



**CITY OF MONTEBELLO
TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2025 AT 6:00 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Beas called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Takeyama led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members present were Chair Beas, Commissioner LaRocca, Commissioner Hernandez, and Commissioner Takeyama.

CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

No corrections to the agenda.

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.

Private Citizen, Raul, provided his public comment about the intersection of Whittier Boulevard and 6th Street.

MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 24, 2025, TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION: Approve said minutes as written.

The Meeting Minutes for February 24, 2025, Traffic and Safety Commission were tabled to the next meeting in April.

REGULAR BUSINESS

2. ALL WAY STOP SIGN STUDY AT THE INTERSECTION OF 6TH STREET AND WALNUT AVENUE

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic & Safety Commission take the following actions:

1. Receive and file an all-way stop sign study for the intersection of 6th Street and Walnut Avenue;
2. Approve City Traffic Engineer's recommendation to deny the request for an all-way stop sign at this intersection;
3. Approve City Traffic Engineer's recommendation to install red curb at the intersection approaches of 6th Street and Walnut Avenue.

Traffic Engineer, Dennis Barnes, provided a brief presentation of the item.

Commissioner LaRocca inquired about the methods used to count the number of vehicles passing through the intersection. Traffic Engineer, Dennis Barnes, explained that pneumatic tube counters are commonly used. These devices consist of rubber tubes laid across the roadway. As vehicles drive over the tubes, the machine identifies the number of vehicles that drive over the tubes.

Chair Beas mentioned that he had recently driven through the area and questioned why the intersection approaches did not have red curbs. He noted that installing red curbs would improve visibility for drivers by preventing vehicles from parking too close to the intersection.

City Manager, Raul Alvarez, provided clarification to the commission regarding the recommended actions outlined in the staff report.

Commissioner LaRocca made a motion to approve the item as is, which was seconded by Chair Beas. The motion passed with four votes in favor and one member absent.

3. ALL WAY STOP SIGN STUDY AT THE INTERSECTION OF 6TH STREET AND ROOSEVELT AVENUE

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic & Safety Commission take the following actions:

1. Receive and file an all-way stop sign study for the intersection of 6th Street and Roosevelt Avenue;
2. Approve City Traffic Engineer's recommendation to deny the request for an all-way stop sign at this intersection;
3. Approve City Traffic Engineer's recommendation to install red curb at the intersection approaches of 6th Street and Roosevelt Avenue.

Traffic Engineer, Dennis Barnes, gave a brief presentation on the item.

Commissioner LaRocca pointed out an error in the report, noting that the date listed for when the vehicle counts were taken was incorrectly stated as December 2025.

Traffic Engineer, Dennis Barnes, acknowledged the mistake and clarified that the counts were actually conducted in December 2024.

Commissioner LaRocca also commented on the staff's recommendation to paint red curbs 25 feet from the intersection approach. He referenced the Daylighting Law, which prohibits parking within 20 feet of an intersection to maintain clear sight lines.

Traffic Engineer, Dennis Barnes, explained that while the Daylighting Law establishes a minimum requirement of 20 feet, staff recommended extending the red curb to 25 feet. He stated that this additional distance would further enhance visibility for drivers by improving the sight distance for oncoming traffic.

Chair Beas inquired whether the intersection was located near an industrial area.

Public Works Director Cesar Roldan confirmed that the intersection is indeed situated near an industrialized zone.

Commissioner LaRocca motioned to approve the item as is, which was seconded by Chair Beas. The motion passed with four votes in favor and one member absent.

4. ALL WAY STOP SIGN STUDY AT THE INTERSECTION OF 3RD STREET AND LOS ANGELES AVENUE

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic & Safety Commission take the following actions:

1. Receive and file an all-way stop sign study for the intersection of 3rd Street and Los Angeles Avenue;
2. Approve City Traffic Engineer's recommendation to deny the request for an all-way stop sign at this intersection;

3. Approve City Traffic Engineer's recommendation to refresh the existing red curb markings at the intersection approaches of 3rd Street and Los Angeles Avenue.

Traffic Engineer, Dennis Barnes, gave a brief presentation on the item.

Commissioner Takeyama asked for clarification on whether the existing red curbs would be refurbished and extended.

Mr. Barnes explained that the recommendation was not to extend the red curbs but simply to repaint the existing red curbs to restore their visibility.

City Manager, Raul Alvarez, asked whether the current red curb provides adequate sight distance for drivers to safely see oncoming traffic.

Mr. Barnes responded that, based on current observations, the existing red curb appears to offer sufficient visibility. However, he added that a field inspection would be necessary to fully assess the visibility conditions. If the inspection reveals a need for additional markings, staff would return to the Commission with further recommendations.

Commissioner LaRocca referred to Figure 2 of the staff report and noted that the vehicle shown in the image appeared to be obstructing the view, making it unclear whether there was any red curb present in that area.

Mr. Barnes confirmed that staff could verify this during a field inspection.

Chair Beas mentioned that he frequently drives through the intersection and expressed concerns about the safety of the location. He observed that drivers often fail to stop, and that oncoming traffic moves at high speeds, making it difficult for drivers stopped at the intersection to safely proceed. He also noted that the area is often congested with vehicles. Chair Beas stated that he would prefer an all-way stop sign be installed at the intersection and announced his intent to vote against staff's current recommendation.

City Manager, Raul Alvarez, explained that staff, based their recommendation on the results of a recent traffic study. He acknowledged the possibility that unreported incidents may have occurred, but emphasized that only documented data was considered in the analysis.

Chair Beas reiterated his concerns about the intersection and requested that staff reexamine the conditions at the location.

City Manager, Raul Alvarez, responded that the Commission had the authority to reject the current staff recommendation and request a reevaluation, which could be brought back for further consideration at a future meeting.

Chair Beas agreed with that approach.

Commissioner Takeyama added that the red curbs should also be reevaluated during the follow-up review.

Commissioner Hernandez asked what other minimum thresholds or standards were being used in the report to assess the safety of the intersection.

Mr. Barnes stated that the Commission had the authority to direct staff to install all-way stop signs if they deemed it necessary for public safety.

Public Works Director Cesar Roldan clarified that, under the municipal code, if the Commission wishes to implement stop signs outside the parameters supported by the traffic data, staff could defer the matter to City Council for final approval.

Commissioner LaRocca motioned to deny staff's recommendation and to refer the installation of an all-way stop sign at the intersection of 3rd Street and Los Angeles Avenue to the City Council for final consideration. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Takeyama and passed with four votes in favor and one member absent.

5. ADDITION OF A STOP BAR AND STOP SIGN ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF VAIL AVENUE AND MINES AVENUE

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic & Safety Commission take the following actions:

1. Add a stop sign and stop bar pavement legend on the Southeast corner of Vail Avenue and Mines Avenue as a temporary measure to alleviate the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) concerns.

Public Works Director, Cesar Roldan, gave a brief presentation on the item.

Commissioner Hernandez inquired about how the proposed stop sign would affect students attending the Applied Technology Center (ATC) high school, specifically raising concerns about the possible need for a crossing guard at the intersection.

Chief Lopez explained that the City Police collaborate with the School Police to identify schools most impacted by traffic congestion. He suggested that the matter be brought to the attention of the Montebello Unified School District (MUSD), which could potentially include the intersection in their existing monitoring agreement.

Commissioner Hernandez also proposed that parents of students could volunteer to assist with ensuring student safety in the area.

Commissioner Takeyama asked for clarification on what a stop bar is.

Public Works Director, Cesar Roldan, responded that a stop bar is a pavement marking indicating where motorists are required to stop. Further explained that in recent months, the commission had worked with ATC high school to improve

safety and efficiency during student drop-offs and pick-ups. This collaboration led to the installation of red curbs on Mines Avenue, encouraging parents and guardians to drop off students within school grounds.

Commissioner LaRocca moved to approve the item, which was seconded by Chair Beas. The item passed with four votes in favor and one member absent.

6. MODIFICATIONS TO STRIPING AND PARKING ON GREENWOOD AVENUE AT OLYMPIC BOULEVARD

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Traffic & Safety Commission take the following actions:

1. Allow San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) to make the proper modifications to the existing striping and red curb at the Greenwood Avenue and Olympic Boulevard intersection to alleviate the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) concerns.

Public Works Director Cesar Roldan gave a brief presentation on the item.

Commissioner Hernandez asked how long the proposed improvements would take to complete from the time of initiation, and how long those improvements were expected to remain in place.

Director Roldan responded that, if the Commission voted in favor of the item, the California Public Utilities Commission would be notified immediately so that they could initiate the required work. He explained that the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments recognized the City's urgent need for these safety enhancements, which is why their contractor would be responsible for carrying out the improvements. He further explained that the enhancements would remain in place during the construction period of the Grade Separation Project. Additionally, he noted that in the future, staff would return to the Traffic and Safety Commission with proposals for establishing quiet zones, which would prohibit trains from sounding their horns in the area.

Commissioner LaRocca then asked for clarification regarding the recommended parking stalls—specifically, whether they were temporary and, if so, whether they could be restored to their original configuration.

Director Roldan confirmed that the parking stalls were indeed temporary and could be returned to their original state once the project was complete.

Commissioner LaRocca motioned to approve the item, which was seconded by Commissioner Hernandez. The item passed with four votes in favor and one member absent.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE ORALS

Member announcements; requests for future agenda items; conference/meetings reports.

7.

- **Chair Beas**
 - **Via Paseo east to Wilcox, right turn only**

Chair Beas presented his Commission Oral, stated that the Via Paseo is a right turn only onto Wilcox, but motorists are making left turns. The Chair asked how the right turn arrow can be more acknowledged for motorists. Asked staff to do a field inspection to observe vehicles making the right and left turns onto Wilcox.

City Manager, Raul Alvarez, stated that staff will do a field inspection and provide an update.

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Montebello Traffic and Safety Commission will adjourn to the next Regular Meeting on April 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers located at 1600 W. Beverly Boulevard, Montebello, CA 90640.

I, Samantha Leyva, Management Analyst for the City of Montebello Department of Public Works, hereby certify that a copy of this agenda has been posted on or before Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Samantha Leyva

Samantha Leyva, Managment Analyst

Chair Beas adjourned the meeting at 6:58 PM.