

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3, 2008**

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

1) Call to Order

The meeting of December 3, 2008, was called to order at 9:15 a.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) Roll Call

Present:                   Chair Robert Ringler  
                                  Vice-Chair Thurston Reese  
                                  Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos  
                                  Commissioner Marvin Estey  
                                  Commissioner Rhett Price  
                                  Commissioner John Watkins  
                                  Commissioner Praful Kulkarni

Also in attendance were the following:

Mr. William Winter, Assistant Deputy Director; Mr. Scott Schales, Assistant Division Engineer; Mr. James Chon, Senior Civil Engineer; Mr. Alan Nino, Associate Civil Engineer and Ms. Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant.

4) Approval of November 5, 2008 Minutes

The Minutes of the November 5, 2008, Highway Safety Commission (HSC) meeting were approved.

5a) Citizen Appeal of Traffic Control Requests denied by Public Works.

- a)     Dunlap Crossing between Norwalk Boulevard and  
       605 Freeway Overpass

Appellant: Thomas Luas

Mr. Alan Nino informed the HSC that Mr. Thomas Luas requested DPW install speed humps on Dunlap Crossing Road. He indicated that motorists speed on their way to the Whittier Mobile Country Club. Mr. Nino informed the HSC that Dunlap Road has the following characteristics:

- Local street with no curb or sidewalk.
- Travel way measures 24 feet.
- 1 travel lane and parking in each direction.
- Posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour (MPH).
- Prevailing speed of 31 MPH.
- Average Daily Traffic of 1196 vehicles per day (Veh/Day).

Mr. Nino informed the HSC that DPW did the following:

- Measured the speed of vehicles.
- Counted the number of vehicles.
- Reviewed the reported collision data.
- Observed pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- Conducted a speed humps study.

Mr. Nino provided a summary table of the speed humps study:

Guideline	Satisfied	Not Satisfied
1. Road is classified as local?	<b>X</b>	
2. Roadway has between 500 and 2000 vehicles per day.	<b>1196 VPD</b>	
3. Roadway can not be a public transit route.	<b>X</b>	
4. Roadway can not be greater than 40 feet.	<b>X</b>	
5. 85th percentile speed is greater than 35 mph.		<b>28 mph</b>

Mr. Nino stated that speed humps were not recommended due to the fact that not all the guidelines for speed hump installation were satisfied. Mr. Nino stated that Dunlap Crossing Road had existing 25 speed limit signs and a "25" pavement marking. Mr. Nino stated that speeding was referred to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for further enforcement.

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that the appellant, Mr. Thomas Luas, contacted her and stated he would not be able to attend the HSC meeting. Ms. Guilmette stated that Mr. Luas asked that the HSC be reminded there is a proposal to add 35 additional mobile homes to the Whittier Mobile Country Club and that there will probably be additional motorists from the Country Club speeding on Dunlap Crossing Road.

After listening to DPW Staff and considering Mr. Luas' statement via Ms. Guilmette, the HSC made the following motion:

- 1) Deny request for speed humps on Dunlap Crossing Road between Norwalk Boulevard and the 605 Freeway Overpass.
- 2) DPW Staff to send a letter to the residents of the Whittier Mobile Country Club informing them that a traffic study has been completed on Dunlap Crossing Road and that this study indicated that motorists are driving at speeds higher than the posted 25 mph speed limit.

6) Report on business other than appeals

There was no business other than appeals.

7) Public Comments on any matter not on agenda

There were no public comments on any matters not on agenda.

8) Reports from special committees.

There were no special committees announcements.

9) Special Orders.

There were no special orders.

10) Unfinished Business and General Notes

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that the follow-up meetings regarding the appeals for speed humps on Wapello Street and New York Street will be placed on the January 7, 2009, and February 4, 2009, HSC agendas, respectively.

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that as a follow-up to HSC's request for DPW Staff to investigate the feasibility of acquiring a concrete vault for the HSC time capsule, it was found that DPW did not have a concrete vault that would be air and water tight as is needed to house a time capsule.

Commissioner Villalobos stated he would investigate other means of acquiring a concrete vault for the HSC time capsule. Ms. Guilmette stated that she would compile a package of HSC related documents and media for insertion in the time capsule. She stated that once she had accumulated the document data, she would send the documents via email to the HSC for their approval. Ms. Guilmette stated that she would look for other historical artifacts for the time capsule as well.

11) New Business

- a) Mr. Winter informed the HSC that the Board of Supervisors has appointed Gail Farber as the new Director of Public Works for DPW. He stated that she has an extensive Civil Engineering background including: 17 years of service at the District 12 Office of the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) including being the CALTRANS District 12 Deputy District Director of Transportation Planning, 5 years as the Public Works Director/City Engineer for the City of Pico Rivera and most recently, Director of Public Works/City Engineer for the City of Orange.

The HSC requested that a letter welcoming Ms. Farber to DPW be drafted on behalf of the HSC. They suggested the letter include an open invitation to all HSC meetings. Ms. Guilmette stated that she would draft a letter on behalf of the HSC.

- b) Mr. Winter informed the HSC that in the near future, DPW may receive a Federal Economic Stimulus Package. Potentially, this would create many construction and engineering jobs for DPW.
- c) Mr. Winter informed the HSC that the Office of Education, who administers the crossing guard program for Los Angeles County, suggested DPW reduce expenses for crossing guards. He stated that this could mean some school intersections may lose crossing guard service. He said that in the event that crossing guard service is reduced, signalized intersections would be the intersections most likely affected.

Commissioner Villalobos inquired whether there are other alternative ways to pay for crossing guard service. Mr. Winter stated that some agencies have funded crossing guard service through their fines and forfeitures (parking tickets), but the County is not set up in that manner.

- d) Mr. Winter stated that Proposition R was recently approved by voters. He stated that Proposition R increases the county sales tax from 8.25% to 8.75% (a half-cent increase) to fund transportation projects. The new tax will last for 30 years and raise (and cost taxpayers) an estimated \$40 billion for roadway and transit projects, of which approximately \$15 million should go towards DPW projects.
- e) Chair Ringler invited the HSC to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) West Bureau Traffic Committee's Annual Holiday Breakfast, which was going to be held December 9, 2008, 8:15am – 10:30am, at the Gardens on Glendon restaurant in Westwood Village. He also thanked DPW Staff for their contributions to the HSC over the past year.
- f) Commissioner Price suggested that the HSC go "Green" in 2009, by saving paper and sending out the HSC background packages via the internet and not the United States Mail. Ms. Guilmette stated that she would send future correspondence via the internet and send out the paper file upon individual request.

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that there were the following upcoming appeal items:

- 1) Appeal of a traffic signal for the intersection of Del Mar Avenue at Montrose Avenue.  
Appellant: Nigel Burns
- 2) Appeal for a traffic signal at the intersection of Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue.  
Appellant: Hermela Mendoza
- 3) Appeal of a pedestrian traffic signal or the intersection of Indiana Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

Appellant: Eleanor Vasquez

Ms. Guilmette stated that these items would be scheduled at upcoming HSC meetings.

Highway Safety Commission  
Minutes of December 3, 2008  
Page 6

12) Date for next meeting announced and adjournment

Chair Ringler informed the HSC that the next meeting of the HSC is tentatively scheduled for January 7, 2009. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

A recording of the discussions held at this meeting is on file at Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,



IRENA GUILMETTE  
Executive Officer  
Highway Safety Commission

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