

MEETING MINUTES

SALINAS TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The Salinas Traffic and Transportation Commission met on Thursday, January 9, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Rotunda, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Salinas.

1. ROLL CALL: Chairperson Hill called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioner Brandon Hill
Commissioner Chris Flescher
Commissioner Jeff Davis
Commissioner Elias Nunez
Commissioner Guadalupe Guzman-Rubio
Commissioner Kendra Howell
Commissioner Andres Canseco

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: James Serrano, Transportation Manager
Andrew Easterling, Traffic Engineer
Crissy White, Administrative (Recording) Secretary

2. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS (RECEIVED BY STAFF): NONE

3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS / COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA:

Robin Lee approached the Commission to express she would like to see the City's Bicycle Pedestrian Committee re-instated. Through the former Bicycle Pedestrian Committee the Natividad Creek Bike Trail was developed and created. With the new Future Growth Development area coming in, having the Committee re-instated could really benefit the City.

4. BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION:

1. ITEM ID# 19-684: **Blue Zones Project Presentation**

COMMISSION ACTION: Receive report from Tiffany DiTullio, Blue Zones Monterey County Executive Director regarding the Blue Zones Project

The Commission received a presentation from Tiffany DiTullio.

B. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. ITEM ID# 20-005: **Approval of Minutes**

COMMISSION ACTION: Approve minutes of 12/12/19 Commission meeting

COMMISSIONER GUZMAN-RUBIO MADE A MOTION APPROVE CONSENT ITEM ID# 20-005, COMMISSIONER DAVIS SECONDED THE MOTION, COMMISSIONERS HOWELL, NUNEZ, AND CANSECO ABSTAINED DUE TO NOT BEING PRESENT AT THE 12/12/19 MEETING, COMMISSIONERS HILL AND FLESCHER WERE IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

2. ITEM ID# 19-700: **"No Parking" Red Zones and Stop Signs at the Intersection of Buckhorn Drive at Sage Way / Rockrose Way; and at Buckhorn Drive and Rockrose Street**

COMMISSION ACTION: Recommend City Council establish a total of 125 feet of "No Parking" red zones at the intersections of Buckhorn Drive at Sage Way / Rockrose Way; and at Buckhorn Drive and Rockrose Street

COMMISSIONER DAVIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT ITEM ID# 19-700, COMMISSIONER HOWELL SECONDED THE MOTION, ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

C. CONSIDERATION AGENDA:

1. ITEM ID# 19-689: **Vision Zero Policy**

COMMISSION ACTION: Recommend City Council approve a Resolution adopting a Vision Zero Policy, and allocating \$8,000 as a local match to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan

Andrew Easterling presented his report, on file in the Public Works Department.

Commissioner Howell asked about the plan that would be developed for the Vision Zero Policy, Andrew Easterling provided information.

Commissioner Flescher asked about the Streets Smarts graphics, Andrew Easterling provided information.

Commissioner Hill asked if the Vision Zero Policy had been presented to the Police Department. Andrew Easterling advised the Police Department will be involved in the policy.

Eric Petersen approached the Commission to provide a background of the Vision Zero Policy in other areas.

Robin Lee approached the Commission to report that she was almost hit this evening by a police officer who was driving and distracted.

Mary Ann Worden approached the Commission to report that she recently had an incident where she almost hit a couple of bicyclists who were wearing dark clothing. Public education needs to be provided on a regular basis. Mrs. Worden asked about accidents happening that are not being reported correctly to the police.

Commissioner Howell asked when the Vision Zero Policy will be going to City Council. Andrew Easterling advised February 13, 2020 is the tentative date.

Commissioner Nunez asked about the funding needed for the program, Andrew Easterling provided information.

COMMISSIONER HOWELL MADE A MOTION APPROVE CONSIDERATION ITEM ID# 19-689, COMMISSIONER NUNEZ SECONDED THE MOTION, ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

2. ITEM ID# 19-694: **East Rossi Street Safe Street Pilot Project Grant**

COMMISSION ACTION: Recommend City Council accept grant funds for the East Rossi Street Safe Street Pilot Project

Andrew Easterling presented his report, on file in the Public Works Department.

Commissioner Canseco asked about project funding, Andrew Easterling and James Serrano provided information.

Commissioners Howell and Nunez asked about turning south onto the exit ramp, if the ramp would be eliminated. Andrew Easterling provided information.

Commissioner Flescher asked about sidewalk repairs made to this area approximately 10 years ago, it seems like there are several gaps in the sidewalk. Andrew Easterling advised staff could look into this item.

Eric Petersen approached the Commission to ask if striping could be refreshed on Rossi Street, it's been worn off for awhile.

Robin Lee approached the Commission to advise this is looking like a complete streets / streets sharing project. There will be more pedestrian traffic in the future when the new 90-unit development is finished.

Commissioner Howell commented it is a hard balance between traffic flow and safety.

COMMISSIONER DAVIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CONSIDERATION ITEM #19-694, COMMISSIONER NUNEZ SECONDED THE MOTION, ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

3. ITEM ID# 19-699: **Reduced Speed Limits in School Zones**

COMMISSION ACTION: Recommend City Council approve reduced speed limits in school zones

Andrew Easterling presented his report, on file in the Public Works Department.

Commissioner Flescher had concerns that just lowering the speed limit might not change the speeding habits of drivers.

Eric Petersen approached the Commission to state he is in favor of lowering speed limits to further enhance the Vision Zero Policy.

Mary Ann Worden approached the Commission to state she is in favor of lowering the speed limits at all of our schools. Also, lighting needs to be improved at most school locations, there are activities that go on until it is dark outside.

Commissioner Hill shared information regarding crossing guard fatalities due to speeding inside school zones. Anything we can do to lower speed limits, plus enforcement and education, is needed.

Commissioner Guzman-Rubio also shared information regarding crossing guards being hit by speeding drivers.

COMMISSIONER GUZMAN-RUBIO MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CONSIDERATION ITEM #19-699, COMMISSIONER DAVIS SECONDED THE MOTION, ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

5. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS / REPORTS:

- A. Commissioner Howell wanted to thank staff for all the work involved in bringing items forward to the Commission to improve safety and traffic.

- B. Commissioner Nunez reported there is a void where the striping was redone at the intersection of Laurel and Natividad, when turning from Constitution and going up to Laurel and Natividad. Is there anything that can be installed (i.e. plastic dividers) to lessen confusion for drivers.
- C. Commissioner Flescher asked about the yellow poles installed from Constitution to Laurel, were they installed due to car crashes happening in the merging lane? Andrew Easterling provided information.
- D. Commissioner Guzman-Rubio reported on Williams Road where John Street ends there are apartments on Sanborn Road that have too many cars parked blocking the bike lane. James Serrano advised parking enforcement can address this issue.
- E. Commissioner Canseco reported on Williams Road, near the high school, there are a lot of vehicles parking in the red zone.
- F. Commissioner Hill commented he had heard on the news when they were talking about the new west Boronda (future growth) area they mentioned the project being reviewed by the Traffic and Transportation and Planning Commissions prior to City Council approval. He appreciated hearing the work of the Commissions being acknowledged.

6. ATTENDANCE AT NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT: February 13, 2020

All Commissioners present plan to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

APPROVED:

Commissioner Brandon Hill, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Crissy White, Administrative Secretary
/CW

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