

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010**

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

1) Call to Order

The meeting of September 1, 2010, was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) Roll Call

Present:	Chair Robert A. Ringer Vice-Chair Thurston Reese Commissioner Rhett Price Commissioner Marvin Estey Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos Commissioner John Watkins
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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; Ms. Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant; Mr. Omar Ahmed, Senior Civil Engineering Assistant

4) Approval of July 7, 2010 Minutes

The Minutes of the July 7, 2010, Highway Safety Commission (HSC) meeting were approved.

5) Citizen Appeal of requests denied by Public Works

a. Appeal of crosswalk removal at Tyler Avenue and Lynrose Street

Appellant:	Ms. Sylvia Dohnel
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Mr. Nino provided a power point presentation for the HSC. Mr. Nino stated that as part of an upcoming Tyler Avenue resurfacing project, DPW evaluated whether the existing uncontrolled marked crosswalk on Tyler Avenue at Lynrose Street should be restored after the project's completion. He informed the HSC that based on DPW's study, it was recommended that the existing crosswalk **not** be restriped after the project's completion. Mr. Nino stated that Ms. Sylvia Dohnel contacted our office to appeal the recommendation to not restore the existing crosswalk on Tyler Avenue at Lynrose Street after completion of the Tyler Avenue resurfacing project. She indicated that there are numerous pedestrians utilizing the crosswalk at the intersection and that there is an existing school in the area that may use the crosswalk as well.

Mr. Nino stated that DPW did the following:

- ◆ Counted the number of vehicles and pedestrians at the intersection.
- ◆ Measured the speed of vehicles.
- ◆ Reviewed the reported collision data.
- ◆ Observed pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- ◆ Conducted a traffic signal study.
- ◆ Conducted a multi-way stop control study.
- ◆ Evaluated the existing uncontrolled marked crosswalk at the south approach.

Mr. Nino informed the HSC that after conducting the study, it was found neither a traffic signal nor multi-way stop control were warranted at the intersection of Tyler Avenue and Lynrose Street. Mr. Nino also informed the HSC that DPW reviewed the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) guidelines for installation of a crosswalk and found those guidelines were not met.

Mr. Nino concluded his presentation with the following recommendations:

- ◆ Field observations revealed that motorists and pedestrians can enter or cross the intersection without conflict or undue delay when using normal caution.
- ◆ Since neither a traffic signal nor multi-way stop was warranted, DPW is not recommending that the uncontrolled crosswalk be restored at the intersection of Tyler Avenue at Lynrose Street.
- ◆ It will still be legal for pedestrians to cross Tyler Avenue at Lynrose Street even after the lines are removed.
- ◆ It is recommended to forward the speed results to the CHP for their appropriate enforcement

The appellant, Ms. Sylvia Dohnel, was not present at the meeting. As a result, on behalf of Ms. Dohnel, Ms. Guilmette read the following to the HSC:

As a long-time resident of the tract immediately to the east of Tyler and bounded on the north by Lynrose, I have a number of facts to consider regarding the crosswalk's removal:

1. The frequency and speed of the traffic going north/south on Tyler Avenue.
2. The amount of traffic merging onto Tyler from the Lynrose cross street. Lynrose is used as a shortcut to Tyler (and thus to Santa Anita Ave. south) for those wishing to avoid traffic on Live Oak Avenue immediately to the north.
3. Car and foot traffic going down Tyler, south, from the two shopping areas directly to the north (Walgreen's, Jack in the Box, 7/11, and Albertson's, to name a few).
4. Regular traffic is used to the crosswalk being there, as is the regular pedestrian traffic.
5. The number of residents using the crosswalk that are elderly, using wheelchairs/walkers, or those walking their dogs, riding bicycles and other forms of pedestrian traffic including schoolchildren, coming and going to the local school – Rio Hondo Elementary.
6. The proximity of the Ralphs shopping area immediately to the west (on Santa Anita), to which many residents regularly travel to shop.
7. The residents of the tracts on both sides of Tyler, who regularly cross Tyler coming and going to the two major shopping chains.

After hearing the testimonial of DPW Staff and the appellant's testimonial read by Ms. Guilmette, the HSC made the following motion.

Deny Ms. Dohnel's appeal to retain the crosswalk at the intersection of Tyler Avenue at Dohnel Street.

The motion was carried unanimously.

6) Report on business other than appeals

a. Crossing Guard Update

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that for the 2-month period since the July 7, 2010, HSC meeting, the following applies:

- 2 crossing guard requests received
- 2 crossing guard studies completed
- 3 locations where service was denied (will be terminated this month due to 2 school closures – La Seda and Farjardo Elementary Schools)
- 1 location recommended for service

The total number of locations with crossing guard service remains at 210. Please note that the total number of crossing guards employed by the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) for these 210 locations is 215 (which are due to some locations being served by more than one crossing guard).

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) Unfinished Business and general notes

- a. Salais Street between Azusa Avenue and Hambledon Avenue  
Speeding

Appellant: Maria Maldonado

Mr. Nino presented a power point presentation to the HSC. Mr. Nino stated that at the HSC meeting of February 3, 2010 the commissioners of the Highway Safety Commission made the following motion:

- 1) DPW investigate the feasibility of converting Salais Street between Sandalwood Avenue and Azusa Avenue to a westbound one-way street.
- 2) DPW investigate the feasibility of closing Salais Street at its westerly terminus located at the Azusa Avenue East Frontage Road.
- 3) DPW investigate the feasibility of posting signs on Salais Street prohibiting non-residents between the hours of 6:00 am and 9:00 am and 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm weekdays.
- 4) Recommend Baldwin Park California Highway Patrol continue to enforce speeding and other infractions along Salais Street between Azusa Avenue and Hambledon Avenue.

Mr. Nino informed the HSC that the key issues occurring on Salais Street were speeding and cut-through traffic. He stated that because of these issues, DPW considered the following options from the Traffic Calming Toolbox:

- One Way Streets
- Full Closure
- Neighborhood Signs
- Enforcement
- Radar Trailers
- Stop Signs
- Speed Cushions
- Center Medians
- Chicanes/Bulb-Outs

Mr. Nino informed the HSC that after carefully considering all of the above options, DPW came up with the following conclusions:

- Since none of the multi-way stop control warrants were satisfied we are not recommending multi-way stop control at the intersections of Salais Street and Sandalwood Avenue or Salais Street and Winton Avenue.
- Since the prevailing speeds were less than the required and the volumes were more than twice the maximum required, speed humps not recommended on Salais Street between Azusa Avenue and Hambledon Avenue.

- It is recommended to forward the speed results to the CHP for their appropriate enforcement.
- It is recommended to deploy a radar speed trailer on Salais Street between Azusa Avenue and Sandalwood Avenue for a week.
- Field observations revealed that motorists and pedestrians can enter or cross the intersections without conflict or undue delay when using normal caution.
- It is recommended to replace missing speed limit sign on south side of Salais Street east of Azusa Avenue.

At this point, Ms. Maldonado provided her testimonial in which she reiterated her concerns about speeding motorists and bypass traffic using Salais Street. Commissioner Villalobos inquired whether the existing Federal Functional Classification Map can be reclassified to show Salais Street as a residential street. Ms. Nino stated that might be a difficult procedure. After hearing the testimonial of DPW Staff and the appellant, the Commission made the following motion:

- DPW to work with Federal officials on reclassifying Salais Street between Sandalwood Road and Hambledon Avenue from collector road to residential road.
- DPW to consider installing a No Left turn or No right turn during certain time periods at Salais Street at its intersection with Azusa Avenue.
- DPW to further pursue suggestion of terminating Salais Street at the westerly end of the collector road for Azusa Avenue by pursuing input from the local community bordered by Azusa Avenue to the west, Gemini Road to the north, Hambledon Avenue to the East and Salais Street to the south as well as input from the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

The motion was carried unanimously.

11) New Business

Request for Flashing lights at Fire Station #19 on Foothill Boulevard

A member of the audience, Mr. Olsen, made a request for DPW to consider installing flashing beacons at Fire Station #19 on Foothill Boulevard. Mr. Olsen stated that this would be in the City of La Canada Flintridge.

Mr. Winter informed Mr. Olsen that this location was not located within the County unincorporated area and that it was located within the City of La Canada Flintridge City limits. He said that DPW does not provide Traffic Engineering services for the City of La Canada Flintridge, but that DPW would refer this issue to the City on his behalf. Mr. Olsen thanked the HSC for their attention to this matter.

12) Date for next meeting announced and adjournment

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for October 6, 2010. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 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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