

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MAY 6, 2009**

The meeting was held in the Community Room of Sunshine Park located at 515 South Deepmead Avenue, La Puente, Ca 91744.

1) Call to Order

The meeting of May 5, 2009, was called to order at 9:25 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 Praful Kulkarni
 Commissioner John Watkins

Also in attendance were the following:

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

4) Approval of April 1, 2009, Minutes

The Minutes of the April 1, 2009, Highway Safety Commission (HSC) meeting were approved.

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

a) Appeal for traffic signal on Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue:

Mr. Alan Nino made a presentation to the HSC regarding the appeal for a traffic signal on Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue. Mr. Nino stated that Ms. Hermila Mendoza requested DPW install a traffic signal at the intersection of Valley Blvd at Alderton Ave because there were many collisions that had occurred at this intersection. She indicated that it is difficult for motorists to make left turns from Alderton Ave onto Valley Blvd. She also mentioned that sight distance was limited due to on-street parking along Valley Blvd. Mr. Nino informed the HSC that at the February 4, 2009, HSC meeting, the HSC made the following motion:

- ◆ DPW to reevaluate the intersection of Valley Blvd at Alderton Ave to determine whether any additional traffic control measures can be taken such as installation of KEEP CLEAR pavement markings.
- ◆ DPW to provide an updated collision history of the intersection.
- ◆ DPW to review existing locations of NO STOPPING ANYTIME signs.

Mr. Nino continued to present the findings and stated the following:

- ◆ Field reviews during the morning peak hour revealed that there is no congestion at the intersection of Valley Blvd at Alderton Ave.
- ◆ However, there was congestion closer to the traffic signal located at Valley Blvd at Fullerton Rd about 1/2 mile easterly. Uncontrolled intersections in the vicinity of Fullerton Rd at Valley Blvd do have KEEP CLEAR markings.

Mr. Nino presented a summary table of Summary of collision history at other intersections between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2008. Please see table below:

Intersection	Type of Intersection	No. of Collisions in 5 yrs.	No. of Collisions in recent 1 yr.	Predominate Type based on recent 1 yr
Valley Boulevard at Alderton Ave	Uncontrolled	9	3	Passing
Valley Boulevard at Hambledon Avenue	Signalized (1986)	11	3	Left Turn
Valley Boulevard at Giano Avenue	Signalized (1987)	16	2	Left Turn
Valley Boulevard at Hurley	Signalized (1991)	3	0	Left Turn
Valley Boulevard at Fullerton / Yorbita	Signalized (1992)	12	3	Rear End
Valley Boulevard at La Seda	Signalized (1987)	11	2	Rear End

Mr. Nino stated that a review of the NO STOPPING ANYTIME signs on Valley Boulevard indicated the following:

- ◆ Field observations indicated that there were no vehicles parked or stopped in the vicinity of Valley Blvd at Alderton Ave.
- ◆ In addition, all NO STOPPING ANYTIME signs were installed appropriately per our inventory and were clearly visible.

Mr. Nino stated that DPW made the following recommendations:

- ◆ KEEP CLEAR pavement markings are not recommended at the intersection of Valley Blvd at Alderton Avenue since field observations did not reveal congestion at the intersection.
- ◆ Field observations revealed that there are adequate signs as well as red curb which prohibit stopping on Valley Boulevard. The Sheriff Department has been contacted to enforce vehicles in violation of the signs.
- ◆ Since none of the warrants were satisfied, DPW is not recommending a traffic signal.
- ◆ The City of Industry will be adding a third travel lane in the eastbound direction of Valley Blvd in the future.
- ◆ It is recommended to contact the City of Industry and MTA to eliminate the existing bus stop at the south side of Valley Blvd at Alderton Ave.

At that point, Ms. Mendoza and some other community members made their presentation. They mainly emphasized that their concerns were with the pedestrians crossing Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue to access the bus stop located on the south side of Valley Boulevard just east of the intersection. Ms. Mendoza emphasized that there was a surveillance video that was taken by a camera at Rene's Tire Service (17855 Valley Blvd, La Puente, 91744) on February 4, 2009, that showed a traffic collision involving a bus. She stated that this would emphasize to everyone what kinds of traffic conditions occur at this intersection. She stated that many people don't report collisions because they are here illegally.

Ms. Maria Juarez made a separate request to the HSC for the County to consider installing left turn phasing at all traffic signals in the County. She informed the HSC that her husband, Mr. Sergio Juarez, was killed in a traffic collision on December 19, 2008, when he was involved in a left turn collision on Valley Boulevard at Wickford Avenue. They also mentioned that the flashing red light at the intersection is not always visible during the daytime. Mr. Burns presented a petition signed by 400 citizens requesting that DPW provide some traffic enhancements at the subject intersection.

Some other citizens spoke and made the following suggestions:

- ◆ Install a pedestrian traffic signal at Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue.
- ◆ Install a marked crosswalk on Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue.
- ◆ Assign a crossing guard on Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue.
- ◆ Install a stop sign on Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue.
- ◆ Install a pedestrian bridge across Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue.
- ◆ Citizen asked if a petition would help get a traffic signal installed.

Mr. Winter suggested to the crowd that the East Valinda Shuttle bus route be modified to accommodate the citizens so they would not have to cross Valley Boulevard. Some of the citizens spoke and stated they would like to have the shuttle service closer to the school.

Chair Ringler called for a 5 minute break at 10:55 am. The meeting resumed at 11:08 am.

Mr. Winter left the Community Room and drove the neighborhood to get a better idea of where the citizens are walking from in the neighborhood to access the bus stop on the south side of Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue.

After hearing the testimony of DPW, the appellant (Ms. Hermila Mendoza) and some other community members, the HSC made the following Motion:

- ◆ Deny request for a traffic signal at the intersection of Valley Boulevard and Alderton Avenue.

The motion was approved unanimously.

The HSC made a second motion as follows:

- ◆ DPW to work with the City of Industry on the concept and a timeline for the installation of a smart crosswalk across the west approach of Valley Boulevard at Alderton Avenue. This smart crosswalk should meet California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) guidelines and meet the Pedestrian Task Force guidelines which include In-Roadway Warning Lights with accompanying overhead flashing beacons for a smart crosswalk.
- ◆ DPW to install a crosswalk on the north approach of Alderton Avenue at Valley Boulevard.
- ◆ DPW to work with the City of Industry on expediting all sidewalk and curb improvements on the south side of Valley Boulevard and the relocation of the bus stop and turnout to a point 20 feet west of Alderton Avenue.
- ◆ DPW to complete left turn phasing traffic signal studies at the intersections of Valley Boulevard at Wickford Avenue, Valley Boulevard at Hambleton Avenue, Valley Boulevard at Hurley Avenue and Valley Boulevard at Giano Avenue.

The motion was unanimously approved.

The HSC made a third motion as follows:

- ◆ It is recommended that Chair Ringler sit in via teleconference on the meetings with the City of Industry regarding the recommendation to install a smart crosswalk at the intersection of Valley Boulevard and Alderton Avenue.

The motion was unanimously approved.

6) Report on business other than appeals

- b) Informational Item: Normandie Avenue at 97th Street.
Removal of Marked Crosswalk

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that DPW would be posting a sign informing citizens that they have the right to appeal to the HSC the removal of a crosswalk across Normandie Avenue at 97th Street. She stated that this crosswalk was being removed due to the fact that DPW considers removal of marked crosswalks whenever resurfacing of a roadway occurs, which is the case at Normandie Avenue at 97th Street.

Mr. Winter stated that the posting of the crosswalk removal is in compliance with state law.

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 committee's announcements.

9) Special Orders

There were no special orders.

10) Unfinished Business

Ms. Guilmette stated that at the next meeting, the HSC would be bringing back some continued items such as Indiana Street at 5th Street. This meeting would be scheduled for June 3, 2009, HSC meeting.

11) New Business

Commissioner Villalobos made a request for the community street name signs to be installed in the South San Jose Area of the County. Mr. Winter informed Commissioner Villalobos that one of the DPW representatives for having community street signs installed was Mr. James Yang, who was in attendance at today's meeting, but had already left the meeting. Mr. Winter informed Commissioner Villalobos that this request would be referred to Mr. Yang.

12) Date for next meeting announced and adjournment

Chair Ringler informed the HSC that the next meeting of the HSC is tentatively scheduled for June 3, 2009. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 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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