

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2011**

The meeting was held in the Traffic Management Center of the Annex Building of the Department of Public Works (DPW) Headquarters.

1) Call to Order

The meeting of February 2, 2011, was called to order at 9:15 a.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) New Business (Item 11 on the agenda)

Ms. Guilmette informed the Highway Safety Commission (HSC) that Mr. Bill Winter had been promoted to Deputy Director and will no longer be the Division Head for Traffic and Lighting Division. She introduced Mr. Dean Lehman, the new Division Head for the Traffic and Lighting Division. Ms. Guilmette thanked Mr. Winter for his contributions to the HSC over the past several years and Chair Robert Ringler presented Mr. Winter with an Appreciation Award. Mr. Winter expressed his gratitude for being able to work with the Commissioners of the Highway Safety Commission. Mr. Lehman introduced himself to the HSC and provided them with a brief history of his background with DPW. Mr. Pat DeChellis, Deputy Director, over the Traffic and Lighting Division, reintroduced himself to the HSC. Ms. Guilmette introduced the newest Commissioner to the HSC, Mr. Greg Knapp. Mr. Knapp introduced himself to the HSC and provided them with a brief history of his background.

Commissioner Villalobos informed the HSC that Ms. Elizabeth Chou, a news reporter from Eastern Group Publications (EGP), had contacted him regarding the outcome of the Union Pacific Neighborhood Traffic Concern item that was presented at the November 3, 2010, HSC meeting. Commissioner Villalobos said he informed Ms. Chou that she should speak to Chair Ringler regarding the motion that was made at the HSC meeting. Chair Ringler stated he had spoken to Ms. Chou and provided her with information regarding the November 3, 2010, HSC motion that was made in regards to the Union Pacific Neighborhood Traffic Concerns.

Commissioner Watkins stated that he had received a copy of a traffic signal warrant study for the intersection of Western Avenue at 2100 South Western Avenue Private Driveway that was prepared by Krueper Engineering.

The study showed that the traffic signal warrants were not met. Mr. Watkins requested the County review the study and provide professional advice and any recommendations to alleviate the safety concerns raised by the residents of the facility. Mr. Lehman informed Commissioner Watkins that a member of DPW staff would look at this study and he would report their findings upon completion of their review. Chair Ringler also suggested that Commissioner Watkins go to his local Los Angeles City Councilman's office and work with their Deputy for any further questions he may have.

4) Roll Call (Item 3 on the Agenda, meeting resumed order)

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

Absent:                        Commissioner Rhett Price (excused)

Also in attendance were the following:

Mr. Patrick DeChellis, Deputy Director; Mr. William Winter, Deputy Director; Mr. Dean Lehman, Assistant Deputy Director; Mr. Scott Schales, Assistant Division Engineer; Mr. James Chon, Senior Civil Engineer; Ms. Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant

5) Approval of November 3, 2010, HSC Minutes

The Minutes of the November 3, 2010, HSC meeting were approved.

6) Citizen Appeal of requests denied by Public Works

There were no new citizen appeals or requests.

7) Report on business other than appeals

a. Sunset Review

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that on December 22, 2010, the Audit Committee for the County of Los Angeles Department of the Auditor-Controller had submitted a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to extend the HSC Sunset Review date to October 31, 2013. Ms. Guilmette congratulated the HSC on the Audit Committee's decision to recommend the continuation of the HSC. It was also brought to the HSC's attention that during the period between April 2007 and December 2009, the HSC met 25 times with an average attendance of six members or 86 percent. It was mentioned that Commissioner Reese had perfect attendance during that time.

b. Crossing Guard Update

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that for the period since the HSC meeting held on November 3, 2010, the following applies:

- 2 crossing guard requests received
- 1 crossing guard study completed
- 0 locations recommended for service
- 2 locations where service was denied

Ms. Guilmette stated that this brings the total number of locations with crossing guard service to 207. She also stated that although there are 207 locations with crossing guards, there are 212 crossing guards because some locations have more than one crossing guard.

Mr. Winter informed the HSC that there were no plans for the County to cut the crossing guard service. Chair Ringler asked Mr. Ringler if there were any County furloughs planned. Mr. Winter stated there were no County furloughs planned. Mr. DeChellis mentioned the County is going to be looking for ways to save money by contracting out some of its services. Mr. DeChellis also mentioned that safety is a priority.

8) Public Comments on any matter not on agenda

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

9) Reports from special committees

There were no special committee's announcements.

10) Special Orders

Election of New Officers (Chair and Vice-Chair):

The following Commissioners were elected as Chair and Vice-Chair

Chair: Robert Ringler  
Vice-Chair: Thurston Reese

11) Unfinished business and general notes

a) Update on Seville Avenue Recommendations

Mr. James Chon provided an update regarding Seville Avenue, an HSC appeal item that was previously reviewed by the HSC at its March 3, 2010, meeting. Mr. Chon stated that in the July 8, 2010, memo from the Director of Public Works to the Board of Supervisors, it was mentioned that DPW did not agree with the HSC's motion to leave the marked crosswalk at the south approach and install a pedestrian activated flashing beacon at the intersection of Seville Avenue and Hill Street. Mr. Chon stated that since the time that memo was written, DPW was informed that the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation now plan to keep the pedestrian gate open at this intersection of Seville Avenue and Hill Street during school hours. Therefore, DPW is planning to install a pedestrian actuated flashing beacon at the intersection of Seville Avenue and Hill Street by January 2012. Mr. Winter informed the HSC that the multiway stop control was installed on Seville Avenue at Hope Street in August 2010.

12) Date for next meeting announced and adjournment

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for April 6, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 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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