

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TORRANCE TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Traffic Commission convened in a regular meeting at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, August 6, 2007 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Galvin.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Clouch, Galvin, Lewis, Tsao, and Chairperson Santome.

Absent: Commissioners Rische and Ulrich.

Also Present: Transportation Manager Semaan.

MOTION: Chairperson Santome moved to grant excused absences to Commissioners Rische and Ulrich for the August 6, 2007 Traffic Commission meeting. Commissioner Tsao seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Galvin moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 4, 2007

MOTION: Commissioner Lewis moved for the approval of the June 4, 2007 Traffic Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Clouch seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Rische and Ulrich).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

None.

7. ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION

None.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

8a. INFORMATION ON REQUEST TO IMPLEMENT PERMIT PARKING SYSTEM ALONG 24200 BLOCK OF ADOLPH AVENUE

Transportation Manager Semaan introduced the material of record and provided background on the request by residents to implement a permit parking system along Adolph Avenue between 242nd Street and Newton Street. He requested that Commissioners review correspondence included in the agenda packets and decide if staff should prepare an item for the Commission's consideration at a future Commission meeting.

David Roelen, Adolph Avenue, distributed photographs, noted the petition signed by all impacted residents, and discussed the parking problem that exists on Adolph Avenue between 242nd Street and Newton Street due to overflow parking from residents of large, commercial apartment complexes along 242nd Street. He stated that their short residential street has become a "parking lot" and that they want their R1 residential neighborhood back. He noted that the escalating problem has resulted in vandalism, confrontations, blocking of driveways, trash, and noise. He added that businesses operating out of the apartments park their vehicles and company trucks in front of their homes over weekends and long holidays.

He requested that the Commission consider establishing a permit program for the residents of Adolph Avenue so that they can park on their own street. He proposed that there be no parking allowed along Adolph Avenue between 242nd Street and Newton Street from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. daily unless a resident parking permit is displayed. He stated that their property values and quality of life are suffering and asked the Commission for its support in solving this community problem.

Commissioner Clouch received clarification from Mr. Roelen that a number of cars parked along Adolph Avenue belong to residents and that the primary concern is the vast number of vehicles parking on the street.

Commissioner Clouch stated that he has driven along Adolph Avenue several times since January 2007 and has observed commercial vehicles as well as "No Parking" signs and traffic cones positioned by residents. He noted that the residents have single car garages and do not fully utilize their driveways for parking. He stated that the condition that Mr. Roelen is describing exists all over the City and to establish a policy of permit parking would have ramifications.

Commissioner Lewis stated that many residents have requested permit systems in their neighborhoods, noting that it requires significant labor and cost for the City to issue permits and enforce them. He sympathized with the residents but stated that he could not support a permit system for 13 homes. He noted that Adolph Avenue is a City street, that apartment residents have a right to park on it, and cautioned that it is illegal for residents to erect "No Parking" signs or position cones to save parking spaces.

Commissioner Galvin noted that oversized vehicles and vehicles parked more than 72 hours could be cited, concurred that a significant problem exists, and expressed support for considering the request.

In response to her inquiry regarding precedents, Transportation Manager Semaan described the four locations in the City that have a permit parking system and

the justifications for establishing them. He pointed out that the decision the Commission needed to make at this meeting was if it wanted staff to bring back an item with more detailed information for consideration at a future meeting.

Commissioner Tsao stated that he needed more data information to make a decision on the issue. He received clarification from Mr. Roelen that 12 of the 13 residences on Adolph Avenue are owned and not rented. He expressed an interest in finding a solution for the residents of Adolph Avenue as well as other impacted neighborhoods in the City.

Transportation Manager Semaan stated that under a permit system there could be no differentiation between renters and owners.

Commissioners Clouch, Galvin, and Lewis received clarification from staff that a permit program includes a defined geographical area that permits are issued to, and that it was possible to approve permits to residents of Adolph Avenue only.

Commissioner Santome stated that it was rare to have a single block restriction and explained that a defined geographical area often grows and impacts other blocks as people park further away. He expressed safety and health concerns, noting that it was difficult to turn west onto 242nd Street due to parked cars and that the street probably never gets swept. He offered a suggestion to make Adolph Avenue southbound one-way and to install diagonal parking spaces along the west side of the street.

Commissioner Clouch requested that residents come up with additional information to justify the establishment of permit parking on their street and offered a suggestion to implement a trial period for permit parking along Adolph Avenue.

Commissioner Lewis recommended that staff bring the item back for consideration out of respect to the residents in attendance, the amount of work that Mr. Roelen has put into the request, and to have input from the two Commissioners absent at this meeting.

Chairperson Santome made a friendly amendment to have staff bring back information on who is parking on the block, response to his one-way proposal, and safety suggestions for the southwest corner of 242nd Street and Adolph Avenue.

Commissioner Galvin recommended that the City look at alternative, conveniently located parking areas, such as the perimeter around Walteria Park.

With the Commission's concurrence, Transportation Manager Semaan stated that an item would be brought back at the October or November 2007 Traffic Commission meeting, adding that residents would be given notification about the meeting.

Mr. Roelen requested that staff look at how other cities implement their permit parking systems and Commissioner Galvin noted that the City of Brentwood has a successful permit program.

Commissioner Clouch noted that the RV and oversized vehicle program is working in his neighborhood. He expressed concern that the traffic code states that permits are to be displayed in the windshield but that the actual enforcement is paperless.

Transportation Manager Semaan stated that the wording of the code might need to be revised in the future to alleviate confusion.

Commissioner Galvin stated that she would be unable to attend the October 1, 2007 meeting.

In response to Commissioner Clouch's inquiry, Transportation Manager Semaan advised that all installations and improvements around Levy School would be completed before the end of August 2007.

Responding to Chairperson Santome's inquiry, Transportation Manager Semaan stated that improvements at Skypark Drive and Hawthorne Boulevard are still under review by Caltrans.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:48 p.m., Chairperson Santome adjourned the meeting to October 1, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room.

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| Approved as Submitted October 1, 2007 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk |
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