

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission

WEDNESDAY, MAY 04, 2022

City Council Chambers

1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:01 p.m. Traffic Commission Chair Arturo Rico called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Schellenger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:	COMMISSIONERS:	SCHELLENGER, ERICKSON, KOVRIG, RICO, HANSEN, BRIDGE, HOAGLIN
ABSENT:	COMMISSIONERS:	NONE

Also present were: Director of Development Services/City Engineer Isaac Etchamendy; San Diego Sheriff's Department Deputy Brian Bentley; Senior Office Specialist Gina Jackson

SELECTION OF NEW CHAIRPERSON

COMMISSIONER HANSEN MAKES A MOTION TO NOMINATE ARTURO RICO FOR CHAIRPERSON; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BRIDGE. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

SELECTION OF NEW VICE CHAIRPERSON

COMMISSIONER BRIDGE MAKES A MOTION TO NOMINATE NEILL KOVRIG FOR VICE CHAIRPERSON; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ERICKSON. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONERS: KOVRIG

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6. Approval of Minutes, April 6, 2022

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

7. A. Reconsideration of 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 area to help motorists stay in lane as they navigate through the community; (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) Install radar feedback signage and operate them at interim periods to improve long-term effectiveness; (7) Continue to work with the Sheriff's Department to increase enforcement; (8) Recommend studying the effectiveness after one year of implementation and reporting the results. The recommended order of implementation is: (1) Coast Avenue, (2) Island Drive, and (3) White Sands Drive.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NOTE: There was an issue with audio recording and the mic at the podium was not working in the Council Chambers. All resident speakers of Rancho Dorado Neighborhood expressed their concerns

of speeding and the need for traffic calming measures, but the neighborhood does not want the implementation of striping on the street.

Tony Beckerman, resident in Rancho Dorado Neighborhood: Indicated that the HOA conducted a survey and 70% of the residents do not want striping on the street as they do not feel that will work as a traffic calming measure in their neighborhood, but instead would like more stop signs added.

Jeff Mucha, resident in Rancho Dorado Neighborhood: Indicated that the collision study needs to be redone because there was a collision a few years ago and most recent in the neighborhood. Expressed concerns that people are not stopping at the stop signs and instead driving through them.

Nikki Jacobs, resident in Rancho Dorado Neighborhood: Indicated her car was totaled 3 weeks ago from the DUI driver coming down the hill. Speeding is from some of the residents, but also from cut through traffic from San Marcos Blvd. In favor of the speed signs turning on at different times. The intersection by the park is very dangerous due to the speeding vehicles. Thanked Peter Kuey for being proactive with the speed study.

Tom Primosch, resident in Rancho Dorado Neighborhood and President of the HOA: Expressed that the majority of the community does not want striping on the street. Indicated the HOA put out a survey to the residents that has been out for about a month. Had questions about how parking on the street will be affected by the striping. Would like to work with the city to have corner bump out and pop outs used instead to slow traffic down in the neighborhood.

Dr. Giovanni De Meo, resident in Rancho Dorado Neighborhood: Indicated he conducted his own independent studies and it takes twice as long to go around the community than it is to cut through it. Expressed a concern about the 7 mph over the speed limit metric that has been set. Would like reconsideration in monitoring semi-annually instead of annually.

Robert Pack, resident in Rancho Dorado Neighborhood: Expressed the survey the community took was a real vote and wants the city to appreciate they did that. Indicated the biggest issue is the cut through traffic. Would like data on the amount of cut through traffic the neighborhood gets. Likes the radar sign and to see more law enforcement present.

Traffic Commission discussion to staff included: With regards to intersections in the study area that are uncontrolled, do any of them meet the warrants; can stop signs be put at the entrance of the park; if striping is not acceptable, what other alternatives are there; is Carlsbad more aggressive in their attack on speeding; clarify what Sheriff monitoring means; what are there pro and cons to evaluating in 6 months versus 9 or 12 months.

Staff response: Staff indicated warrants were not run at all of the intersections and Intersection control is not a substitute for traffic calming. Staff elaborated on the State setting regulations for stop signs. Warrants were explained as a group of items that we have to meet in order to trigger an intersection control, like a stop sign. The city is subject to those rules and regulations and for a variety of reasons, including and limited to liability.

Staff indicated Rocky Point goes east/west, ends at the park and ties into Island. That area was not studied but could be studied.

Staff explained that striping is low cost and has high impact. Chicanes at Borden were popular but also unsuccessful. There wasn't enough horizontal deflection. Staff indicated learning from that and now do a tier structure. Striping is successful, but it may not be successful in every location. Staff monitors and if it's not successful then its removed.

If you are going to install hard infrastructure improvements, that is very costly. Staff incited Carlsbad has a more comprehensive traffic calming policy, and we are currently looking into those.

Staff also indicated the process by which it works with the Sheriff's Department for enforcement. Staff indicated that traffic calming is done on residential roadways, not streets like San Marcos Blvd.

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING

Traffic Commission discussion included: Are the stop signs part of Tier 3; would; is there an anticipated timeline on the Rocky View analysis; would like to see the Rocky Point data, but also get some help to the neighborhood with radar speed signs or some other measure; would like to see all of the data together for this neighborhood before a decision is made, and have a comprehensive approach; we should rescind the previous action and then develop a new action.

Staff response: Staff indicated stop signs are utilized for intersection control and wouldn't be evaluated for traffic calming. Staff further indicated the Commission could direct warrant analysis at all of the intersections in the community and present results. Data will be looked at next week for Rocky Point and if there are any discrepancies, we will re-collect data. If the data is clean, we'll start to process the volumes and speeds and go from there.

Action:

COMMISSIONER KOVRIG MOVED TO RESCIND PREVIOUS ACTION AT LAST MONTHS MEETING REGARDING STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS; MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BRIDGE. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

Action:

COMMISSIONER KOVRIG MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS TO ALSO INCLUDE THE ROCKY POINT FIELD STUDY AT THE NEXT TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING, AVOID ANY STRIPING, INCLUDE ANY OTHER TIER 1 RECOMMENDATIONS THAT CAN BE USED FOR SPEED CONTROL, AND INCLUDE INTERSECTION WARRANT ANALYSIS; MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANSEN. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

NEW BUSINESS

8. A.

None

REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Pedestrian Crossings at San Marcos High School

Isaac Etchamendy, Director of Development Services/City Engineer gave the update:

The last meeting there was a discussion of San Marcos High and potential issues with pedestrian crossings San Marcos Blvd. We spoke to the Sheriff's office and the School District. We initiated with Public Works to install fencing in the median of San Marcos Blvd., near Rancho Santa Fe across from the high school. There is a turn pocket that goes into the Vons shopping center, so we won't be able to fence through that. Public Works has started that process.

Traffic Commission discussions included: Is there a reason there are no crossing guards for the high schools; kids are still crossing when the crossing sign indicates to stop and traffic is not allowed to move forward and it causes a dangerous situation; when going south on Rancho Santa Fe, turning left on to Security Place, the traffic going north stops to let these cars through when it's not their right of way;

Staff response: I'm not aware of crossing guards at the high schools. We have quarterly meetings with the School District and I'll bring this up.

We can do some observation in that area and target a time, and work with the Sheriff's office to provide some enforcement.

B. Work Order Updates

None

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

DUI/Alcohol Arrests:	Apr (13)	YTD (52)
DUI Accidents:	Apr (7)	YTD (28)
Fatal:	Apr (0)	YTD (5)
Injury:	Apr (16)	YTD (59)
Non-Injury:	Apr (15)	YTD (96)

NTA Citations/Hazardous:	Apr (193)	YTD (493)
NTA Citations/Non-Hazardous:	Apr (149)	YTD (336)

D. Traffic Commission Commentary:

Would like to compliment staff on always presenting good work, and how the City app is appreciated and very useful and hope that residents are utilizing it; are there any updates on the Double Peak School traffic pattern to extend the entrance through the school parking lot; the Trail Head parking lot used to be closed by Double Peak School in the morning and afternoon so people wouldn't park there, the past few days the parking lot has been packed with people parking there to pick up their kids; back in 2021 we received an update on Creekside Marketplace about a survey of materials in the parking lot, is that moving along with how to fix that issue.

Staff response: We haven't heard any updates on Double Peak School, but I'll add that to the agenda for our quarterly meeting. Parks and Recreation is aware of the parking lot issue and looking into how to staff that again. We attempted to negotiate with the lessees at Creekside Marketplace to put in a new drive isle to allow cars to move around the back of the drive-thrus and to move them to an appropriate location. Unfortunately due to the constraints that are in the leases we weren't able to move that forward. We do have a site plan revision approved by Planning that could possibly go in there. Should we make progress with the tenants, we will move forward trying that alternative.

- E. Staff Commentary:** A 3 day survey was done last week on Rocky Point. We'll incorporate the data in the study. They are having a high level of break-ins and unauthorized park activity. We reached out to our Admin Department and have been working with Sheriffs and coordinating a neighborhood watch meeting that will be on May 11th. We had a very productive meeting with the County regarding La Sombra on April 6th. The County is willing to take over the intersection at La Sombra and Discovery. The City has tentatively agreed to it, and the City Manager will make the final decision. The next step is to negotiate an agreement for the ongoing maintenance of that. Currently the County is looking into what an appropriate measure might be in that area for the intersection. Once they do that, they will come here to present to you their recommendations and take that to their Board. We expect that coming to you sometime this summer. The County has reduced the speed limits on Discovery between San Marcos Blvd and the Discovery dogleg to 25 mph. They will work with their enforcement to try and get reduced speeds out there. I'm happy this was able to move forward and get something done for the residents there. We received a speeding concern on La Sombra south of Discovery dogleg and are currently looking into that to see what can be done. We did not make progress with the odd shape right of way that occurs south of the intersection, however I'm hopeful we'll continue to have that discussion and work through that issue to determine if we need to do traffic calming. We'll look at those numbers and what the County proposes before we come to you with any kind of proposals. The County will be installing a traffic signal on Discovery at San Pablo, just south of San Marcos Blvd. The City has no control over that, but we did agree that we will coordinate our signals together. The City has a traffic signal project to remove the free right and square up the intersection at Discovery and San Marcos Blvd. and install a new traffic signal out there. As part of that effort, we will also work with the County to see if we can get those signals to


coordinate so we're not creating additional problems to the community. We'll memorialize this with the other agreements to get a system out there that will work for all of us. We are also working on streamlining the categories in the Report a Concern portal so that it will be easier to use and we can be more responsive to the community. This concludes Staff Commentaries.

Commissioner Comments:

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Rico adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.



Arturo Rico, CHAIRMAN
CITY OF SAN MARCOS TRAFFIC COMMISSION

ATTEST:



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