

MEETING MINUTES

SALINAS TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The Salinas Traffic and Transportation Commission met on Thursday, July 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 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioner Kendra Howell
Commissioner John Viarengo
Commissioner Chris Flescher
Commissioner Yolanda Hayes
Commissioner Larry Tack

ABSENT: Commissioner Brandon Hill
(staff received notification of Commissioner Hill's absence on 6/29/17)
Commissioner Elias Nunez
(staff received notification of Commissioner Nunez's absence on 7/13/17)

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

2. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS (RECEIVED BY STAFF):

Communications were received related to the Consideration Agenda, Commissioners were provided with copies of correspondence. Commissioners were provided with copies of a public meeting notification regarding Laurel Heights Traffic Calming, happening on July 25th. Commissioners were provided with copies of a press release regarding traffic calming installations at Independence and Danbury as well as Lamar and North Main Street.

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

Eric Petersen approached the Commission to report the 7th Annual Silicon Valley Bicycle Summit is happening on August 8th. Mr. Petersen is willing to sponsor any City of Salinas employee or Traffic Commissioners who would like to attend.

Mr. Petersen reported he was talking to someone at a business on Romie and Alameda Avenue today who complained about the two hour and permit parking, she believes the permit parking is poorly noticed.

Barbara McClain approached the Commission to express her concerns about crosswalks at Natividad and Sorrentini, Alisal and Hartnell, and others throughout the City. She has recently had experiences at both locations with children trying to cross and several vehicles speeding by without attempting to stop. Mrs. McClain would like to see more police enforcement and some type of traffic calming improvements at crosswalks.

4. BUSINESS

A. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 8, 2017

COMMISSIONER VIARENGO MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM #1 (6/8/17 Minutes), COMMISSIONER TACK SECONDED THE MOTION, COMMISSIONER HOWELL ABSTAINED DUE TO NOT BEING IN ATTENDANCE AT THE JUNE MEETING, ALL APPROVED, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

2. 20-MINUTE GREEN ZONE REQUEST AT 259 WILLIAMS ROAD

COMMISSION ACTION: A motion to consider recommending the designation of two 20-minute Green Zone designations for the business located at 59 Williams Road.

COMMISSIONER VIARENGO MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM #2 (259 Williams Road Green Zones), COMMISSIONER HAYES SECONDED THE MOTION, ALL APPROVED, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

B. CONSIDERATION AGENDA:

1. 1-HOUR PARKING ZONE REQUEST – 800 BLOCK of EAST ALISAL STREET

COMMISSION ACTION: Consider recommending approval of 1-Hour Parking Zone designations along the 800 Block of East Alisal Street (between North Filice Street and Holaday Avenue)

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

Juanita Lopez, business owner at Lopez Photography approached the Commission to voice her opposition to the one-hour parking zone. Their customers cannot conclude their business in one hour. Their business never saw a petition. The people who are requesting the zone have their own private parking, the businesses that are affected are 823 down to 811. Additionally, they would like to see a parking area facility for the Alisal area such as the Monterey Street parking garage downtown.

Cynthia Gonzales, owner of Changing Faces at 813 East Alisal, approached the Commission. Ms. Gonzales has been in business here for over 18 years. They are also opposed to the one-hour parking because their customers cannot conclude their business in just one hour.

Alejandro Chavez, the new Executive Director of SUBA approached the Commission to ask if this consideration item can be tabled so it can be brought back to the Commission after the businesses have met to come up with alternative solutions.

Commissioner Tack asked general questions regarding existing parking restrictions for this area, James Serrano provided information.

Commissioner Viarengo asked why the 800 block was not already included in the one-hour parking zone, James Serrano provided information.

Commissioner Flescher asked about the possibility of making the parking restriction two hours instead of one hour.

Commissioner Hayes asked about existing business parking and the high number of business licenses allowed for this area, James Serrano provided information.

Cynthia Gonzales and Juanita Lopez re-approached the Commission to discuss parking enforcement and the high concentration of businesses in the area. They would like to be more informed and more involved by SUBA in the future.

COMMISSIONER TACK MADE A MOTION TO TABLE CONSIDERATION ITEM #1 (One-Hour Parking Zone, 800 Block of East Alisal Street), COMMISSIONER HAYES SECONDED THE MOTION, ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

2. NO PARKING of VEHICLES OVER 5 TONS – SCHILLING PLACE

COMMISSION ACTION: Consider recommending the designation of “NO PARKING VEHICLES OVER 5 TONS” in front of the County office building along Schilling Place, south of Eden Street, and along Eden Street

Andrew Easterling, City Traffic Engineer, advised the Commission that staff has received a request to table Consideration Item #2 (Schilling Place, No Parking of Vehicles Over 5 Tons), pending further studies and discussion.

Commissioner Hayes observed that parking is definitely an issue for this area, but the County offices were aware of the high volume of truck traffic in the area before they relocated and she would rather see the trucks use this area than other areas in the City.

Matt Nunez, business manager on Schilling Place, approached the Commission. Mr. Nunez has had his business on Schilling for 25 years and they have always shared this space with other businesses. Mr. Nunez feels the County employees need to be more aware of their traffic habits and speeding in the area to help make the area safer.

3. ANNUAL ELECTION OF TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

COMMISSION ACTION: Receive nominations for Commission Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson; elect Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to serve one year terms.

COMMISSIONER HAYES NOMINATED COMMISSIONER TACK TO SERVE AS COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON, ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FLESCHER NOMINATED COMMISSIONER HOWELL TO SERVE AS COMMISSION VICE-CHAIRPERSON, ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, MOTION CARRIED.

5. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS / REPORTS:

- A. Commissioner Hayes commented the City needs to consider parking for truck traffic in general.

Commissioner Hayes reported there is a lack of bus stop shelters on Constitution, on Alisal, and on Independence.

Commissioner Hayes asked for some feedback regarding the "rat light" enforcement idea.

Commissioner Hayes reported there have been three hit and run accidents over the past couple months and she would like to see the Vision Zero Program explored more.

- B. Commissioner Flescher reported he has seen some drivers trying to drive down the one-way section of Church Street, going the wrong way.

Commissioner Flescher announced there will be an "Open Streets" event in San Francisco this Sunday (7/16) if anyone is interested.

- C. Commissioner Viarengo commented regarding a proposal for a large truck parking area that was considered by the Commission several years ago.

- D. Commissioner Tack asked about construction PG&E is doing on Natividad Road, James Serrano advised he would get an update from PG&E.

Commissioner Tack wanted to send a Than You to Public Works Maintenance staff for repairing a very large pothole on Howard Street.

- E. Commissioner Howell reported she has been trying to follow up on the Alameda Avenue – Mikes Auto Sales item that previously came before the Commission.

Commissioner Howell asked about the possibility of getting a bike lane on Romie Lane, James Serrano provided information.

6. ATTENDANCE AT NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT: August 10, 2017

All Commissioners present plan to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

APPROVED:

Commissioner Kendra Howell, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Crissy White, Administrative Secretary

/CW

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