



MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 06, 2022

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

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:00 p.m. Traffic Commission Chair Arturo Rico called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Kovrig led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:	COMMISSIONERS:	FREEMAN, ERICKSON, HOAGLIN, RICO, HANSEN, BRIDGE, KOVRIK
ABSENT:	COMMISSIONERS:	SCHELLENGER

Also present were: Director of Development Services/City Engineer Isaac Etchamendy; Traffic Engineer Consultant Phuong Nguyen; San Diego Sheriff's Department Sergeant Charles Morreale; Senior Office Specialist Gina Jackson

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5. Approval of Minutes, November 3, 2021

COMMISSIONER HOAGLIN MAKES A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS RECORDED; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KOVRIG. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:	COMMISSIONERS: ERICKSON, HOAGLIN, RICO, BRIDGE, KOVRIG
NOES:	COMMISSIONERS: NONE
ABSENT:	COMMISSIONERS: SCHELLENGER
ABSTAIN:	COMMISSIONERS: HANSEN, FREEMAN

OLD BUSINESS

6. A. Rancho Dorado Neighborhood – Residential Speeding Concerns

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the following: (1) Installation of edge line striping in the form of Class II Bicycle Lanes on White Sands Drive between San Marcos Blvd. and 650' North of Sun Valley Rd. to discourage speeding by narrowing vehicle travel lanes; (2) Installation of partial double yellow centerlines at the intersections along the project study to help motorists stay in lane as they navigate; (3) Installation of edge line striping to define parking lanes on White Sands Dr., Coast Ave., and Island Dr., to discourage speeding by narrowing vehicle travel lanes; (4) Installation of new speed limit signs (25 MPH) on Coast Ave. between Summit Point Way and Island Dr. to inform motorists of the residential 25 MPH zone; (5) Installation of new speed pavement markings (25 MPH) on Coast Ave. between Summit Point Way and Island Dr. to inform motorists of the residential 25 MPH zone; (6) Installation of Radar Feedback signage and operate them at interim periods to improve long-term effectiveness & continue to work with the Sheriff to increase enforcement; (7) Recommend studying the effectiveness after one year of implementation and reporting the results.

Isaac Etchamendy, Director of Development Services/City Engineer gave the presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING

Traffic Commission discussion included: Why were the previous counter measures removed; tier system appreciated, has this been presented to the Richmar residents; confirm if drag racing did occur in that neighborhood; are there other videos showing speeding and drag racing;

Staff response: The counter measures were installed on very narrow lanes resulting in the residents running over them with their large vehicles such as RVs. Over time, the delineators were also being vandalized. We re-installed them at a wider width to accommodate the large vehicle issues and observed a great reduction in speed. We continued getting complaints about the esthetics and the vandalism. The delineators were removed and we installed striping; At the last council meeting several residents spoke. We send the revised information to the HOA and residents and the resident stakeholders who have been engaged with us; Staff received a video from a resident of the alleged racing, however our assessment we did not see that. The road cannot accommodate that type of behavior in general; Staff received several videos, however only one video was received of the alleged drag racing.

Action:

COMMISSIONER HOAGLIN MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS; MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KOVRIG.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: FREEMAN, ERICKSON, HOAGLIN, RICO, HANSEN, BRIDGE, KOVRIG
NOES: COMMISSIONERS: NONE
ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: SCHELLENGER
ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS

7. A.

None

REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

A. La Sombra Drive City/County Coordination Update:

Isaac Etchamendy, Director of Development Services/City Engineer gave the update: Discovery Street south of San Marcos Blvd. on the west side of town near the high school, that road way has an interesting right of way issue that we have to coordinate with the County on frequently. Just south of San Marcos Blvd. turns over to being an entire control of the County. We reached out to the County on many occasions. Recently we engaged with Supervisor Desmond's office and we have a meeting set up later this month with them. Currently we are contemplating working with the County to transfer maintenance control obligations over to them for that intersection and the portion before the bend as you progress southward. We also welcome any input you have on this issue in order to implement traffic calming and have control in that area.

Traffic Commission discussions included: Will the County be relinquished the Discovery dogleg south down to the curve; Hopefully the county will be open to the possible solution discussed at the last meeting for La Sombra. It was presented to us turning that into a dedicated stop and angle slightly so traffic would have to curve and continue out; concerned with giving the County that section without a cooperative agreement; has it been discussed where the County relinquishes control to the City; are there a number of streets the County controls within our City; has past work with the County backfired with regards to trading maintenance agreements.

Staff response: That would be staff's intent; Discovery is called an arterial on the City's General Plan. San Marcos Blvd. all the way through this dogleg that progresses down into the Creek District is also an arterial. The City has a capital project at the intersection of San Marcos Blvd. and Discovery, which would eliminate the free right that will immediately force people to stop before progressing through on the right turn there. This will hopefully allow for slower speeds. That is not a guarantee,

but something we should be patient with. We are doing multiple things to help some of the traffic issues. We won't be able to solve all of the issues, as the city continues to grow. I can take your comments into our discussions with the County; I'm sure there will be several meetings with the County in order to get this done; Yes, we have one occurring in Escondido and Vista. The County is also cooperating with us in Richland going to Twin Oaks, and the County is doing a bridge project for us off Sycamore; Back in the 90s to 2000s the City grew rapidly and often times the boundaries weren't paid attention to. It is our current intention to go through and apply master agreements on maintenance that are out there.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rachel Dezember, resident on La Sombra: Brought forth concerns of the consistent speeding in her neighborhood and that on numerous occasions herself and her children have almost been hit by a speeding passerby. She stressed how scary it is on her street and would like something more than striping and a stop sign to slow down the traffic.

Neile Simon, resident on La Sombra: Pointed out that on Discovery and La Sombra intersection involving the SB movement there is nothing to promote speed reduction from the 40 mph to the 25 mph. The City and County have a meeting on April 22nd where engineers on both sides will be assessing the situation. Expressed concerns with the traffic from the multiple school growths in the area. The County is going to look at the financial position regarding that intersection with the City's position and we ask that you allow that; concerns with the blind spots being caused by the student parking on both sides of the street and asked that the City take responsibility with the bend and install a speed hump in that location. Also expressed concerns of potential traffic when the Creek District project is complete.

Sean Simon, resident on La Sombra: It's a real bad situation on our street. Drivers speed through the curve, cars parked on both sides of the street making it difficult to see traffic when crossing the street. I've seen too many dogs get hit by cars because they get off their leashes and dash in the street when spooked. I think speed bumps on both sides of the street will be a great start and a stop sign at Discovery when going left might slow traffic down.

Traffic Commissioner discussions included: Can this be put on the next agenda for a formal discussion; verify since this is an unincorporated County land in San Marcos, does traffic enforcement go to the California Highway Patrol (CHP); we just did a study on a street after residents came to us about the issue, this is something these residents are asking us to do; can we ask that the City meet with Hunter from the County; it's important for the community to be involved, especially at the school board meetings.

Staff response: I would like to get something memorialized with the County, because when you have something in writing is much firmer. Staff can do an investigation and put this on the next agenda; traffic enforcement will be to the CHP; I recommend we place this on the agenda when we have general terms set up with the County in order to bring that forward to you for additional discussion; We collected speeds on La Sombra in the area of La Noche. We haven't done any studies on the County portion because currently it's posted at 40 mph. This goes back to the roads

designation and classified as an arterial which is meant to funnel a lot of traffic; Hunter is the person we are meeting with as well as others from DPW;

B. Work Order Updates: The Fulton Road Traffic Calming Order has been signed and materials were finally just received. The work order has been forwarded to Public Works and they are scheduling everything for the install.

C. San Diego County Sheriff's Dept. Traffic Collision Summary and Accident Investigation Log:

DUI/Alcohol Arrests:	Jan (11)	Feb (12)	Mar (16)	YTD (39)
DUI Accidents:	Jan (5)	Feb (8)	Mar (8)	YTD (21)
Fatal:	Jan (3)	Feb (2)	Mar (1)	YTD (6)
Injury:	Jan (18)	Feb (11)	Mar (14)	YTD (43)
Non-Injury:	Jan (24)	Feb (38)	Mar (19)	YTD (81)
NTA Citations/Hazardous:	Jan (88)	Feb (56)	Mar (156)	YTD (300)
NTA Citations/Non-Hazardous:	Jan (63)	Feb (49)	Mar (75)	YTD (187)

D. Traffic Commission Commentary: Thanked Isaac for stepping up and helping out with the Commission, and appreciated him clarifying and giving more background information, and for all the work everyone has brought to this Commission; expressed the issue with the school traffic and that it's unfortunate so many schools are built right near each other; more dialogue needs to be done between the City and the School District and indicate the need to bring transport back for the students.

E. Staff Commentary: Verified that staff does meet regularly with the School District and discuss when students are behaving badly; updated the Commission with staff updates in the Traffic Engineering Division and that Chen Ryan along with Peter Kuey is assisting Traffic Engineering with technical support and making sure the division runs efficiently; provided the Commission with how important Nic Abboud's position was to the City and that eventually his position will be filled with the right candidate; expressed appreciation to the Commission with understanding the complexities as he takes on his new role as the Director of Development Services; pointed out to the Commission that the General Plan is being updated right now and how the General Plan is a great tool to address the City's Mobility Element, which is a critical opponent of the General Plan; encouraged the Commission to engage and review the General Plan as this is their community; expressed that the City recognizes that E Bikes are an issue and that staff is working with the Sheriff and School District to get out education material and launching next week a Ride Safe campaign on social media; updated the Commission on the new AB43 law that allows City's to lower their speed limits an additional 5mph. Before this is done, the City needs to see the legal ramifications and staff will continue to investigate AB43 to see how it can or if it can be utilized within the City.

Commissioner Comments: None

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Rico adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m..



Arturo Rico, CHAIRMAN
CITY OF SAN MARCOS TRAFFIC COMMISSION

ATTEST:



GINA JACKSON, SENIOR OFFICE SPECIALIST
CITY OF SAN MARCOS TRAFFIC COMMISSION