

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF JUNE 4, 2014**

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

1. Call to order

The meeting of June 4, 2014, was called to order at 9:20 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll call

Present:                      Chairperson Thurston Reese  
                                    Vice Chair Greg Knapp  
                                    Commissioner Marvin Estey  
                                    Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos  
                                    Commissioner John Watkins

Absent but excused:      Commissioner Rhett Price  
                                    Commissioner Robert A. Ringler

Also in attendance were the following:

Dean Lehman, Assistant Deputy Director; Guita Sheik, Principal Engineer; Mary Reyes, Senior Civil Engineer; Arnel Dulay, Senior Civil Engineer; Lee Miller Associate Civil Engineer; Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant and Kara Droz, Civil Engineering Assistant.

4. Approval of May 7, 2014, meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the May 7, 2014, Highway Safety Commission (HSC) meeting were approved.

5. Citizen appeal of denied request by Public Works

Denial of No U-turn sign on Rosemead Boulevard at Fairview Avenue  
Appellant: Tai Cho

Mr. Lee Miller informed the HSC that Mr. Tai Cho requested the installation of a “No U-turn” sign for southbound motorists on Rosemead Boulevard at its intersection with Fairview Avenue. Mr. Cho mentioned that it is difficult to enter Rosemead Boulevard from Fairview Avenue due to motorists making U-turns.

Mr. Miller presented a location map, aerial view and list of existing roadway conditions on both Rosemead Boulevard and Fairview Avenue. Mr. Miller stated that in the five-year collision history ending June 30, 2013, there were no intersection traffic collisions related to U-turns on Rosemead Boulevard at Fairview Avenue. Mr. Miller stated that on November 26, 2013 at 11:00 a.m., the following field observations were observed at the subject location:

- Approximately 10 motorists traveling southbound on Rosemead Boulevard were observed making a U-turn at the intersection of Fairview Avenue during a 10-15 minute span.
- It appeared that a majority of the vehicles originated from the Kohl’s Shopping Center.
- Motorists exiting Kohl’s parking lot are required to make right turn only onto southbound Rosemead Boulevard.

Mr. Miller indicated that an additional field observation made on May 29, 2014, at 11:30 a.m. showed the findings in the table below:

<b>(May 29, 2014, at 11:30 am)</b>		
<b>30-minute Field Observation</b>		
	Kohl’s Origination	Non-Kohl’s
U-Turns	3	10*
Left Turns	3	22

\* 7 vehicles that made a U-turn proceeded to the businesses along the east side of Rosemead Blvd, south of Huntington Dr (Trader Joes, PETCO).

Mr. Miller stated that based on this data, there is a need for motorists to travel to local businesses. Mr. Miller also stated that based on the 12-hour data, there were

a total of 231 vehicles making a Left Hand Turn or a U-turn for southbound Rosemead Boulevard at its intersection with Fairview Avenue. Mr. Lee stated that sight distance is sufficient at both approaches of Fairview Avenue, when using normal caution. He stated there are existing stop signs, stop bars (limit line), and stop pavement markings on both approaches of Fairview Avenue at its intersection with Rosemead Boulevard. Mr. Miller indicated motorists on Fairview Avenue must yield the right of way to all motorists on both approaches of Rosemead Boulevard for all vehicular turning movements (Left Turns, Right Turns, U-Turns). When vehicles complete a U-turn, approaching vehicles in the intersection must yield the right of way of the turning vehicle.

Mr. Miller stated that based on DPW's findings, DPW does not recommend to prohibit U-turns for southbound motorists on Rosemead Boulevard at its intersection with Fairview Avenue based on the following:

- There is a need for motorists traveling southbound on Rosemead Boulevard to make a U-turn at Fairview Avenue.
- There are no issues with motorists making a U-turn at the intersection (No U-turn collisions in the last 5 years).
- There will be significant impact and undue delay to southbound motorists on Rosemead Boulevard if there is a U-turn restriction.
- Motorists on Fairview Avenue are stop controlled and must yield the right of way to all motorists on Rosemead Boulevard.

Commissioner Estey asked Mr. Miller what path people were exiting from Kohl's to make a U-turn at Fairview Avenue. Mr. Miller stated that the motorists exit the Kohl's driveway located on the west side of Rosemead Boulevard, turn right or southbound onto Rosemead Boulevard, then proceed to the southbound left turn lane at Fairview Avenue where they make their U-turn. Ms. Sheik informed the HSC that the community was very vocal about the ingress and egress from the Kohl's driveway and as a result, a Right Turn Only was installed for eastbound motorists at the Kohl's driveway attempting to turn left or right onto Rosemead Boulevard. Ms. Sheik informed the HSC that Rosemead Boulevard is wide enough to accommodate the southbound U-turning movement at Fairview Avenue. Commissioner Watkins stated that installing a traffic control device such as a traffic signal at Fairview Avenue would place undue delay on Rosemead Boulevard. Commissioner Estey asked Mr. Miller where southbound motorists on Rosemead Boulevard could make the next closest U-turn and Mr. Miller responded the next available southbound U-turning area would be at the intersection of Rosemead Boulevard and Arcadia Avenue.

Ms. Sheik informed the HSC that there were official regulations prohibiting left turns from the Kohl's driveway on the west side of Rosemead Boulevard. Ms. Sheik stated that a person can't exit northerly anyway because a raised median physically prohibits a motorist from making a left turn onto Rosemead Boulevard. Commissioner Villalobos asked whether there were any representatives from Kohl's at the HSC meeting. Ms. Sheik informed him there were no representatives from Kohl's at the HSC meeting. Commissioner Villalobos stated that this shopping center actually has 3 exit points, with one of them being on Huntington Drive. Commissioner Villalobos stated that motorists wishing to exit northbound onto Rosemead Boulevard could also exit onto Huntington Drive from the shopping center and make a left turn from Rosemead Boulevard. Commissioner Estey stated it is not intuitive for a motorist within this parking lot to look for a driveway exit on Huntington Drive. Commissioner Estey stated he observed this location on a Saturday afternoon and he had observed motorists making U-turns at this location. Mr. Dulay stated that if the southbound U-turn was prohibited at Fairview Avenue, motorists would attempt to make the U-turn at one of the next two next available U-turning locations southerly. Commissioner Reese asked how long Kohl's has been there and Mr. Dulay indicated Kohl's had been opened since 2007.

Mr. Cho began his presentation by stating that the intersection of Rosemead Boulevard and Fairview Avenue actually needs a traffic signal. He mentioned there is a bus stop at the intersection, a fire station nearby and the average speed of motorists is about 40 miles per hour or more. Mr. Cho stated it is difficult for a motorist to exit from Fairview Avenue onto Rosemead Boulevard and he proceeded to show a few video clips that displayed the wait time for motorists at the east approach of Fairview Avenue to exit onto Rosemead Boulevard. Mr. Cho stated that originally, the residents had received notice from Clearman's Village that a traffic signal would be installed at the intersection of Rosemead Boulevard and Fairview Avenue. Mr. Cho requested that a southbound No U-turn sign be installed on Rosemead Boulevard at Fairview Avenue or a traffic signal. Commissioner Watkins stated if a traffic signal were installed on Rosemead Boulevard at Fairview Avenue, there would be a back-up of traffic on Rosemead Boulevard. Commissioner Knapp asked Mr. Cho if he had support from his neighbors regarding his request. Mr. Cho said that he hadn't been able to talk to his neighbors on this issue. Commissioner Villalobos asked Mr. Cho how long he'd lived there and Mr. Cho responded that he had lived at his residence since 1974. Commissioner Villalobos asked DPW Staff why the traffic signal was never installed on Rosemead Boulevard at Fairview Avenue. Ms. Sheik stated that the traffic signal was to be installed only if the traffic signal was found to be warranted once the development had been built. Ms. Sheik stated the follow-up study indicated a traffic signal wasn't warranted, so the traffic signal was not installed.

After hearing the testimony of DPW Staff and the appellant, Commissioner Watkins made the following motion:

Move to approve Public Works' recommendation to deny a request for a No U-Turn sign for southbound Rosemead Boulevard at its intersection with Fairview Avenue.

The motion was passed unanimously.

After hearing the motion, Mr. Cho requested that a formal traffic signal study be conducted at the intersection of Rosemead Boulevard and Fairview Avenue. Ms. Sheik informed Mr. Cho that a new traffic signal study will be conducted at this location and he will be notified of the results of the study when it is completed.

6. Report on business other than appeals

Crossing Guard Update

Ms. Guilmette stated that during the 1 month period since our May 7, 2014, Highway Safety Commission meeting, Public Works has not completed any studies for new crossing guard service. Public Works is currently evaluating 2 new locations for crossing guard services. The total number of locations with crossing guard service is 206. Please note that the total number of crossing guards employed by the Los Angeles County Office of Education for these 206 locations is 213, 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 any matters not on the agenda.

8. Reports from special committees

There were no comments from special committees.

9. Unfinished business and general notes

Unfinished business and general notes.

Informational Item: Los Angeles County Office of Education's Crossing Guard Contract

Ms. Guilmette stated that no representatives from the Los Angeles County of Education (LACOE) were able to attend today's HSC meeting but if there were any questions, she would provide them contact information so they could get in touch with them directly via email or a phone call. Commissioner Reese stated that the

crossing guard service could cost as much as 10 million dollars once the middle schools were added to the current 2.4 million dollar contract. Commissioner Reese indicated that there were currently only 2 contractors who bid on the latest contract, likely due to the LACOE's qualification requirements. Commissioner Reese stated he would contact the LACOE's directly for any further questions.

10. New Business

There were no new business items

11. Date for next meeting announced and adjournment

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for July 3, 2014. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



IRENA GUILMETTE  
Executive Officer  
Highway Safety Commission

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