

MEETING MINUTES

SALINAS TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The Salinas Traffic and Transportation Commission met on Thursday, April 13, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Rotunda, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Salinas.

1. ROLL CALL: Chairperson Howell called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioner Kendra Howell
Commissioner John Viarengo
Commissioner Chris Flescher
Commissioner Yolanda Hayes
Commissioner Brandon Hill
Commissioner Larry Tack
Commissioner Elias Nunez

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: James Serrano, Transportation Manager
Jose Saucedo, Assistant Engineer
Crissy White, Administrative (Recording) Secretary

2. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS (RECEIVED BY STAFF):

Staff received communication from residents of Alameda Avenue on 4/11/17 regarding their desire to remain opted out of the Residential District 3A Permit Parking Program. This item is on the Consideration Agenda for tonight's meeting.

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

Eric Petersen approached the Commission to report that the City of Monterey is now working on the Vision Zero program. Mr. Petersen also reported that the City of Marina is dedicating another roundabout. The City of Salinas has one and we need more.

Bob Roach of the Creekbridge area approached the Commission to complain about the abandoned vehicle problem. Mr. Roach thinks the time it takes to get an abandoned vehicle removed is excessive. Abandoned vehicles add to parking problems and make it hard to comply with the stormwater program. He would like to see enforcement increased.

Angie Ortega of the Creekbridge area approached the Commission with two items. Turning from Natividad onto Laurel extension they have painted some lines but

vehicles are not abiding by the lines and there have been some near accidents in this area. Perhaps an assessment should be done. Also, the racing that takes place late at night on Friday and Saturday needs to be addressed.

Commissioner Howell stated these issues are enforcement issues. James Serrano stated these issues will be forwarded to the Police Department.

Commissioner Howell acknowledged and welcomed all new Commissioners; and thanked Commissioner John Viarengo for stepping in to be Vice Chair at the February Commission meeting.

4. BUSINESS

A. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 9, 2017
2. 20-MINUTE GREEN ZONE REQUEST AT 238 ABBOTT STREET

COMMISSION ACTION: Recommend City Council approve of two 20-Minute Green Zones along the business frontage at 238 Abbott Street

COMMISSIONER VIARENGO MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA (2/9/17 Minutes and 238 Abbott Street Green Zone Request), COMMISSIONER TACK SECONDED THE MOTION, ALL APPROVED, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

B. CONSIDERATION AGENDA:

1. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

COMMISSION ACTION: Receive nominations and elect a Commission Vice-Chairperson to serve until next annual Commission elections (July); position vacancy is due to Commissioner Mary Ann Worden's replacement.

COMMISSIONER VIARENGO NOMINATED COMMISSIONER BRANDON HILL TO SERVE AS COMMISSION VICE CHAIRPERSON, COMMISSIONER HAYES SECONDED THE MOTION, NO OTHER NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED, ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

2. RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING PROGRAM – ALAMEDA AVENUE OPT IN REQUEST

COMMISSION ACTION: Recommend approval of request from residents of Alameda Avenue (from Grove Street to Abbott Street) to opt-in to District 3A Residential Permit Parking Program

James Serrano presented his report, on file in the Public Works Department. James reported that staff had received communication from residents of Alameda Avenue on 4/11/17 regarding their desire to remain opted out of the Residential District 3A Permit Parking Program.

Cheri Jackson, of Alameda Avenue, approached the Commission to report that since submitting their petition to Opt-in to the Residential Permit Parking Program they have had new residents who have changed their mind about being in the Parking Program. They were not aware there would be an annual fee. The main issue affecting parking in their area is customer and employee parking from Mike's Auto Sales.

Jose Rodriguez approached the Commission to state he has a problem with vehicles parking from Mike's Auto Sales not just on the weekends and during the evening, but all day long. He has no problem paying for a guest parking pass.

Commissioner Howell asked Cheri Jackson additional questions about the parking issues.

Sylvia Aguilar, of Alameda Avenue (about four houses down from Mike's Auto Sales), approached the Commission to state she does not have a problem with the parking. She does not believe it is a problem from the hospital, she believes the problem is coming from the car lot. She is not in favor of the Residential Permit Parking Program.

Rick Jackson, of Alameda Avenue, approached the Commission. Mr. Jackson commented that it took the residents a long time to get signatures to opt in to the Residential Permit Parking Program. The majority of residents prefer to remain opted out of the Program.

Yolanda Hayes asked if the whole street needs to opt into the Parking Program in order to get parking permits; she has passed by the area and the issue seems to only be effecting a few houses. James Serrano advised the program goes block by block, not home by home. If the program were house by house then the problem just gets pushed down to the next house, etc.

Commissioner Tack asked if it were possible to ask the Community Development Department to check to see if the use permit for Mike's Auto Sales is being applied correctly regarding employee parking and vehicles for sale being parked. James advised staff will inquire with the Community Development Department.

Mr. Rodriguez re-approached the Commission to state that turning into and out of Alameda is also a dangerous situation because of all the vehicles parked blocking the intersection.

Rick Jackson re-approached the Commission to point out that six of the original people who signed the petition to opt into the program have decided they do not want to opt in.

Commissioner Nunez commented that businesses have the responsibility to keep their lots clear to allow for on-site parking.

Sylvia Aguilar re-approached the Commission to state that the resident of the first home, next to Mike's Auto Sales, signed the petition to remain out of the residential parking program.

Cheri Jackson re-approached the Commission to state they have talked with the parking enforcement officers about the problem but nothing has been done.

Commissioner Viarengo commented that Mike's Auto Sales needs to be contacted to help solve the problem and code enforcement needs to be involved.

Commissioner Tack asked for clarification regarding tonight's motion; James Serrano provided clarification.

Cheri Jackson re-approached the Commission to explain their petition to opt out of the program.

Mr. Rodriguez re-approached the Commission to provide clarification regarding those residents who wanted to opt in to the program.

Rick Jackson re-approached the Commission to re-state clarification regarding the number of residents who signed the petition.

COMMISSIONER TACK MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE RESIDENTS TO REMAIN OPTed OUT OF THE RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING PROGRAM, COMMISSIONER NUNEZ SECONDED THE MOTION, ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

C. INFORMATION ITEMS / ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

1. UNIFORM BY-LAWS FOR COMMISSIONS

COMMISSION ACTION: Provide input on proposed Uniform By-Laws for Commissions

James Serrano presented his report, on file in the Public Works Department.

Commissioners provided comments and suggestions to staff.
Commissioners thanked staff for providing a very clear overview of the new Uniform Bylaws. Commissioners had no comments to forward to Council.

5. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS / REPORTS:

- A. Commissioner Flescher reported the traffic signal at Alisal and Homestead seems to turn green for Homestead when there are no cars.

Commissioner Flescher reported on Constitution, going towards Boronda, three blocks before Boronda, there is a sign saying that pedestrians cannot cross. He is curious if anyone has observed if pedestrians are still crossing illegally. James Serrano advised he is not aware of any tracking happening at this location.

- B. Commissioner Nunez stated he has had several conversations with Councilmember Scott Davis and a high priority item he wanted to bring forward is the intersection in front of Alvarez High School. Residents are complaining about accidents due to ingress / egress at the school. He suggested a 4-way Stop be considered for this location.

- C. Commissioner Hayes commented she has attended a traffic calming meeting for District 5 and the residents are very involved in getting speed cushions for their neighborhood.

Commissioner Hayes also attended the groundbreaking at East Market Street for the traffic installations being done there. She is very happy to see neighborhoods getting involved.

Commissioner Hayes attended her first TAMC meeting for Pedestrian and Bike Safety, they had a presentation on Vision Zero. She suggested the person from TAMC might be able to come to the Traffic and Transportation Commission to do a presentation.

Commissioner Hayes asked about the new high school being proposed on Rogge Road, will this issue be brought to the Commission for discussion ?

James Serrano advised Rogge Road is within the jurisdiction of Monterey County. The County has had several community meetings and the City has provided their recommendations regarding future development in this area.

Commissioner Hayes asked staff to review the signal timing on Boronda and from Independence onto Constitution.

Commissioner Hayes reported she sent out an email to fellow Commissioners and to Councilmember Kimbley Craig asking if funding can be sought for the Vision Zero Program and for 'rat boxes'.

Commissioner Hayes asked if the Commission can re-visit the Salinas Pedestrian Plan. James Serrano advised staff will be bringing the Pedestrian and Bikeways plan back to the Commission at a future date.

- D. Commissioner Viarengo reported the yellow stripe in the middle of the road is gone on Bernal, coming off of Sherwood, heading west up to Main Street.

Commissioner Viarengo commented the old traffic signals on Alisal, between California and Capitol, are not in sync at all. James Serrano reported there are several plans underway for improvements on Alisal and the downtown.

Commissioner Viarengo reported there is no 45 mph speed limit posted on Sherwood Drive, between Market and Bernal.

- E. Commissioner Howell reported the speed limit sign on Acacia, going towards Riker, just past the Bagel Corner, is covered with stickers.

Commissioner Howell wanted to thank staff for the potholes that have already been repaired since the storms.

6. ATTENDANCE AT NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT: May 11, 2017

All Commissioners present plan to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

APPROVED:

Commissioner Howell, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Crissy White, Administrative Secretary
/CW