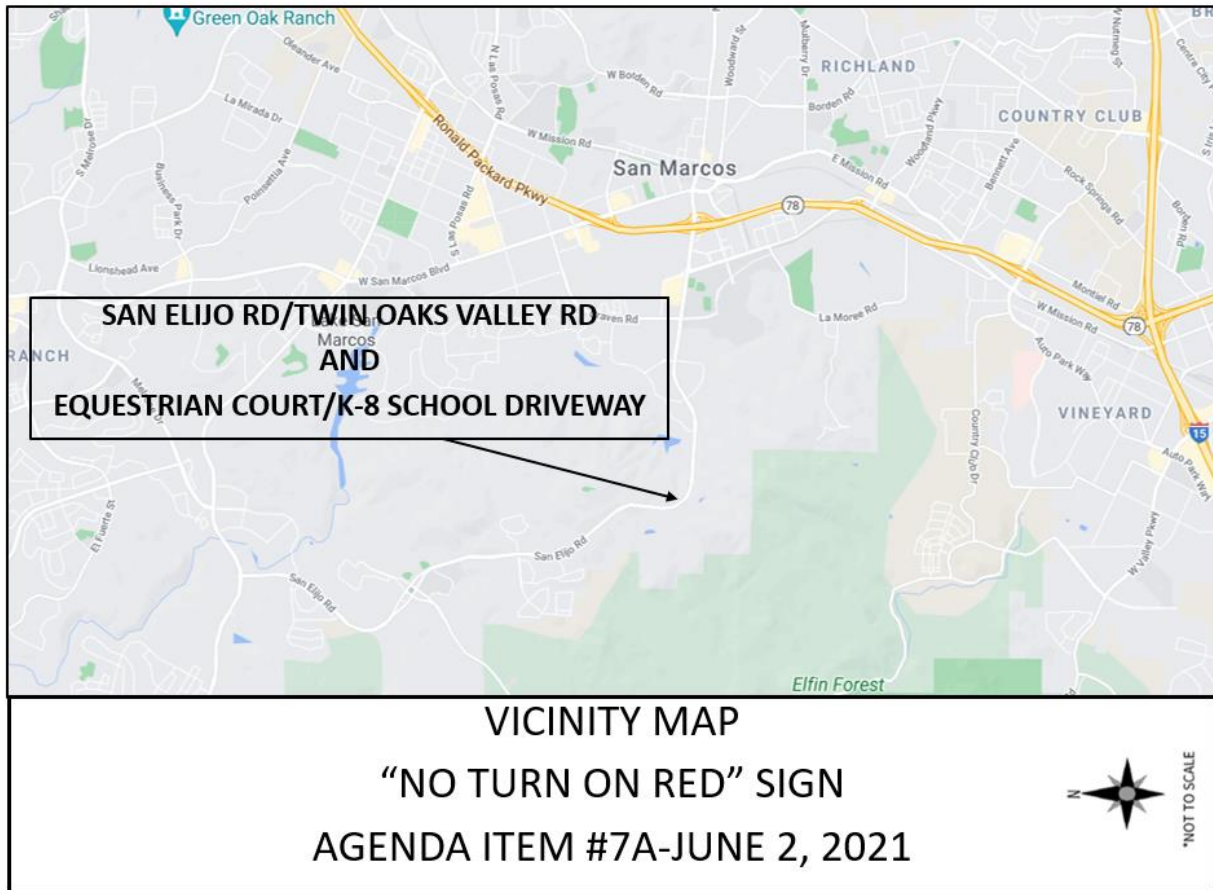
Engineering staff requests that the Traffic Commission accept staff’s recommendations for the installation of “NO TURN ON RED” sign at the intersection of San Elijo Rd/Twin Oaks Valley Rd and Equestrian Court/Double Peak K-8 School Driveway. The new sign will be placed on a traffic signal pole and facing the eastbound direction. (see attached Exhibit).

Engineering staff also recommends selective enforcement by the Sheriff’s Department of the new “NO TURN ON RED” regulatory sign at this intersection.

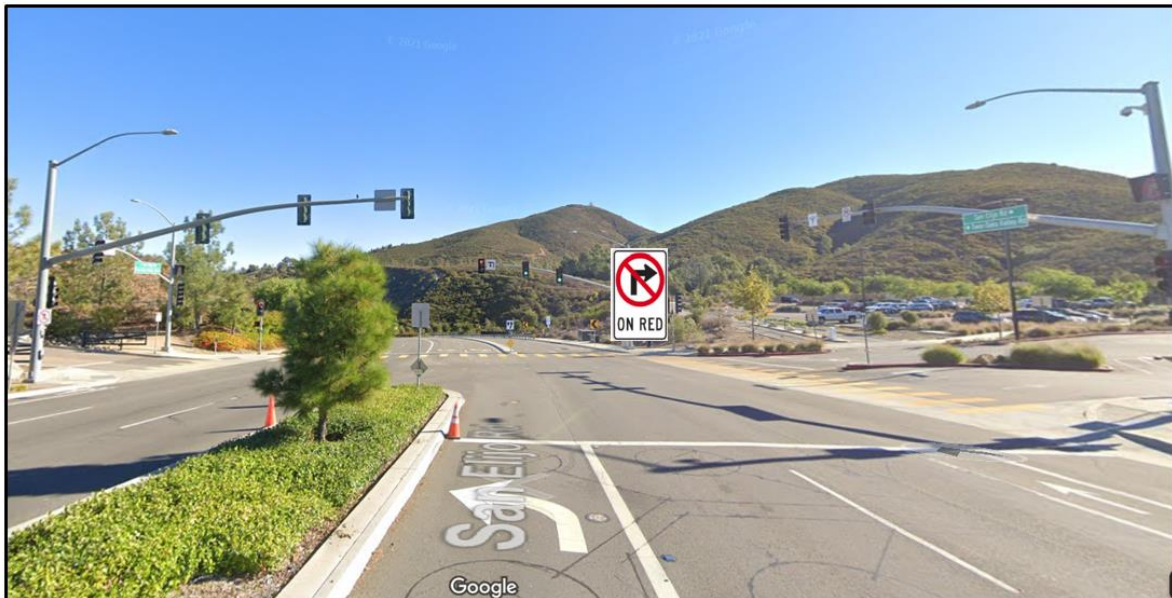
ATTACHMENT(S)

Vicinity Map
Exhibit

VICINITY MAP



EXHIBIT



"NO TURN ON RED SIGN" ON A SIGNAL POLE ON EAST LEG