



**CITY OF BELL GARDENS
TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023, 5:30 p.m.
AGENDA**

LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 7100 GARFIELD AVENUE, BELL GARDENS, CA 90201

The meeting will be held at Bell Gardens City Hall in the Council Chambers. The public may attend the meeting in-person or virtually as instructed below. You may view the meeting live on the City's website at <https://www.bellgardens.org/i-want-to/watch-commission-meetings>. Agendas are available at <https://www.bellgardens.org/government/city-departments/city-clerk/bell-gardens-commissions/traffic-and-safety-commission>.

ACCESSIBILITY: If requested, the agenda and backup materials will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Any person who requires a disability-related modification or accommodation, in order to observe and/or offer public comment may request such reasonable modification, accommodation, aid, or service by contacting Veronica Sanchez, Commission Secretary by telephone at 562-806-7770 or via email vsanchez@bellgardens.org no later than 72-hours before the scheduled meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The members of the public may address the Commission on any item listed on the agenda or on matters which are not listed on the agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Traffic and Safety Commission. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person. Public comments for non-agenda items will be limited to a total of 30 minutes. Public comments can be made by any of the following ways:

IN-PERSON: Members of the public can provide in-person comments at the podium in the Council Chamber. The Council Chamber will have seating available for members of the public to attend the meeting in-person. For your safety, space is currently limited to 50 members of the public. Masking is required for all in attendance. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, unless a different time is announced by the presiding chair.

BY TELEPHONE: Phone Number: [\(669\)900-9128](tel:(669)900-9128) Webinar ID: [818 0091 8706#](#) Passcode: [*2021#](#)
To address the Commission press [*9](#) to raise your hand then [*6](#) to unmute yourself when instructed.

VIRTUALLY: Zoom Meeting ID: [818 0091 8706](#) Passcode: [2021](#)
Comments may also be made via the Zoom app by using the "Raise Hand" feature when it is your turn to speak the host will unmute you. *Comments will not be accepted in the QandA Chat function of the zoom app.

WRITTEN COMMENTS: Public comments may be submitted electronically by emailing them to vsanchez@bellgardens.org or mailed to the Department of Public Works, 8327 Garfield Avenue, Bell Gardens, CA 90201. To ensure distribution to the members of the Commission prior to

consideration of the agenda, please submit comments no later than one (1) hour prior to the meeting. Those comments, as well as any comments received after, will be distributed to the members of the Commission and will be part of the official public record of the meeting.

For more information, you may contact the Department of Public Works during regular business hours 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday at (562) 806-7770.

TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMISSION

Chairperson David Heredia
Vice Chairperson Raul Velasco
Commissioner Hugo Alvarado
Commissioner Carlos Jose Barrera
Commissioner Jayson Gavilanes

CITY STAFF

Bernardo Iniguez, Director of Public Works
Douglas Benash, P.E. City Engineer
Veronica Sanchez, Secretary



**CITY OF BELL GARDENS
TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023, 5:30 p.m.
AGENDA**

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Hugo Alvarado, Commissioner
Carlos Jose Barrera, Commissioner
Jayson Gavilanes, Commissioner
Raul Velasco, Vice Chair
David Heredia, Chairperson

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

During this time, members of the public may address the Commission regarding any agenda items or non-agenda items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the commission. Public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person. Public comments for non-agenda items are limited to an overall 30-minute period and will be heard after all comments for agenda items have been heard. Government Code Section 54590 prohibits the Commission from taking action or engaging in discussion on a specific item unless it appears on the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Item No. 1)

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2023

Brief Summary: May 2, 2023 – Traffic and Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: It is staff's recommendation that the Commissioners approve the attached minutes.

DISCUSSION (Item No. 2, 3 & 4)

2. TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS – REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF DISABLED PERSON PARKING SPACE

Brief Summary: On May 15, 2023, Mr. William Alexander Sanchez applied for a disabled persons on-street parking space fronting his residential property at 6304 Gotham Street. In accordance with the City of Bell Gardens' Policy for On-Street Parking for Disabled Persons in Residential Areas, each disabled person parking space application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis and submitted to the Traffic and Safety Commission for review and consideration.

Recommendation: It is staff's recommendation that the Traffic and Safety Commission by motion to deny the request for a disabled parking space at 3904 Gotham Street, based on the reported findings that conditions 3 and 4 of the Guidelines for On-Street Parking for Disabled Persons in Residential Areas ("Guidelines") are not met.

3. TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS – SPEED MANAGEMENT ON GREENWOOD AVENUE SOUTH OF GAGE AVENUE

Brief Summary: The Department of Public Works received a request to evaluate the need for speed limit signs to encourage motorists to slow down on Greenwood Avenue south of Gage Avenue. As part of the City’s ongoing goal to improve safety, it has been determined there is a need for the installation of speed limit signs on Greenwood Avenue. The City Engineer completed a site investigation of the location to confirm existing roadway conditions. Greenwood Ave south of E Gage Ave is a residential street with prima facie speed of 25 MPH.

Recommendation: It is the City Engineer’s recommendation that the Traffic and Safety Commission, by motion, direct staff to request City Council consideration of the installation of 25 MPH speed limit signs facing northbound and southbound traffic on Greenwood Avenue south of Gage Avenue and plan regular speed enforcement by the Bell Gardens Police Department.

4. TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS – SIGHT DISTANCE IMPROVEMENTS AT EASTERN AVENUE AND PRIORY STREET

Brief Summary: The Department of Public Works received a request from Officer Eric A. Perez, Bell Gardens Police Department, to evaluate the intersection of Eastern Ave and Priory Street due to safety concerns with vehicles turning onto Eastern Avenue from Priory Street. The City Engineer completed a site investigation of the location to confirm existing roadway and sight distance conditions.

Recommendation: It is the City Engineer’s recommendation that the Traffic and Safety Commission, by motion, direct staff to request City Council consideration for the installation of 50 feet of red curb at the northwest corner of the intersection, the installation of 40 feet of red curb at the southeast corner of the intersection and the installation of 20 feet of red curb at the northeast corner of the intersection.

STAFF COMMENTS

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF AUGUST 1, 2023

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF BELL GARDENS
TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING**

May 2, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Heredia called the Traffic & Safety Commission Meeting to order at 5:48 pm.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Sanchez took roll call.

INVOCATION: Ms. Sanchez led the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Barrera led the pledge of allegiance.

PRESENT: Commissioner Alvarado, Commissioner Barrera, Commissioner Gavilanes (attended virtually / just cause), Vice-Chair Velasco and Chair Heredia were present. Douglas Benash, City Engineer; Steven Jones, City Planner and Veronica Sanchez, Secretary were also present.

PUBLIC AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS: No comments were received.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 2023: Vice-Chair Velasco made the motion and Commissioner Alvarado second the motion. AYES: Heredia, Velasco, Alvarado, Barrera and Gavilanes.

**CAL WALKS' COMMUNITY
PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE**

SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM: Ms. Sanchez deferred to Steven Jones, City Planner, to give the report. At the Planning Commission meeting, staff was directed to provide information on ways Bell Gardens could coordinate accessible mobility and transportation infrastructure among neighboring jurisdictions and encourage safe and well-connected active transportation. The Planning Commission wished to convene a local committee or ad-hoc committee that includes residents that live, work, bike, and play in Bell Gardens. Since the Traffic & Safety Commission is already in place and promotes active transportation. It was ideal to present this to this Commission. CalWalks and UC Berkley created this joint program that can work with residents and advocates to develop a community-driven action plan that improves walking biking in the community. Since this Commission is already meeting enacting workshops would be a seamless transition as the commission already meets regularly. It is recommended that the Commission take action and

recommend to the City Council the convening of a local planning committee beginning with the members of this Commission.

Vice-Chair Velasco sought confirmation that they would be those that would be or serve at the planning workshops and they would be able to promote involvement.

Mr. Jones confirmed that is the intent.

Chair Heredia expected something similar when he first joined the commission, so he is looking forward to it. The input of the staff and commissioners and discussions.

Commissioner Barrera inquired on the timeline.

Mr. Jones confirmed Calwalks is ready now, as soon as it is presented to Council, anticipate that to be May 22nd. A workshop at the June meeting would be great.

Vice-Chair Velasco made the motion and Commissioner Barrera second the motion. AYES: Heredia, Velasco Alvarado, Barrera and Gavilanes.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF: Ms. Sanchez informed the Commission that the Director of Public Works will be on board by next meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Vice-Chair Velasco thanked the Bell Gardens Police Department. There was an incident near the High School and luckily no one was hurt.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairperson Heredia adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting of May 2, 2023.

APPROVED BY:

David Heredia, Chairperson

Submitted by:

Veronica Sanchez, Secretary



CITY OF BELL GARDENS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

AGENDA REPORT Item 2.

TO:	Honorable Chair and Members of the Traffic and Safety Commission
FROM:	Bernardo Iniguez, Director of Public Works
BY:	Douglas Benash, P.E., City Engineer
SUBJECT:	TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS – REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF DISABLED PERSON PARKING SPACE
DATE:	June 6, 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

It is staff's recommendation that the Traffic and Safety Commission by motion:

1. Deny the request for a disabled parking space at 3904 Gotham Street, based on the reported findings that conditions 3 and 4 of the Guidelines for On-Street Parking for Disabled Persons in Residential Areas ("Guidelines") are not met.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

On May 15, 2023, Mr. William Alexander Sanchez (the "Applicant") applied for a disabled persons on-street parking space fronting his residential property at 6304 Gotham Street. In accordance with the City of Bell Gardens' Policy for On-Street Parking for Disabled Persons in Residential Areas, each disabled person parking space application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis and submitted to the Traffic and Safety Commission for review and consideration.

The following information summarizes key points that are reviewed during the evaluation process by the City Engineer and/or City Traffic Engineer:

"The intent of this policy is to prevent the proliferation of special parking stalls that may be installed for a short-term purpose but later seldom used. Unjustified installation of such parking stall designations unnecessarily increases the City's maintenance and operation cost, reduces available on-street parking for the general public and detracts from the overall effectiveness of the disabled persons parking program.

Exceptions may be made in special hardship cases, provided all of the following conditions exist:

1. *Applicant (or guardian) must be in possession of valid plates for "disabled person" or "disabled veterans" issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles.*
2. *The proposed disabled parking spaced must be in front of the disabled person's place of residence.*
3. *The applicant must not have an off-street parking space, garage, carport or other available alternative to them that may be used for disabled parking.*

4. *Applicant must provide a signed statement from a medical doctor that specifies the disabled person is unable (even with the aid of crutches, braces, walker, wheelchair or similar support) to travel more than 50 feet between his or her home and automobile without assistance of a second person. “*

In response to the request, the City Engineer reviewed the application and supporting documentation that was submitted. Following his review, the City Engineer confirmed that a one car garage exists at the residence; however, the Applicant noted in the application that having a disabled parking space on the street would be convenient and accessible during emergencies. A copy of a Physician Office Visit report (“Report”), dated March 9, 2022, was also submitted with the application along with a copy of A DMV disabled person placard which expires on June 30, 2025. In the Report, the Applicant’s physician deemed the Applicant to be “totally permanently disabled.”

CONCLUSION:

The Applicant does not meet conditions 3 and 4 of the Guidelines; therefore, staff is recommending denial of the requested on-street disabled parking space.

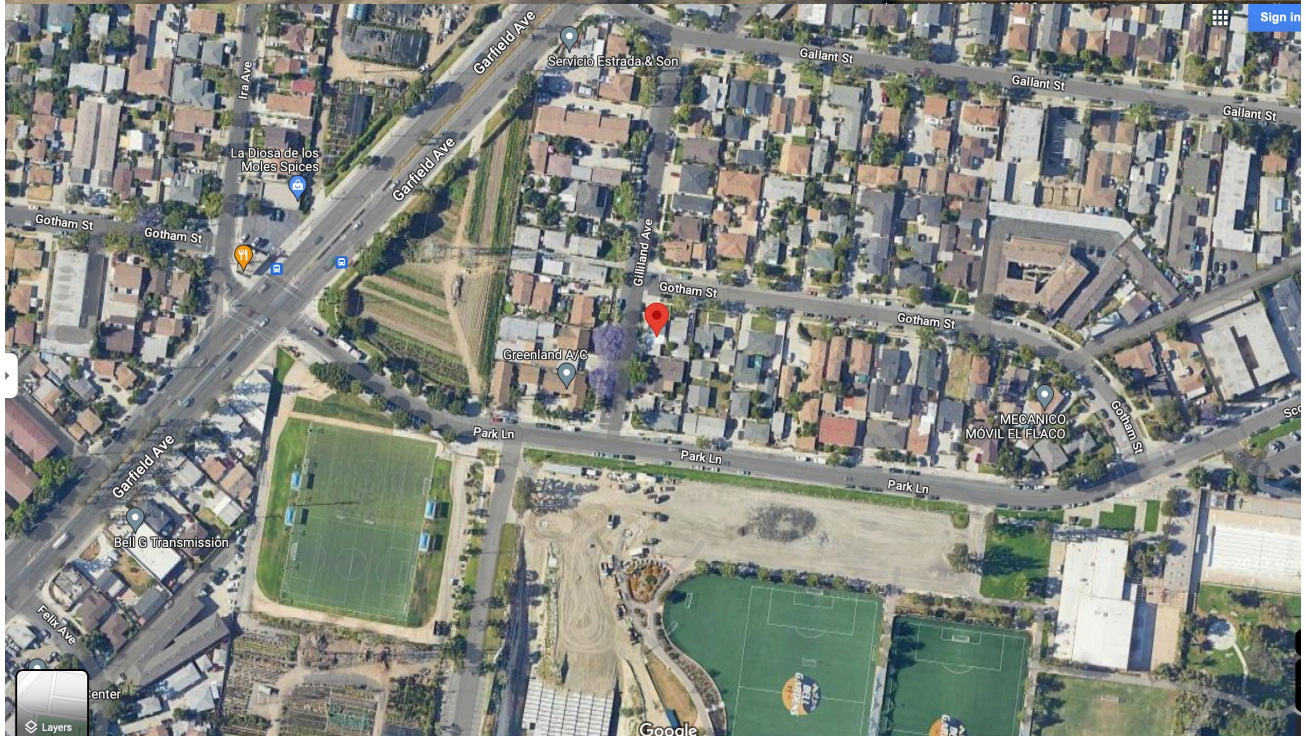
FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

ATTACHMENT:

Exhibit 1 – Aerial and Street View of Subject Residence

Exhibit 1 – Aerial and Street View of Subject Residence





CITY OF BELL GARDENS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

AGENDA REPORT Item 3.

TO:	Honorable Chair and Members of the Traffic and Safety Commission
FROM:	Bernardo Iniguez, Director of Public Works
BY:	Douglas Benash, P.E., City Engineer
SUBJECT:	TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS – SPEED MANAGEMENT ON GREENWOOD AVENUE SOUTH OF GAGE AVENUE
DATE:	June 6, 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

It is staff's recommendation that the Traffic and Safety Commission by motion:

1. Direct staff to request City Council consideration of the installation of 25 MPH speed limit signs facing northbound and southbound traffic on Greenwood Avenue south of Gage Avenue; and
2. Direct staff to request traffic enforcement from the Police Department to enforce compliance with the posted stop signs and speed limits.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Department of Public Works received a request to evaluate the need for speed limit signs to encourage motorists to slow down on Greenwood Avenue, south of Gage Avenue.

The City Engineer completed a site investigation of the location to confirm existing roadway conditions. Greenwood Avenue, south of Gage Avenue, is a residential street with a prima facie speed limit of 25 MPH. The length of the public street is approximately 500 feet long and it leads into a private street. Exhibit 1 illustrates a view of the existing street segment.

CONCLUSION:

After a review of the existing site conditions, the City Engineer determined that the installation of 25 MPH speed limit signs facing northbound and southbound traffic on Greenwood Avenue, along with enforcement by the Bell Gardens Police Department, should result in a higher level of compliance with the prima facie speed limit of 25 MPH.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The estimated cost for the installation of speed limit signs is approximately \$750 and is available in the current Street Maintenance Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Exhibit 1 – Existing Conditions
- Exhibit 2 – Proposed Improvements

Exhibit 1 – Existing Conditions



Exhibit 2 – Proposed Improvements



1. Install 25 MPH speed limit signs facing northbound and southbound traffic.
2. Plan regular speed enforcement by the Bell Gardens Police Department.



CITY OF BELL GARDENS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

AGENDA REPORT

Item 4.

TO:	Honorable Chair and Members of the Traffic and Safety Commission
FROM:	Bernardo Iniguez, Director of Public Works
BY:	Douglas Benash, P.E., City Engineer
SUBJECT:	TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS – SIGHT DISTANCE IMPROVEMENTS AT EASTERN AVENUE AND PRIORY STREET
DATE:	June 6, 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

It is staff's recommendation that the Traffic and Safety Commission by motion:

1. Direct staff to request City Council consideration of the following improvements at the intersection of Easter Avenue and Priory Street:
 - a. Installation of 50 feet of red curb at the northwest corner of the intersection;
 - b. Installation of 40 feet of red curb at the southeast corner of the intersection;
and
 - c. Installation of 20 feet of red curb at the northeast corner of the intersection.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Department of Public Works received a request from Officer Eric A. Perez, Bell Gardens Police Department, to evaluate the intersection of Eastern Avenue and Priory Street due to safety concerns with vehicles turning onto Eastern Avenue from Priory Street.

The City Engineer completed a site investigation of the location to confirm existing roadway and sight distance conditions. Exhibit 1 shows a view of existing conditions at the intersection.

CONCLUSION:

After a review of the existing site conditions, the City Engineer determined that installing 50 feet of red curb at the northwest corner of the intersection; 40 feet of red curb at the southeast corner of the intersection; and 20 feet of red curb at northeast corner of the intersection would improve sight distance for left turning motorists travelling eastbound and westbound on Priory Street. Installing 50 feet of red curb at the northwest corner would match the length of existing southbound right-turn only lane at the intersection.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The estimated cost for the installation of red curb is approximately \$800 and is available in the current Street Maintenance Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Exhibit 1 – Existing Conditions
- Exhibit 2 – Proposed Improvements

Exhibit 1 – Existing Conditions

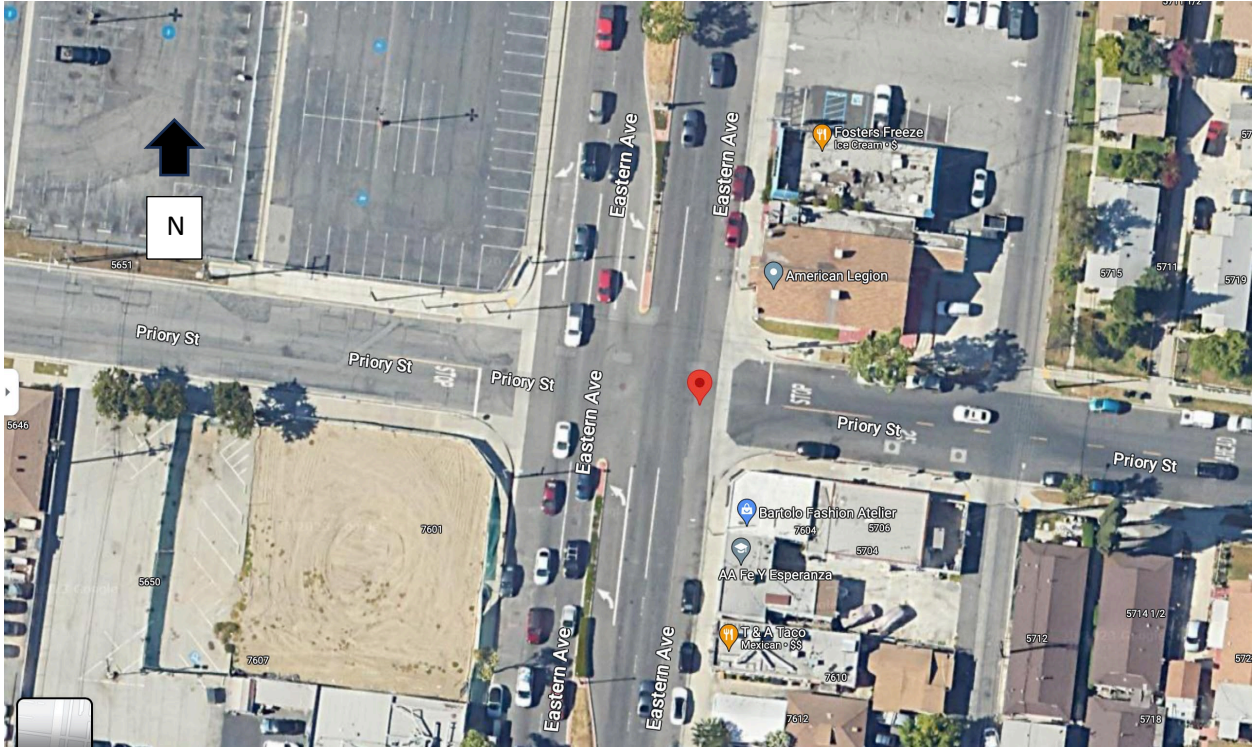


Exhibit 2 – Proposed Improvements



1. Install 50 feet of red curb at northwest corner of the intersection.
2. Install 40 feet of red curb at southeast corner of the intersection.
3. Install 20 feet of red curb at southwest corner of intersection.