

**MINUTES OF THE
TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING**

July 2, 2019

- CALL TO ORDER:** Acting Chair Gavilanes called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 7100 Garfield Avenue, Bell Gardens.
- ROLL CALL:** Secretary, Veronica Sanchez took roll call.
- PRESENT:** Commissioner Rosa Galvan, Acting Chair Jayson Gavilanes, Commissioner Victor Barbosa and Commissioner David Heredia were present. Chau Vu, Director of Public Works and Doug Benash, City Engineer and Veronica Sanchez, Secretary were also present.
- INVOCATION:** Ms. Vu led the invocation.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Heredia led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- POSTING OF AGENDA:** The agenda was posted as prescribed by law.
- PUBLIC AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** No comments. A motion was made by Commissioner Galvan and second by Commissioner Barbosa to close public participation.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 4, 2019:** Commissioner Heredia made the motion to approve and Commissioner Galvan second the motion.
- ON-STREET DISABLED PERSONS PARKING – 6513 HANNON ST:** Chau Vu gave the report. In accordance with City Policy, Mr. Padilla submitted the written medical diagnosis and copy of his disabled person placard for On-Street Disabled Persons Parking. Staff completed a site investigation. Mr. Padilla's home is located on the north side of Hannon Street. The driveway along the west side of the home is long enough to accommodate 2 to 3 car parking. The City Policy states that 'the applicant must not have an off-street parking space, garage, carport or other available alternative to them that may be used for the disabled person'. Mr. Padilla's home provide off-street parking, Therefore staff is recommending denying Mr. Padilla's request since the driveway will provide the most accessible parking

location for the disabled person. Additionally, it should be noted that these on-street disabled persons parking are not exclusive and anyone with the disabled placard is entitled to park there.

Commissioner Galvan wanted clarification as to the property address. The report title states 6613 Hannon and the rest of the report indicated 6513.

Secretary Sanchez clarified it is 6513 and that was a typo.

Commissioner Barbosa believes that the applicant wanted additional parking spaces but agrees that the best parking spot for a disabled person is at the driveway, which would be the closest distance to travel to the home.

Commissioner Heredia asked if the applicant is the owner of the property.

Secretary Sanchez confirmed it is. It is one of the questions asked of the applicant and if he is not the property owner, the follow up question, 'have they requested accommodation to the property owner?'

Commissioner Heredia made the motion and Commissioner Barbosa second the motion to deny the request.

**SPECHT AVENUE TRAFFIC
CALMING STUDY
RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Chau Vu gave the report. This is not the first time the Commission hears this item. Specht Avenue has been an issue for some time now, Residents of Specht Avenue between Gage Avenue and Watcher Street have expressed their concerns regarding speeding and cut-through traffic. Staff has addressed these concerns installing stop signs, east and west bound Watcher Street at Specht Avenue and more recently in January of 2018, staff completed a traffic study and additional calming measures were installed. Speed limit signs were posted and Keep Clear pavement legends on eastbound lanes. Staff also request additional PD enforcement. The issue persists. Therefore it is staff's recommendation to conduct neighborhood meetings to determine if the resident who would have to live with the devices would support installing traffic calming devices, such as speed humps, radar signs or striping. They would be given an opportunity to vote on the recommendations.

Commissioner Heredia – Asked if we know or can estimate the cut down on cars cutting through if speed humps are installed.

Engineer Benash explained that the number of vehicles cannot be determined but what will happen is that motorist will have to significantly slow down for the

speed hump, which will deter them from using this as an alternate route to avoid Gage and Eastern.

Commissioner Galvan – Lives in the area and agrees that there is a lot of traffic cutting through.

Commissioner Heredia – Pointed out that Specht Avenue curbs slightly and enough for motorist not to have a clean line of sight.

Commissioner Galvan – Would be willing to host the meeting at her home.

Commissioner Barbosa – Expressed his concern in having workshops at appropriate times when residents are able to attend, based on recent workshop at Veterans Park.

Commissioner Galvan made the motion and Commissioner Heredia second the motion.

**COMMISSION RE-ORGANIZATION
NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIR
AND VICE-CHAIR:**

Ms. Sanchez advised the Commission, based on the City's Municipal Code, a Commission shall elect its Chair and Vice-Chair from its members. Ms. Sanchez opened nominations for the position of Chair. Commissioner Galvan nominated Commissioner Jayson Gavilanes for the position of Chair. Commissioner Heredia second the nomination.

Ms. Sanchez took roll call vote on the nomination of Commissioner Jayson Gavilanes for Chair. The Commission unanimously supported the nomination.

Ms. Sanchez congratulated Chair Jayson Gavilanes.

Ms. Sanchez took nomination for the position of Vice-Chair. Commissioner Galvan nominated Commissioner Heredia for the position of Vice-Chair. Chair Gavilanes second the nomination.

Ms. Sanchez took roll call vote on the nomination of Commissioner David Heredia for Vice-Chair. The Commission unanimously supported the nomination.

Ms. Sanchez congratulated Vice-Chair David Heredia.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF:

Ms. Vu – Informed the Commission that City Council did not support the installation of red curb at Ajax and Watcher that was recently approved by the Commission. Additionally the City Council was not prepared to appoint the Traffic and Safety Commission as the I-710 LAC. They are interested in appointing their own.

**COMMENTS FROM
THE COMMISSION:**

Commissioner Galvan asked if there are cameras in the alley behind El Pescador. Ms. Sanchez explained that the City does have cameras at various alley locations. The intent of them is to deter people from graffiti and

illegal dumping. They are moved around depending on hot spots.


Commissioner Barbosa mentioned an Edison light at Garfield & Florence being out. Ms. Vu explained that staff is working with Edison to complete conversion of street lights but it is a lengthy process for both the streets and parks.

Chair Gavilanes expressed he was happy to be here.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Barbosa made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Vice-Chair Heredia second the motion. Chair Gavilanes adjourned the meeting to the next scheduled meeting of August 6, 2019 at 6:02pm.

APPROVED BY:



Jayson Gavilanes, Chair

Submitted by:



Veronica Sanchez, Secretary