

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF APRIL 2, 2008**

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

1) Call to Order

The meeting of April 2, 2008, was called to order at 9:11 a.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) Roll Call

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

Also in attendance were the following:

Mr. William Higley, Deputy Director; Mr. William Winter, Assistant Deputy Director; Mr. Bahman Hajjaliakbar, Assistant Division Engineer; Mr. James Chon, Senior Civil Engineer; Mr. Bonito Housen, Associate Civil Engineer; Mr. Alan Nino, Associate Civil Engineer and Ms. Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant.

4) Approval of March 3, 2008 Minutes

The Minutes of the March 3, 2008, Highway Safety Commission (HSC) meeting were approved as amended.

Chair Ringler decided to hear Item 6a out of order because the appellant for Item 5a was absent and the requester for Item 6a was present at the meeting.

6) Report on business other than appeals

Highway Safety Commission

- a) Firestone Boulevard at Zamora Avenue, Hooper Avenue, Compton Avenue
Request for Crossing Guard
Requesters: Mr. Adalberto Vega, Principal Russell Elementary School and
community members

Mr. Housen informed the HSC that Russell Elementary has been a part of the County's Florence-Firestone Community Enhancement Team effort. The three "E"s (engineering enforcement and education) has been stressed in the initiatives carried out in the area. Mr. Housen stated that DPW has received a request for new crossing guards at currently serviced locations. Mr. Housen informed the HSC that DPW conducted crossing guard studies at the intersections of Firestone Boulevard at Compton Avenue, Firestone Boulevard at Hooper Avenue , Firestone Boulevard at Zamora Avenue and Hooper Avenue at 84th Place. Mr. Housen stated the results of the crossing guard studies indicated that the crossing guard warrant was met at the north leg of Hooper Avenue and 84th Place. Mr. Housen stated that before recommending a crossing guard at this location, DPW needs Russell Elementary School's input on their long term intent to provide campus access at 85th Street.

Next, the HSC listened to testimony by Mr. Adalberto Vega, Principal of Russell Elementary School. After listening to DPW Staff and Mr. Vega, the HSC had discussion and the following motion was made:

- DPW to ask Los Angeles County Office of Education to assign crossing guards at the following locations:
 - a. Hooper Avenue at 84th Place (new service)
 - b. Firestone Boulevard at Hooper Avenue (new service)
 - c. Firestone Boulevard at Compton Avenue (additional crossing guard, bringing total guards at this location to 2).

These crossing guards are to be assigned on a temporary basis until further notice while DPW continues working with the community and Russell Elementary School Staff for further enhancements of their traffic concerns.

- DPW to determine whether or not a school drop-off zone can be created in the west parking lot of Russell Elementary School. The ingress of this drop-off zone would be via 85th Street and egress via Firestone Boulevard.

- DPW to reapply for the Safe Routes to School Grant in an effort to install a raised center median/fenced median along Firestone Boulevard between Hooper Avenue and Compton Avenue, with a break at Zamora Avenue.

The motion was carried unanimously.

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

- a) Woods Avenue at Repetto Street:
Denial of Multi-Way Stop Control
Appellant: Ms. Laura Palacio

Mr. Nino informed the HSC that Mr. and Mrs. Palacio requested DPW to install multiway stop controls on Woods Avenue at Repetto street. They also requested the installation of speed humps on Woods Avenue between Via Corona and 4th Street. Mr. Nino informed the HSC that DPW did the following:

- Counted the number of vehicles and pedestrians at the intersection.
- Measured speed of vehicles.
- Reviewed the reported collision data.
- Observed pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- Conducted a multi-way stop and speed humps study.

Mr. Nino summarized the findings of the studies as stated below:

- Field observations revealed that motorists and pedestrians can enter or cross the intersection without conflict or undue delay when using normal caution.
- Since none of the warrants or guidelines were satisfied, multiway stop control controls or speed humps are not recommended.
- 25-mph speed limit signs were installed on Woods Avenue for northbound and southbound motorists.
- Additional red curb was installed to enhance visibility at the intersection of Woods Avenue at Repetto Street.

The appellant did not attend the meeting and as a result, there was no presentation made to represent the appellant. After listening to DPW Staff, the HSC had discussion regarding the appeal and the following motion was made:

- Deny appeal for multi-way stop control at the intersection of Woods Avenue and Repetto Street.
- Deny appeal for speed humps on Woods Avenue between Via Corona and 4th Street.

The motion was carried unanimously.

7) Reports from special committees.

There were no special committees announcements.

8) Special Orders.

There were no special orders.

9) Unfinished Business and General Notes

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that DPW would be presenting the follow-up report on the pedestrian bridge for the intersection of La Crescenta Avenue at Prospect Avenue at the upcoming May 7, 2008, HSC meeting.

10) New Business

There was no new business.

11) Date for next meeting announced and adjournment

Ms. Guilmette informed the Commission that the next meeting of the HSC is scheduled for May 7, 2008. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

A recording of the discussions held at this meeting is on file at Public Works. The next meeting was scheduled for May 7, 2008, at DPW Headquarters in Alhambra.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Irena Guilmette". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

IRENA GUILMETTE
Executive Officer
Highway Safety Commission

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