

MINUTES TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING November 7, 2017

City Council Chamber 1 Civic Center Plaza Irvine, CA 92606

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Transportation Commission was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on November 7, 2017 in the City Council Chamber, Irvine Civic Center, One Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, California; Chair Montgomery presiding.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 5 Commissioner: Rose Casey (arrived at 5:33 p.m.) Commissioner: Sandy Moody Commissioner: Carrie O'Malley Vice Chair: Steve Greenberg Chair: Ken Montgomery

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Montgomery led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

ORAL COMMUNICATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

PRESENTATIONS

There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MINUTES

ACTION: Moved by Commissioner Moody, seconded by Chair Montgomery, and unanimously carried by all members to:

Approve the minutes of a regular meeting of the Transportation Commission held on October 17, 2017.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

2. STUDY SESSION FOR JAMBOREE ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT MAIN STREET AND AT BARRANCA PARKWAY

Darrell Hartman, Senior Civil Engineer, and Mark Ha, Supervising Transportation Analyst, presented the item and answered questions. Jaimee Bourgeois, City Traffic Engineer, was also available for questions.

The study session was divided into two separate sessions as follows:

 Commission discussion for Jamboree/Barranca included: 1) definition of peak times used in the evaluation; 2) turning radius requirements of left-turn lanes at Jamboree/Barranca; 3) potential for reducing queuing on Alton Parkway; 4) necessity of removing free right-turn lanes; 5) right-of-way impacts on surrounding areas if taking landscape areas instead of structures; 7) potential changes to median alignments resulting from road width reductions (12 feet to 11 feet); and 8) traffic and funding impacts if the project is not approved.

ACTION: Moved by Commissioner Casey, seconded by Commissioner Moody, motion carried 5-0 to:

Recommend that the City Council authorize staff to conclude the project right-of-way phase to acquire necessary construction and roadway easements for the Jamboree/Barranca Intersection Improvement Project.

2) Commission discussion for Jamboree/Main Street included: 1) Jamboree/Main intersection issues with vehicles queuing at the I-405 on-ramp; 2) removal of free right-turn lanes to improve pedestrian and bicycle mobility, and allow concurrent vehicle movement during the pedestrian phase; 3) signal timing coordination with Caltrans and the potential to improve intersection traffic flow; 4) the impacts of the proposed project on existing building set-backs; 5) ongoing concerns with the I-405 freeway merging and the extensive aesthetic changes proposed, including the shifting of medians; 6) evaluation of a zipper corridor with reversible direction lanes for peak traffic and its potential impacts, including the removal of medians, tree removal, and the inability to make left-turn lanes on the corridor; 7) intersection widening at Main leads to the eventual widening of the entire Jamboree corridor; 8) evaluation of congestion relief and intersection geometrics if road widening is not included; 9) corridor issues if the project is postponed rather than canceled; and 10) potential alternatives including traffic signal upgrades, merging of a free right-lane, reducing traffic volume, I-405 on-ramp improvements, and additional through-lanes allowing more vehicle capacity.

ACTION: Moved by Commissioner O'Malley, seconded by Vice-Chair Greenberg, motion carried 4-1 (Commissioner Casey voting no) to:

Recommend that the City Council not proceed with the Jamboree/Main Intersection Improvement Project.

Commissioner Moody requested a feasibility study.

3. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR CITYWIDE TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION

Jaimee Bourgeois, City Traffic Engineer, presented the item and answered questions.

Commission discussion included: 1) understanding of the need to proceed with the agreement, but also address issues regarding performance and timing suggesting the City include: a) a letter from the City Manager to the Caltrans District Director to itemize requests from the City, and b) a request that Caltrans provide reports on performance and schedule; 2) additional discussion on numerous attempts over the past 18 months to reach an agreement with Caltrans regarding performance language.

ACTION: Moved by Commissioner Casey, seconded by Commissioner Moody, motion carried 5-0 to:

Recommend that the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a cooperative agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation to synchronize state-owned traffic signals within the City, and to ask staff to prepare a letter to the Caltrans District 12 Director from the City Manager identifying a detailed schedule commitment including reporting of performance metrics and milestones.

4. JEFFREY/WALNUT INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Jim Houlihan, Manager of Engineering/City Engineer, presented the item and answered questions. Darrel Hartman, Senior Civil Engineer, was also available for questions. Commission discussion included: 1) identification of the properties that are impacted by the project; 2) addition of trees to be included in the landscaping plan; 3) shared pedestrian/bicycle lane to include signs indicating that bicycles will be using the sidewalk; 4) changes to lane widths; and 5) status of the project timeline.

ACTION: Moved by Vice-Chair Greenberg, seconded by Commissioner O'Malley, motion carried 5-0 to:

Recommend that the City Council authorize staff to initiate the project right-of-way phase process to acquire the necessary construction and roadway easements for the Jeffrey/Walnut Intersection Improvement Project.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Commissioner Casey requested posting a "Do Not Block" sign at school shopping center. There was also a request for staff to review crossings/intersections – specifically in the North Irvine area, near Culver/Orchard Hills and report the findings to the Commission. Commissioner Casey will develop a memo with specific intersections to allow for further research.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

By consensus, Chair Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 7 p.m. to a regular Transportation Commission meeting on December 5, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., City of Irvine, City Council Chamber, One Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, CA.

KEN MONTGOMERY CHAIR

DEBORAH KELLY

RECORDING SECRETARY

MARK LINSENMAYER DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

12/5/17 DATE APPROVED