



**CITY OF MONTEBELLO
TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION
SPECIAL TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA
MINUTES**

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024 AT 6:00 PM

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1600 WEST BEVERLY BOULEVARD
MONTEBELLO, CALIFORNIA**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair LaRocca called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present were Chair La Rocca, Vice-Chair Beas, Commissioner Knox, and Commissioner Mares

Deputy City Attorney Austin Ching, City Manager Raul Alvarez, Public Works Director Cesar Roldan, Assistant Director of Public Works Rita Montalvo, Commission Liason Jeremy Melendez, and Public Works Management Analyst Samantha Leyva were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair LaRocca led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (30 MINUTES)

At this time, the general public may address the Commission/Committee on any items listed on the Agenda, including items not listed on the Agenda (Non-Agenda Items) that are within subject matter jurisdiction. Please be aware that the maximum time allotted for members of the public to speak shall not exceed three (3) minutes per person. State Law prohibits the Commission/ Committee from taking action or entertaining extended discussion on a topic not listed on the agenda. Please show courtesy to others and direct all of your comments to the Chairperson.

There were no Closed Session speaker cards or public comments submitted by the public.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

MINUTES

1. **APPROVAL OF TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES - MARCH 25, 2024**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes as written

Commissioner Knox motioned, Seconded by Vice-Chair Beas, to approve minutes as written. Commissioner Mares abstained due to absence of previous meeting. Motion was approved.

REGULAR BUSINESS

2. **236-268 E BEVERLY BOULEVARD - REQUEST TO INCREASE PARKING SUPPLY**

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic and Safety Commission:

1. Deny the request for modifying the length of the existing Right Turn Only pocket and red curb; or
2. Approve the request for modifying the length of the existing Right Turn Only pocket and red curb in Attachment C.

Public Works Director, Cesar Roldan, presented the item.

Commissioner Knox commented that if there is no interference with traffic and safety, she supports it.

Vice Chair Beas inquired about the pocket length and suggested leaving it as visitor parking.

Chair LaRocca inquired about the existing red curb.

Director Roldan clarified that the Staff recommendation would be add parking spaces.

City Manager added information to address inquiries.

Commissioner Knox motioned, seconded by Vice-Chair Beas, to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

3. **APPLIED TECHNOLOGY CENTER HIGH SCHOOL– REQUEST TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' SAFETY DURING DROP-OFF AND PICK UP HOURS**

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic and Safety Commission:

1. Review and approve recommended operational improvements as shown on Attachment C.

Public Works Director Roldan provided a brief presentation of the item.

City Manager Alvarez and Commissioner Knox asked the Public Works Director for a recommendation of the three available options. Director Roldan recommended option two.

City Manager Alvarez suggested posting directional signage for pickup and dropoff around the school.

Commissioner Mares inquired about the impact of the directional signage on residents living adjacent to the school.

Vice Chair Beas inquired about enforcement and suggested including school police in assisting enforcement.

Chairman LaRocca inquired about the illuminated striping on Mines and Maple and the right turn only sign, suggesting that drivers will not pay attention to the sign.

Assistant Public Works Director, Rita Montalvo, stated that school requested the right turn sign to improve the traffic flow.

Public Works Director Roldan and City Manager Alvarez answered all inquiries.

Chairman made a motion to add an additional crosswalk on Taylor and Mines with Option 2.

Commissioner Knox inquired about Chairman La Rocca's motion regarding the additional crosswalk, suggested adding a

stop sign instead of a stand alone crosswalk.

City Manager Alvarez suggested to the commissioners that staff can return to this item at the next Traffic and Safety Commission Meeting.

Public Works Director Roldan returned to Commissioner Knox's comment about the stop sign and stated that stop signs require warrants.

Chairman LaRocca suggested installing flashing beacons instead of a stop sign.

Vice Chair Beas motioned to table the item until the next Commission meeting with additional recommendations, seconded by Commissioner Knox; the motion passed unanimously.

4. BLVD MARKET LOADING ZONE AT 6TH STREET AND WHITTIER BOULEVARD

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic and Safety Commission:

1. Deny the request for the installation of the commercial loading zone and prohibit loading/unloading at the existing alley between 5th Street and 6th Street; or
2. Approve installation of the commercial loading zone and prohibit loading/unloading at the existing alley between 5th Street and 6th Street (Attachment C)

Public Works Director Roldan provided a brief presentation of the item.

Commissioner Knox acknowledged and agreed with the presentation.

Commissioner Mares inquired about the length of the loading zone.

Chair LaRocca inquired about the impact of the loading zone on residents.

Public Works Director Roldan stated the loading zone was a suggestion that came from one of the local residents; resident stated that when trucks are unloading, residents have a difficult time accessing their parking spots due to trucks blocking the driveway.

Chairman LaRocca suggested that a parked box truck in the loading zone can block visibility of a pedestrian; also inquired in residents can park at the loading zone after hours.

Public Works Director Roldan stated that residents are able to park after hours.

Chairman LaRocca suggested that if residents can park after hours, this will cause visibility issues.

City Manager Alvarez stated that staff could reassess the loading zone in the future.

Commissioner Knox motioned, seconded by Vice Chair Beas, to approve the item; the motion passed in a 3-1 vote.

Ayes: Commissioner Knox, Commissioner Mares, Vice-Chair Beas

Nay: Chair LaRocca

5. 6TH STREET NORTH OF LOS ANGELES AVENUE – REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF COMMERCIAL LOADING ZONE

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic and Safety Commission:

1. Deny the request for the installation of 40 feet of commercial loading zone; or
2. Approve installation of 40 feet of commercial loading zone as shown in Attachment C.

Public Works Director Roldan provided a brief presentation of the item.

Commissioners had no questions or comments on this item.

Commissioner Knox motioned, seconded by Vice-Chair Beas to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

6. MORRIS PLACE AND VIA CORONA – REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF RED CURB

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic and Safety Commission:

1. Deny the request for the installation of the red curb; or
2. Approve installation of red curb as shown in Attachment C

Public Works Director Roldan provided a brief presentation of the item.

Chair LaRocca comments on safety issues regarding curb ramps and disabled parking.

Commissioners did not have any additional questions or comments.

Commissioner Knox motioned, seconded by Vice-Chair Beas to approve the item; the motion passed unanimously.

7. 235-265 E BEVERLY BOULEVARD – REQUEST TO INCREASE PARKING SUPPLY

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic and Safety Commission:

1. Deny the request to proceed with the design of angle parking with one-way direction of travel on subject streets. Attachment C; or
2. Approve the request to proceed with the design of angle parking with one-way direction of travel on the subject street per Attachment C.

Public Works Director Roldan provided a brief presentation of the item.

Commissioner Knox commented that staff recommendation has great potential with residential support.

Vice Chair inquired about the timeline of the design.

Public Works Director Roldan replied 6-8 weeks for the design phase, then Staff could commence outreach for residential support and consensus; the project could take 3-4 months for completion.

Chairman LaRocca inquired about the amount of residential opposition it would take to shut down the project.

Public Works Director Roldan answered that it would be difficult to receive that much opposition.

Chairman LaRocca mentions that he walked through the area and did not feel the need for the one-way roads and suggested that the recommended action may be too extreme.

City Manager Alvarez commented regarding the existing outreach that was done when he and Director Roldan went to the street and spoke with the residents.

Chairman LaRocca commented on the possibility of alternative solutions.

Commissioner Knox stated that while the one-way street is not ideal, for now, it may be an option to provide more parking and alleviate parking stressors for residents who live in the area.

Vice Chair Beas commented that the recommended action may be a good idea and has been replicated in other cities with similar layouts; Regardless, the plan would require outreach to take place first before staff could make modifications to the street.

Commissioner Knox motioned, seconded by Vice-Chair to approve the item as recommended by Staff; the motion passes 3-1.

Ayes: Commissioner Knox, Commissioner Mares, & Vice-Chair Beas

Nayes: Chairman LaRocca

CONSENT ITEM(S)

None.

TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION ORALS

8. COMMISSIONER MARIA KNOX

1. Adding solar flashing lights to stop signs in key areas
2. Paint stop sign posts red so they can stand out

Commissioner Knox inquired if staff could research about adding flashing lights and paint post red to stop signs that are impacted by heavy traffic on Lincoln Ave., Germain Drive/ 19th Street, & Vail Ave. / Cabot Place.

9. COMMISSIONER ESTHER MARES

None.

10. COMMISSIONER DANIELLE ROMERO

Absent.

11. VICE-CHAIR RUBEN BEAS

With permission granted by Chairman LaRocca, Vice-Chair Beas presented unagendized comments.

Vice-Chair Beas, stated that Dolan Wilcox Elementary school traffic jam is terrible after school hours and would like to schedule this item at the next meeting.

12. CHAIR VINCENT LA ROCCA

1. Request for a future presentation on recent and upcoming grant application submittals related to traffic safety and pedestrian infrastructure improvements
2. Discussion on Vision Zero Plan, including eliminating traffic fatalities and reducing collisions
3. Adding a pedestrian crosswalk on Greenwood Ave between Date St and Oakwood St
4. Pedestrian crosswalk striping maintenance plan
5. Discussion of right-turn slip lanes
6. Edge line striping for Wilcox Ave between Via Campo and Hay St
7. Lack of sidewalks near Concourse Ave and Via Corona
8. Traffic calming discussion
9. Request for a future Public Works-specific budget presentation for commissioners to better understand the allocation of funds for the Public Works department

Chairman LaRocca requested a future presentation on recent and upcoming grant application submittals related to traffic safety and pedestrian infrastructure.

Chairman LaRocca inquired about the City's Vision Zero Plan.

City Manager Alvarez stated that the staff can provide a presentation on Vision Zero in the future.

Chairman LaRocca requested to add a pedestrian crosswalk on Greenwood Ave. between Date Street and Oakwood Street, requesting staff to research into this topic and table the item for a future meeting.

Chairman LaRocca requested for a crosswalk maintenance plan.

Chairman LaRocca inquired about right turn slip lanes on Via Pastel, Via Acosta, Beverly Blvd. and Garfield Ave., requesting staff to limit the number of slip lanes in the City and redesigning slip lanes for walkability purposes.

City Manager clarified that redesigning such lanes is under the purview of the City Council.

Chairman LaRocca motioned, seconded by Commissioner Knox, to have Staff look into these Right Turn Slip lanes; the motion passes unanimously.

Chairman LaRocca suggested implementing edge line striping for Wilcox Ave., to decrease swerving. Commissioner Knox motioned, seconded by Vice-Chair Beas, to have Staff look into edge line striping on Wilcox Ave.; the motion passes unanimously.

Chairman LaRocca observed there is a lack of crosswalks on Concourse Ave., between Beverly/ Via Corona and between Madison/ Whittier Blvd.

City Manager Alvarez stated that sidewalks are under the purview of the City Council, and stated that the Mayor brought this item to staff's attention.

Chairman LaRocca suggested having a traffic-calming discussion. The Chairman stated that he was almost hit by a vehicle on his way to the commission meeting.

Commissioner Knox stated that police can be a good solution for traffic-calming measures to enforce the rules of the road. Vice-Chair Beas stated that the presence of police officers has, in fact, increased.

Chairman LaRocca requested to have a public works specific budget presentation.

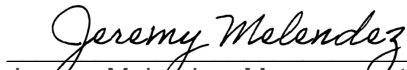
City Manager Alvarez had already addressed this inquiry, stating Staff will bring this item to a future meeting.

Chairman LaRocca states unagendized oral on behalf of Commissioner Romero, saying a resident requested the traffic signal in front of City Hall changes too quick to cross.

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Montebello Planning Commission will adjourn to the next Regular Meeting on June 24, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers located at 1600 W. Beverly Boulevard, Montebello, CA 90640.

I, Jeremy Melendez, Management Analyst for the City of Montebello hereby certify that a copy of this agenda has been posted on or before Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 6:00p.m.



Jeremy Melendez, Management Analyst

Commissioner Knox motioned, seconded by Vice-Chair Beas to adjourn the meeting at 07:30 p.m; motioned passed unanimously.

THE MINUTES OF MAY 28, 2024 ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 24TH DAY OF JUNE 2024.