

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2012**

The meeting was held in Conference Room A at the Department of Public Works (Public Works) Headquarters.

1) Call to Order

The meeting of May 2, 2012, was called to order at 9:07 a.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) Roll Call

Present: Chair Robert A. Ringle
 Vice-Chair Thurston Reese
 Commissioner Marvin Estey
 Commissioner John Watkins
 Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos
 Commissioner Rhett Price
 Commissioner Greg Knapp

Also in attendance were the following:

Scott Schales, Assistant Division Engineer; James Chon, Senior Civil Engineer; Guillermo Gonzalez, Associate Civil Engineer; Alan Niño, Associate Civil Engineer; Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant; and Carlos Slythe, Senior Civil Engineering Assistant.

4) Approval of March 7, 2012, Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the March 7, 2012, Highway Safety Commission (HSC) meeting were approved.

5) Citizen Appeal of denied request by Public Works

- a) Speeding Concerns on Miloann Street between Tyler Avenue and Farna Avenue

Appellant: Mr. Abner Fuentes

Mr. Carlos Slythe provided a power point presentation to the HSC in regards to speeding concerns on Miloann Street between Tyler Avenue and Farna Avenue. Mr. Slythe informed the HSC that Mr. Abner Fuentes expressed concern about speeding on Miloann Street between Tyler Avenue and Farna Avenue. He requested speed limit signs and speed humps on Miloann Street between Tyler Avenue and Farna Avenue. Mr. Slythe stated the following conditions exist on Miloann Street:

- ◆ 30 feet-wide east/west local roadway.
- ◆ One travel lane and parking in each direction.
- ◆ Posted Speed Limit – 25 mph.
- ◆ 85th percentile – 28 mph.
- ◆ Average Daily Traffic – 624 vehicles per day (vpd).

Mr. Slythe informed the HSC that Public Works did the following:

- ◆ Counted the number of vehicles on Miloann Street between Tyler Avenue and Farna Avenue.
- ◆ Measured speed of vehicles along Miloann Street between Tyler Avenue and Farna Avenue.
- ◆ Reviewed the reported collision data.
- ◆ Observed pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Mr. Slythe informed the HSC that Public Works consider the following guidelines when considering installation of speed humps:

- ◆ Roadway is classified as Local.
- ◆ Roadway has between 500 and 2,000 vpd.
- ◆ Roadway cannot be a public transit route.
- ◆ Roadway cannot be greater than 40 feet.

- ◆ 85th percentile speed is greater than 35 mph.

Mr. Slythe provided the HSC with the following table of speed humps guidelines:

Guideline	Satisfied	Not Satisfied
1. Road is classified as local.	X	
2. Roadway has between 500 and 2,000 vpd.	624 vpd	
3. Roadway cannot be a public transit route.	X	
4. Roadway cannot be greater than 40 feet.	X	
5. 85th percentile speed is greater than 35 mph.		28 mph

Mr. Slythe informed the HSC that Miloann Street has been analyzed for speed humps in 2010 and 2011, as well and in both analyzes, it did not meet the 85th percentile speed for speed hump consideration. He summarized these findings in the table below:

Date Requested	85th percentile Speed	Vehicular Volume (vpd)	Recommendations
3/24/2010	28	598	Speed humps not recommended. Speed results forwarded to the California Highway Patrol (CHP).
9/01/2011	28	624	Recommended to install 25 mph speed limit signs. Speed humps not recommended. Speed results forwarded to the CHP.

Mr. Slythe concluded his presentation by providing the following Public Works' recommendations:

- ◆ Since the prevailing speeds were less than 35 mph, speed humps are not recommended on Miloann Street between Tyler Avenue and Farna Avenue.
- ◆ It is recommended to forward the speed results to the CHP for their appropriate enforcement.

Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos stated he believed the reason for speeding on Miloann Street had to do with the fact that people were rushing to the golf course nearby. Commissioner Watkins stated that he didn't understand why the CHP would be needed for speed enforcement if there wasn't really a speeding issue. Commissioner Villalobos stated that there was a sweeping curve along the roadway and residents may be speeding through this. Mr. Abner Fuentes, the appellant, spoke and stated that the curve mentioned is a blind curve and cars are driving at 40 mph. He stated that the Rio Honda Kare Youth League has events on the weekends and many motorists are using Miloann Street. Commissioner Thurston Reese asked Mr. Fuentes if his traffic concerns were related to speed or the volume of vehicles. Mr. Fuentes stated it was both.

Next, Mr. Fuentes had some neighborhood members show a video presentation of motorists driving up and down Miloann Street. After the video, Commissioner Rhett Price asked Mr. Fuentes how many miles over the speed limit did he believe the motorists were driving in his video. Mr. Fuentes stated that in the video, they were only driving about 5 mph over the speed limit. Commissioner Villalobos asked if the adjacent street had the same number of cars as Miloann Street. Mr. Fuentes responded that there were two schools in the area. Chair Robert Ringler indicated that the 85th percentile speeds on Miloann Street were only 28 mph.

Commissioner Greg Knapp stated he lives on a street that backs up to a city college. He said on his street, some of his neighbors have posted "Children at Play" type signs on their own properties and that he and his neighbors should consider that. Chair Ringler suggested the neighbors post signs reminding motorists they are driving in a residential neighborhood.

Mr. Alan Niño mentioned there are bushes blocking visibility along some portions of Miloann Street. Chair Ringler asked if the schools had been notified about the residents' speeding concerns. Mr. Fuentes stated he's talked to the principal and it hasn't helped. Commissioner Estey asked if many children walked on the street. Mr. Fuentes stated that some are biking on the street. Commissioner Villalobos mentioned that maybe curve warning signs are needed on the roadway.

A resident from the audience spoke and said that the Rio Hondo Kare Youth League gets a considerable amount of traffic and their events go on after dark on both weeknights and weekends. Mr. Miguel Bin, another resident, stated that the speed measuring device was dropped in the wrong place where the sun hits your eyes and causes you to drive slower through that area. Mr. Bin stated that if the cable was placed 150 feet easterly, it would give a more adequate measurement of speed on this roadway. He also stated that Miloann Street functions as a bypass route when Santa Anita Avenue backs up. Mr. Bin stated the street is narrow and that other streets are using Miloann Street because there are no stop signs along it. Commissioner Villalobos asked if multiway stop controls would help at the intersection of Miloann Street and Farna Street. Mr. James Chon responded that most residential homes generate about 10 trips per day. Chair Ringler asked if multiway stop controls would be warranted at this intersection. Mr. Niño indicated that the volumes were very low for consideration of multiway stop controls.

Commissioner Villalobos asked if there was a neighborhood watch and mentioned that motorists slowed down when they see a black and white police car parked on a street.

Commissioner Price asked Public Works' Staff if a roundabout would be appropriate on Miloann Street. Mr. Niño stated that there already is a cross gutter in the roadway that functions as a "dip" and it slows people down.

Commissioner Estey asked Public Works' Staff to see the Suggested route to School Map for this area. After the HSC looked at it, Commissioner Villalobos stated that Rio Hondo Preparatory School needed to be added to Public Works' Suggested Route to School Map.

Commissioner Knapp excused himself from the meeting.

Commissioner Price made a motion to approve Public Works' motion to deny speed humps. More discussion ensued. Commissioner Price mentioned there is a traffic circle at the intersection of Huntley Avenue and Braddock Drive in Culver City that is very efficient at slowing vehicles down. Commissioner Watkins mentioned that there is a traffic circle in Pasadena that has also helped with slowing down traffic. Chair Ringler asked what the County's position was on roundabouts or traffic circles. Mr. Niño mentioned there is a location he was aware of that was temporarily installed, but eventually removed.

Commissioner Villalobos mentioned the idea of centerline striping to slow traffic down. Public Works Staff informed the HSC that in order to install double yellow centerline striping, parking would need to be removed from one side of the roadway. Commissioner Villalobos suggested installing some disabled parking spaces (blue curb) on the residential street instead of red curb so that not as many cars would be parked. Public Works' Staff advised against this.

The topic of the speed measurement cables came up again and Chair Ringler asked if the cables were placed at the same location as in 2010. Public Works' Staff responded that they did not keep records of cable placement. Public Works' Staff mentioned that cables are usually tied to street light poles or sign poles so they won't be stolen. Commissioner Price asked how and where the street lights were along Miloann Street. At this point, Mr. Chon stated that if needed, Public Works' Staff could also take hand radar in unmarked vehicles.

Commissioner Villalobos asked if the schools needed to be notified of the speeding residents. Mr. Niño stated that the school has already provided a suggested route to school map for motorists and that the map suggests using Freer Street to access the school. Commissioner Villalobos asked who installs neighborhood watch signs. Mr. Niño stated that the community purchases the signs and the County installs the signs for them.

Chair Ringler mentioned that "Neighborhood Speed Watch" signs are used in the City of Los Angeles. This is a program where the residents take the radar speed checks and letters are sent to the offenders. One of the residents mentioned that idea wouldn't work in their neighborhood.

After hearing the testimony of both Public Works' Staff and the appellant, the HSC made the following motion:

- Approve DPW's recommendation to deny request for speed humps on Miloann Street between Tyler Avenue and Farna Avenue.
- Public Works to contact principals of both Rio Hondo Preparatory School and Rio Hondo Elementary School to inform them that parents were speeding on Miloann Street.
- Public Works to evaluate whether centerline striping can be installed on Miloann Street.
- Public Works to conduct a study to determine whether multiway stop controls are warranted at the intersection of Miloann Street and Farna Avenue.

The HSC voted and the motion was unanimously approved.

6) Report on business other than appeals.

a) Crossing Guard Update

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that during the 2 month period since the March 7, 2012, HSC meeting, Public Works has not received any new requests for the crossing guard program. The total number of locations with crossing guard service is 209. Please note that the total number of crossing guards employed by the Los Angeles County Office of education for these 209 locations is 214, which is due to some locations being served by more than one crossing guard.

7) Public comments on any matter not on the agenda

There were no comments on matters not on the agenda.

8) Reports from special committees

There were no special committee announcements.

9) Special orders

There were no special orders.

10) Unfinished Business and general notes

Ms. Guilmette informed the Commission that she is continuing to work with Public Works' Administrative Staff to determine whether some of them still needed to take the Sexual Discrimination Refresher Courses and the Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Refresher Course. She also informed them that they should be receiving some information soon on an upcoming Leadership Conference.

The HSC received and filed this information.

11) New Business (Item 10)

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that there were no new items scheduled at this time.

12) Date for next meeting announced and adjournment

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 6, 2012. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



IRENA GUILMETTE
Executive Officer
Highway Safety Commission

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