

PARTICIPATE BEFORE THE MEETING by emailing TrafficCommission@TorranceCA.Gov by 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Write "Public Comment" in the subject line and in the body of the email include the item number and/or title of the item with your comments.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's office at (310) 618-2780. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison, Shin Furukawa at (310) 781-6900 prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the concern will be included on a subsequent agenda.

Any correspondence received before 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting on any item on the agenda will be provided to the Commission electronically and available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office. A copy of the correspondence will be available for public inspection in a binder at the back of the Council Chamber or Commission Meeting room.

**TORRANCE TRAFFIC COMMISSION AGENDA
MAY 6, 2024
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M. IN WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AT 3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD**

**TRAFFIC COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commissioners: Endo-Roberts, Farao, Gibson, Sharma, Suruki, Thoma, Chair Obejas

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. REPORT OF THE STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, May 2, 2024.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited up to a 15-minute period)

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on items on the Consent Calendar or not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Commission cannot act on items raised during public comment, but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. **No longer than 1 minute per speaker.** If presenting handout material to Commission, please provide 10 copies to staff before speaking.*

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. Approve Commission Minutes: April 1, 2024

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. Discussion of Traffic Conditions Adjacent to Edison Elementary School on 182nd Street and Doty Avenue

8. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. Adjournment of Traffic Commission Meeting to Monday, June 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.



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

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Traffic Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 1, 2024, in the West Annex Commission Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Endo-Roberts, Farao, Gibson, Sharma, Suruki, Thoma, and Chair Obejas.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Public Works Engineering Manager Brenda Moun, Torrance Police Sergeant Koenig, and Police Services Supervisor John Newman.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Suruki led The Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Public Works Engineering Manager Moun reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's Website on Thursday, March 28, 2024.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A member of the public spoke.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 4, 2024

MOTION: Commissioner Sharma moved to approve the March 4, 2024, minutes. Commissioner Suruki seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (Commissioner Farao abstained).

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. DISCUSSION OF TRAFFIC CONDITIONS ADJACENT TO CALLE MAYOR MIDDLE SCHOOL ON MAYOR DRIVE AND JUAN AVENUE

Public Works Engineering Manager Moun presented Item 7A:

- In February 2024, staff received a concern from a resident regarding congestion on Mayor Drive between Calle Mayor and Juan Avenue [adjacent to Calle Mayor Middle School] caused by 2-way traffic on a narrow street.
- February 15, 2024, staff met with Calle Mayor Middle School Principal, Mr. David Mosley, and Councilmember Mattucci to discuss traffic impacts.
- Traffic observations were performed Friday, March 1, 2024, during student drop off times between 8:15 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. as well as pick-up times between 2:45 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. Additional traffic observations were performed Thursday, March 28, 2024, during student drop off times between 8:15 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. On days observed, most vehicles arrived between 8:30 a.m. to 8:40 a.m.
- Per staff's observations, the congestion caused within the neighborhood is attributed to the following:
 - Minimal gaps in traffic in the eastbound and westbound direction on Calle Mayor.
 - Cars turning left off Mayor Drive having to wait for pedestrians to cross the street with no protective arrow.
 - Mayor Drive being 27' W with parking in both directions.
- Before staff performs further analysis of potential modifications, which could include turning restrictions or parking restrictions, staff is looking for input from the Commission and the public.

Commissioners spoke.

Members of the public spoke providing input and suggestions.

Commissioners spoke.

Police Services Supervisor Newman stated that the intersection is associated with Seaside Elementary and clarified that crossing guards are assigned to elementary schools, not middle schools, or high schools. The current crossing guard is from All City Management.

Police Services Supervisor Newman suggested staff reach out to Torrance Unified School District to have a staggered start or an earlier open time so that traffic can get in and out faster.

Police Services Supervisor Newman agreed with a member of the public's suggestion for a 1-way street, stating that Juan Avenue and Mayor Drive should be a 1-way street with retention of parking on both sides.

8. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioners spoke.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: At 7:42 p.m. Chair Obejas moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, May 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Room. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

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SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Agenda Item No. 7A

TO: Traffic Commission

FROM: Craig Bilezerian, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Discussion of Traffic Conditions Adjacent to Edison Elementary School on 182nd Street and Doty Avenue

RECOMMENDATION

The Public Works Director recommends that the Traffic Commission obtain public input regarding traffic conditions in the vicinity of 182nd Street and Doty Avenue, near Edison Elementary School.

BACKGROUND

In December 2023, staff received an email from a resident regarding concerns about the intersection of 182nd Street and Doty Avenue including the visibility of the crosswalk, location of existing signage, and speeding on 182nd Street. During the Traffic Commission Meeting on February 5, 2024, members of the public, including the resident who submitted the original email, shared their concerns with the Commission during the public comment portion of the meeting. The resident has also previously contacted the Torrance Police Department as well as the Principal of Edison Elementary School. Tonight's meeting focuses only on the traffic conditions adjacent to Edison Elementary School and does not include observations or analysis of traffic conditions adjacent to North High School or Yukon Elementary School.

ANALYSIS

Existing Conditions

Edison Elementary School is located at 3800 182nd Street (Attachment 1) and serves students in TK through grade 5. The locations of existing signage, RED curb, turning and parking restrictions around the school are shown in Attachment 2. The campus opens at 8:20 a.m. and classes begin at 8:50 a.m. every day. Classes regularly end at 1:50 p.m. for TK and K, at 3:03 p.m. for grades 1 through 3, and at 3:12 p.m. for grades 4 and 5 every day except for early dismissal days on Wednesdays (2:18 p.m. for grades 1 through 3, 2:27 p.m. for grades 4 and 5) and Minimum Days (2:03 p.m. for grades 1 through 3, 2:12 p.m. for grades 4 and 5).

The student drop-off is accessed from 182nd Street east of Doty Avenue and is located within the North High School parking lot. The parking lot exit is centered within the parking lot and exiting vehicles may turn either left or right onto 182nd Street.

182nd Street between Prairie Avenue and Yukon Avenue is a minor arterial that serves residents, businesses, Edison Elementary School, and North High School. The average daily traffic on 182nd Street is approximately 17,000 vehicles, with the higher traffic volume in the eastbound direction. The roadway is approximately 55 feet wide. The existing lane configuration has two through lanes in each direction and parking is allowed on both sides of the street. Parking is prohibited on the south side on Wednesdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. for street sweeping. Parking is prohibited

on the north side on Thursdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. for street sweeping.

Doty Avenue north of 182nd Street is approximately 34 feet wide. The existing lane configuration has one lane in each direction and parking is allowed on both sides of the street. Parking is prohibited on the east side on Wednesdays between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. for street sweeping. Parking is prohibited on the west side on Thursdays between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. for street sweeping. Vehicles travelling southbound on Doty Avenue are prohibited from making a U-turn at 182nd Street. Vehicles travelling westbound on 182nd Street are prohibited from turning right onto Doty Avenue Monday through Friday from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The intersection of 182nd Street at Doty Avenue is controlled by a traffic signal. During student drop-off and pick-up times, a crossing guard is present to assist pedestrians crossing on the north side and east side of the intersection. There is no crosswalk on the west side of the intersection.

Between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on school days, a loading zone exists on the south side of 182nd Street approximately 125 feet west of Doty Avenue. This area is also designated as no stopping between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. everyday. During school days, there is also a designated bus loading zone on the south side of 182nd Street from Doty Avenue to approximately 160 feet east of the intersection (Attachment 2).

Observations

Traffic observations were performed on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 during the student drop-off period between 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.; on Thursday, April 18, 2024 during the student pick-up period between 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.; and on Friday, April 26, 2024 during the student drop-off period between 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and pick-up period between 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

During morning drop-off times, vehicles travelling eastbound on 182nd Street were observed to either a) temporarily stop in the loading zone and drop off their student, b) queue in the #2 lane to enter the student drop-off, or c) park on 182nd Street and walk their student to the entrance of the school. The dominant movements observed were b) and c). Vehicles travelling southbound on Doty Avenue also turned left onto eastbound 182nd Street and entered the queue to the student drop-off.

Vehicles travelling westbound on 182nd Street were observed to either a) park on the street and walk their student to the traffic signal to cross the street or b) turn left into the student drop-off entrance.

A significant number of pedestrians were observed using the crosswalk on the north side and east side of the intersection. Many of the pedestrians walked from the residential area north of 182nd Street. In addition to parents and elementary school students, many of the pedestrians were high school students. First period classes for North High School begin twenty minutes before classes begin at Edison Elementary School.

During the observation periods, the following factors were observed to contribute to congestion on 182nd Street and in the student drop-off area:

- Vehicles travelling westbound on 182nd Street to enter the parking lot must wait until there is a gap in traffic in the eastbound direction and until vehicles waiting in the eastbound queue allow them to enter the student drop-off driveway. The heavy queue in the westbound #1 lane causes congestion on westbound 182nd Street since the roadway is effectively reduced to one through lane.

- Vehicles trying to turn into the student drop-off (from either direction) must wait for pedestrians to cross the driveway before entering. In addition, vehicles trying to exit the student drop-off area must wait for the same pedestrians to cross the driveway before exiting.
- Vehicles exiting the student drop-off area must wait until there is a gap in the eastbound and/or westbound traffic to turn onto 182nd Street.
- Vehicles travelling southbound on Doty Avenue to turn left onto eastbound 182nd Street must yield to the pedestrians crossing the east side at the intersection. Due to the high pedestrian traffic at the signalized intersection, only 3 or 4 vehicles can turn during a single cycle, causing congestion on Doty Avenue and within the residential area.

Police Department Press Release:

On March 19, 2024, the Torrance Police Department issued a Press Release in response to several reports of traffic concerns during school drop-off and pick-up times on 182nd Street between Prairie Avenue and Yukon Avenue (Attachment 3).

The Press Release stated that the Police Department provided extra attention and traffic enforcement in the area in addition to temporarily deploying a message board with an onboard computer to collect data on the number of vehicles traveling on the roadway and the speed at which vehicles were traveling. The data collected supported the observations of the motor officers that the area was too congested to allow for excessive speeds and that drivers appeared to be driving in a safe manner. The data showed that over 98% of vehicles were traveling at or below the posted speed limit of 35 mph and that the average vehicle speed was 25 mph, which is consistent with the "school zone" speed of 25 mph.

Before staff performs further analysis of potential improvements, public input is requested to better understand the experiences of affected residents, representatives from Edison Elementary School, and the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) members. Public input is an important part of the City's decision-making process. Tonight's discussion will help staff identify potential alternatives to address the traffic concerns. A public notice (Attachment 4) was mailed to 452 parcels notifying residents of tonight's meeting (Attachment 5), as well as provided to the Edison Elementary School Principal and a board member of the PTA for distribution. Attachment 6 provides correspondence related to this item received prior to the posting of the agenda. Correspondence received after the posting of the agenda will be provided as a supplemental item.

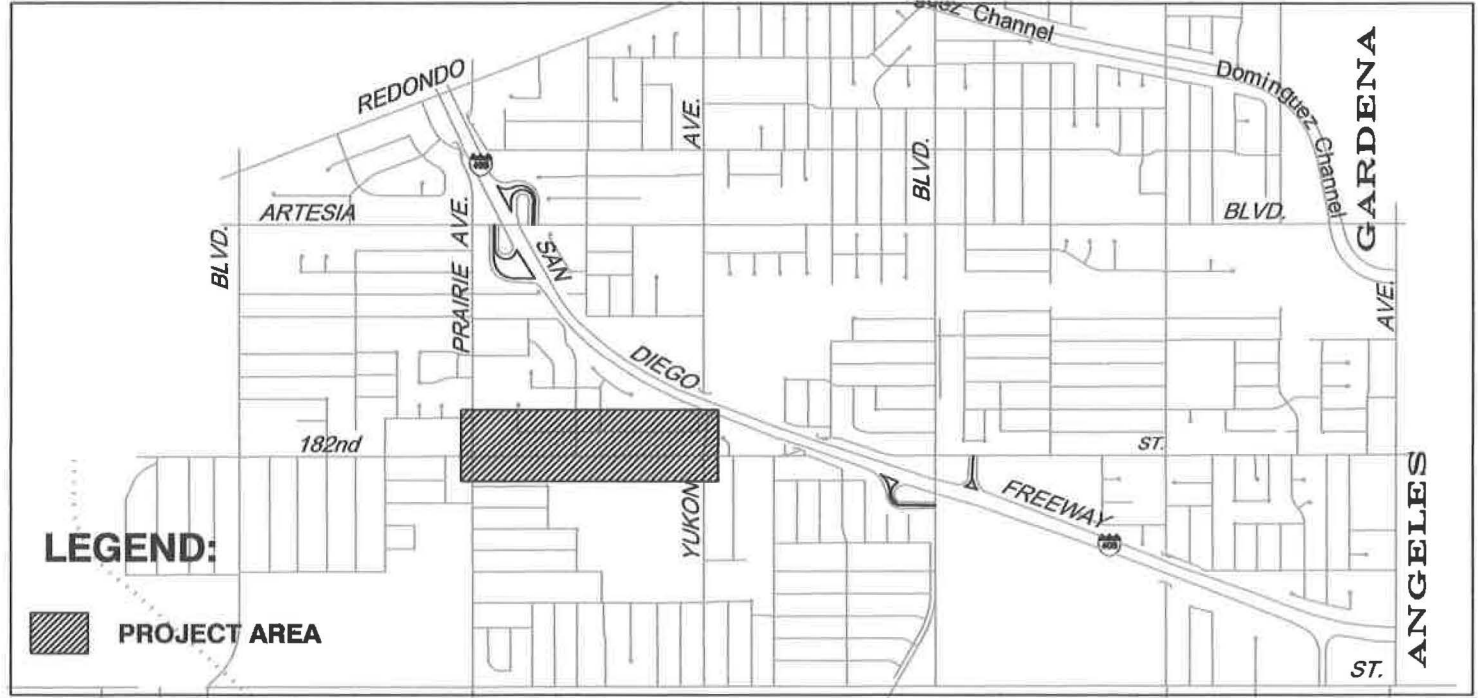
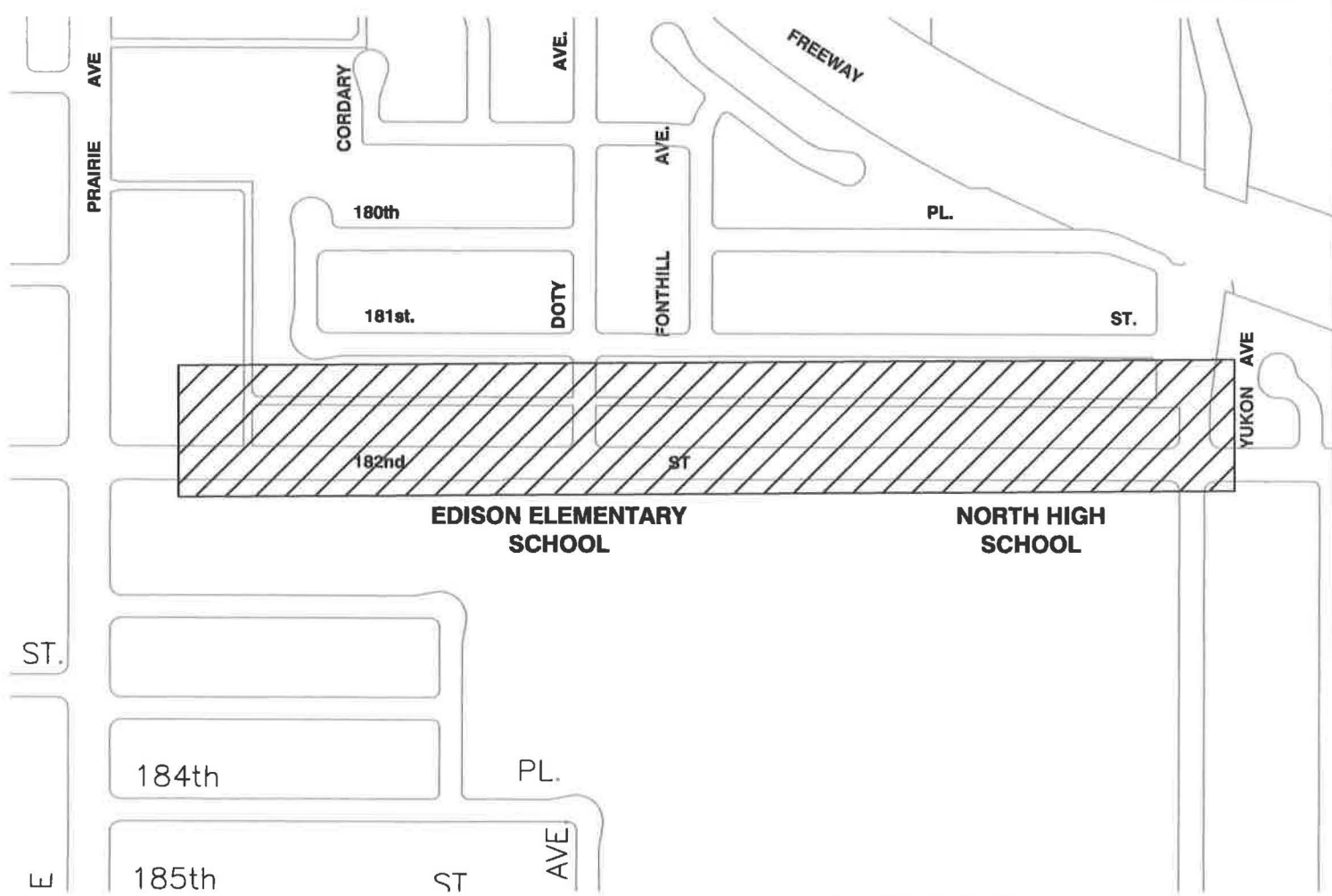
Respectfully submitted,

CRAIG BILEZERIAN
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

By 
Shin Furukawa
Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer

- Attachment 1: Project Location Map
- Attachment 2: Existing Condition Map
- Attachment 3: Press Release
- Attachment 4: Public Notice
- Attachment 5: Notification Area
- Attachment 6: Correspondence Received

CITY OF TORRANCE PROJECT LOCATION MAP

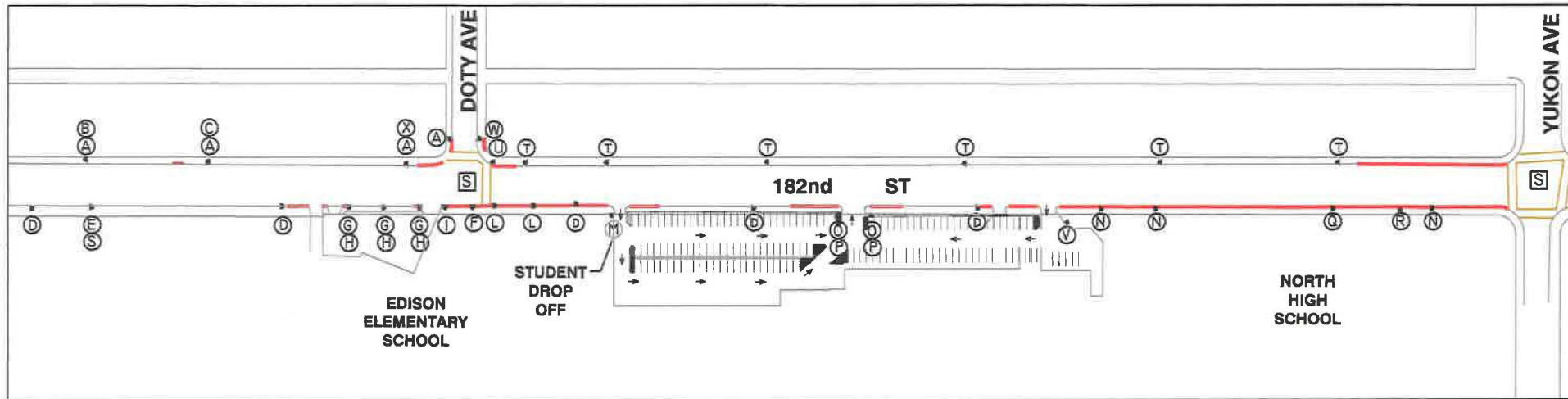


LEGEND:
 PROJECT AREA


CITY OF TORRANCE EXISTING CONDITION MAP

ATTACHMENT 2


 NOT TO SCALE



LEGEND:

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| 
(A) | 
(B) | 
(C) | 
(D) | 
(E) | 
(F) | 
(G) | 
(H) | 
(I) | 
CROSSWALK
(WITH CROSSING GUARD) | 
RED CURB | 
SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION | |
| 
(L) | 
(M) | 
(N) | 
(O) | 
(P) | 
(Q) | 
(R) | 
(S) | 
(T) | 
(U) | 
(V) | 
(W) | 
(X) |



PRESS RELEASE



Sergeant Ron Salary
TPD Public Information Officer
(310) 618-5688
RSalary@TorranceCA.Gov

March 19th, 2024

The Torrance Police Department Traffic Division recently provided extra attention and enforcement on 182nd Street between Prairie Avenue and Yukon Avenue in response to several reports of traffic concerns in the area during school drop off and pick up times.

Several motor officers devoted their time by balancing traffic enforcement and educating the community in the area on several different occasions.

Additionally, a message board was deployed with an onboard computer which collects data on the number of vehicles traveling on the road and the speed at which the vehicles are traveling. What was observed by the motor officers, and supported by the data collected, was during the drop off and pick up times traffic in the area was too congested to allow for excessive speeds and the drivers appeared to be driving in a safe manner.



The data collected showed that the over 98% of the cars were traveling at or below the posted speed limit of 35 mph. The average vehicle speed being 25 mph, which is in alignment with the street even during the "school zone" times where the speed limit is lowered to 25 mph. We are appreciative of our concerned community members, and we are also appreciative of the safe driving habits observed by our staff.

The Torrance Police Department is committed to enhancing safe driving through education, visibility, and enforcement in an effort to decrease traffic collisions and save lives. The Torrance Police Department is also grateful to partner with our community in this endeavor. ***"Drive Like Your Life Depends on It."***

Lieutenant Chad Farley
Traffic and Special Events Division Commander

DISCUSSION OF TRAFFIC CONDITIONS ADJACENT TO EDISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON 182ND STREET AT DOTY AVENUE

NOTICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING

Discussion of Traffic Conditions Adjacent to Edison Elementary School
on 182nd Street at Doty Avenue

Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

**Torrance City Hall – West Annex Commission Room
3031 Torrance Boulevard**

On **Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**, the City of Torrance Traffic Commission will take public input regarding traffic conditions in the vicinity of Edison Elementary School on 182nd Street and Doty Avenue as well as discuss potential improvements.

Public input is an important part of the City's decision-making process. You may provide input by speaking at the meeting or by submitting comments in writing to: TrafficCommission@TorranceCA.Gov by 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

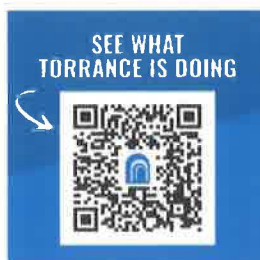
Information about the subject topic will be included in the Commission Agenda Packet, which will be posted on Thursday, May 2, 2024 on the Traffic Commission website at: <https://www.torranceca.gov/government/city-clerk/commissions-and-advisory-boards/traffic-commission/agendas-minutes/-folder-5369>



For questions, please contact:

Brenda Moun, Engineering Manager (310) 781-6900

www.TorranceCA.Gov/TrafficCommission



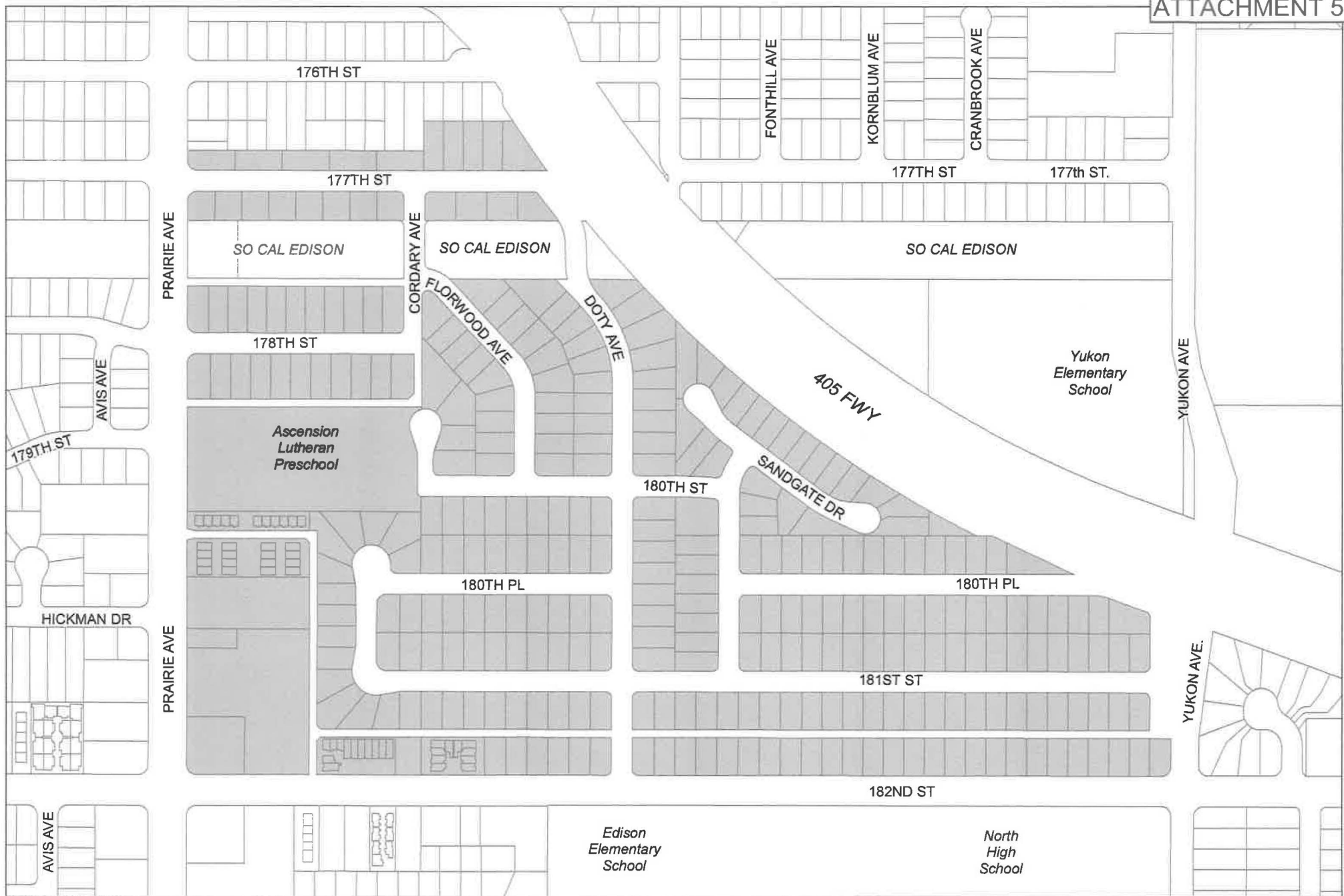
CITY COUNCIL

Mayor George K. Chen

Dr. Jeremy Gerson	Bridgett Lewis
Jon Kaji	Aurelio Mattucci
Sharon Kalani	Asam Sheikh

Rebecca Poirier	Tim Goodrich
City Clerk	City Treasurer

Aram Chaparyan
City Manager



NotificationArea.mxd

 NOTIFIED PARCELS

Notification Area Map



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, April 28, 2024 11:27 AM
To: Traffic Commission
Subject: Edison Elementary and Doty Avenue

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hi there,

I'm writing because I got your notice in the mail discussing the meeting regarding Edison Elementary on 182nd St. and Dodi Avenue I live right around the corner and to be honest it's the people that's coming out of the school that make illegal turns make U-turns cause problems. It's just too much traffic. There's not enough space for people to park, not enough space for the parents not space for the kids. It's always been a concern of mine. I've been here for 17 years and I have to put my two cents in the summertime break around that intersection when schools around and schools in and out there's problems even if there's a crossing guard, the old crossing guard she was amazing the new ones , they don't understand the sense of traffic and where they're supposed to be to protect the children

Please take my comments and consideration for the meeting coming up as again. I've been here for 17 years and I've witnessed everything and I have two children of my own.

Kristin O'Dell-Burke

[REDACTED]
BURKESPEED™

[REDACTED]

From: Debbie Cordell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 9:31 AM
To: Traffic Commission
Subject: Fwd: 3800 block of 177th Street

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

>
>
> Hello,
>
> We are having several parents take a shortcut through our neighborhood to get to Edison Elementary and North High School off Prairie/177th heading to Doty and are speeding way over the posted 25 MPH. I would like to request speed bumps on our street and Doty to avoid someone getting hurt from parties not obeying the speed limit. Some of the stop signs posted are not being obeyed either, they are barely yielding at stop signed off of Doty between 177th and 182nd Street.
>
> Thank you for your time and consideration
>
> Debbie Cordell
> resident at [REDACTED]
>
>

From: apple <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 4:00 PM
To: Traffic Commission
Subject: Safer Crosswalk

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Torrance Traffic Commission,

My name is Osvaldo Turolido, I live a block away from Edison Elementary. My Experience driving thru the intersection of Doty and 182nd ST is danger and confusing for both of us as pedestrian and as a driver. I remember Taking my kids to Edison it wasn't what it is now In my 26 years of residence here there wasn't any improvement To this crosswalk; now an improvement is a must since with time and ADU there is more traffic and more residence in this area.

I am writing today to strongly urge you to take action in order to make the intersection of 182nd Street and Doty Avenue safer for residents, especially for the children who attend Edison Elementary and North High School. This intersection is extremely dangerous, there is poor signage that alerts drivers to the presence of a school crosswalk, and the signal needs improvement.

I believe one of the reasons that so many drivers run red lights or speed through the school zone is that there is poor visibility and a great lack of signage that alerts drivers to the presence of a school crosswalk. These additions alone would vastly improve the visibility of the crosswalk and alert drivers to the presence of a school:

Increased Visibility:

-
-
- Striped Crosswalk
-
- "School Crossing Ahead" painted in the street approaching the intersection
-
- Pedestrian (or School) Crossing sign hanging below the light on Doty Ave
-
- Bright Yellow Pedestrian signs at the intersection
-

Signal Change:

-
-
- Pedestrian
- only walking time OR
-
-
- Left
- turn arrow from Doty onto 182nd street and from 182nd onto Doty
-

Currently, there is no turn arrow and due to the crosswalk, often only 1-2 cars are able to turn left from Doty onto 182nd and left from 182nd (going East) onto Doty on a green light. This causes frustration among drivers and when they get impatient, they run red lights, turn dangerously close in front of students, or even try to beat the kids through the intersection by turning in front of them. This problem has gotten worse by the condensed school schedules as there are many more cars traveling through that intersection in a brief 20 minute window. This danger would be alleviated by a turn signal at this intersection.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns on behalf of Edison Elementary School parents and children. My concerns are shared by many and we urge you to take action on this important safety issue.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: Erika Oga [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 1, 2024 8:04 AM
To: Traffic Commission
Subject: Crosswalk in front of Edison Elementary

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Torrance Traffic Commission,

I am writing today to strongly urge you to take action in order to make the intersection of 182nd Street and Doty Avenue safer for residents, especially for the children who attend Edison Elementary and North High School. This intersection is extremely dangerous, there is poor signage that alerts drivers to the presence of a school crosswalk, and the signal needs improvement.

I believe one of the reasons that so many drivers run red lights or speed through the school zone is that there is poor visibility and a great lack of signage that alerts drivers to the presence of a school crosswalk. These additions alone would vastly improve the visibility of the crosswalk and alert drivers to the presence of a school:

Increased Visibility:

- Striped Crosswalk
- "School Crossing Ahead" painted in the street approaching the intersection
- Pedestrian (or School) Crossing sign hanging below the light on Doty Ave
- Bright Yellow Pedestrian signs at the intersection

Signal Change:

- Pedestrian only walking time OR
- Left turn arrow from Doty onto 182nd street and from 182nd onto Doty

Currently, there is no turn arrow and due to the crosswalk, often only 1-2 cars are able to turn left from Doty onto 182nd and left from 182nd (going East) onto Doty on a green light. This causes frustration

among drivers and when they get impatient, they run red lights, turn dangerously close in front of students, or even try to beat the kids through the intersection by turning in front of them. This problem has gotten worse by the condensed school schedules as there are many more cars traveling through that intersection in a brief 20 minute window. This danger would be alleviated by a turn signal at this intersection.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns on behalf of Edison Elementary School parents and children. My concerns are shared by many and we urge you to take action on this important safety issue.

Sincerely,

Erika Oga