COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES OF JUNE 2, 2010

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

1) Call to Order

The meeting of June 2, 2010, was called to order at 9:25 a.m.

2) <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) Roll Call

Present: Chair Robert A. Ringler

Vice-Chair Guillermo Villalobos Commissioner Rhett Price Commissioner Marvin Estey

Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos

Absent but excused: Commissioner John Watkins

Also in attendance were the following:

Ms. Vanessa Gastelum, Supervisor Molina's Office; Mr. Eduardo Adame, Supervisor Molina's Office; Mr. Scott Schales, Assistant Division Engineer; Mr. James Chon, Senior Civil Engineer; Mr. Alan Nino, Associate Civil Engineer; Mr. Guillermo Gonzalez, Associate Civil Engineer; Mr. Eric Dunlop, Associate Civil Engineer; Ms. Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant; Mr. Omar Ahmed, Senior Civil Engineering Assistant and Mr. Leonel Gallegos, Senior Civil Engineer.

4) Approval of May 5, 2010, Minutes

The Minutes of the May 5, 2010, Highway Safety Commission (HSC) meeting were approved.

- 5) Citizen Appeal of requests denied by Public Works
 - a. Denial of Crossing Guard at Fairmount Street and Bonnie Beach Place

Appellants: Mr. Jose Cantu, Principal Anton Elementary School

Mr. Lorenzo Garcia, Los Angeles Unified School District

Mr. David Holmes

Mr. Gonzalez provided a power point presentation for the HSC. He informed the HSC that William Anton Elementary School, opened in September, 2009, as a replacement for Hammel Street Elementary School, which is making way for the Esteban Torres High School. Due to the closure of Hammel Street Elementary School, crossing guard services were terminated at the following intersections:

- ♦ Hammel Street at Brannick Street
- ♦ Dozier Street at Brannick Street
- ♦ Hammel Street at Eastern Avenue, and
- Hazard Avenue at Dozier Street.

Mr. Gonzalez informed the HSC that at the request of LAUSD, crossing guard studies were also conducted at the stop controlled intersection of Bonnie Beach Place at Fairmount Street in September 2009 and February 2010. These studies were performed on regular school days, and after first confirming the arrival and dismissal times with William Anton Elementary School. Mr. Gonzalez concluded his presentation by stating that both the September 2009 and February 2010 crossing guard studies showed that the intersection of Bonnie Beach Place at Fairmount Street did not meet the minimum criteria for crossing guard service.

Next, Mr. Cantu, Principal for Anton Elementary School made his presentation. Mr. Cantu stated that the former school, Hammel Street Elementary School, had four crossing guards assigned. He stated that William Anton Elementary School is built differently and only has one access point to the school at Bonnie Beach Place and Fairmount Street. He stated that more parents are driving their children to this new school due to the steepness of the roadway leading to the school. Mr. Cantu mentioned there is an early feeding program at 7:30 a.m. that many students attend.

California Highway Patrol (CHP) Officer Dave Davis spoke and mentioned that at school arrival and dismissal times, the traffic conditions are like a "free-for-all" at this intersection. Officer Davis mentioned that Captain Peck from his office has concurred with these findings.

After hearing the testimony of the appellant, the CHP and some concerned parents, the following motion was made:

 Recommend that one crossing guard be deployed at the intersection of Bonnie Beach Place at Fairmount Street. This intersection to be reevaluated for the need of an additional crossing guard in September 2010. Highway Safety Commission Minutes of June 2, 2010 Page 3

> DPW to conduct a separate crossing guard study for the intersection of Hazard Avenue at Bonnie Beach Place. This study to be conducted once school has commenced in September 2010. DPW to report its findings to the HSC.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Chair Ringler called or a recess at 10:55 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:05 a.m.

6) Report on business other than appeals

a. Crossing Guard Update

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that for the 1-month period since the May 5, 2010, HSC meeting, the following applies:

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

The total number of locations with crossing guard service remains at 209. Mr. James Chon informed the HSC that DPW may have to go over the budget with the additional crossing guard just recommended.

The HSC received and filed this information.

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) <u>Unfinished Business and general notes</u>

a) Update on Seville Avenue Crosswalk Removal

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Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that she had handed out a hard copy of the DRAFT Board letter for the Seville Avenue matter as well as a memo drafted from Ms. Farber to the Commission explaining that DPW did not agree with the HSC's motions on the Seville matter.

Commissioner Villalobos informed the HSC that he had been corresponding with Mr. Bill Winter regarding these draft letters and that he took strong objection to the process being used for the Seville Avenue HSC appeal case and how it was being handled by DPW. He handed the HSC a copy of the email that had transpired between himself and Mr. Winter. Commissioner Villalobos also explained that Mr. Winter stated that the reason for the memo was that their recommendation must also be reviewed by the CEO and that the CEO governance was a relatively new step that has not existed during past items that the HSC differed in its opinion with DPW. Mr. Scott Schales suggested that DPW separate the Gail Farber memo as an attachment to their Board letter and instead, make it a separate memo from Gail Farber directly to the Board.

The HSC liked this suggestion and directed DPW to separate the Gail Farber attachment memo and instead make it a separate memo from Gail Farber directly to the Board.

11) New Business

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that there will be an upcoming appeal for traffic conditions at the intersection of Union Pacific Avenue at Sunol Drive. She informed the HSC that this item would be heard at the July 7, 2010, HSC meeting. Ms. Guilmette also offered congratulations to Chair Ringler on his recent reappointment to the HSC.

12) <u>Date for next meeting announced and adjournment</u>

Chair Ringler informed the HSC that the next meeting of the HSC is tentatively scheduled for July 7, 2010. The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

IRENA ĞÜILMETTE Executive Officer

Highway Safety Commission

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