



**CITY OF BELL GARDENS
TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 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
Commissioner Hugo Alvarado
Commissioner Carlos Jose Barrera
Commissioner Jayson Gavilanes
Commissioner Raul Velasco

CITY STAFF

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



**CITY OF BELL GARDENS
TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 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, Commissioner
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 OCTOBER 3, 2023

Brief Summary: October 3, 2023 – Traffic and Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: It is staff's recommendation that the Traffic and Safety Commission approve the attached minutes.

DISCUSSION (Item No. 2)

2. TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS – REQUEST FOR SPEED HUMPS ON IRA AVENUE FROM CLARA STREET TO GOTHAM STREET

Brief Summary: The Public Works Department received a signed petition from residents for the installation of speed humps on Ira Avenue from Clara Street to Gotham Street. The residents expressed concerns regarding speeding activity on this street.

Recommendation: It is staff's recommendation that the Traffic and Safety Commission: 1. authorize staff to distribute a Speed Hump Survey Questionnaire to all residents fronting Ira Avenue from Clara Street to Gotham Street, requesting their confirmation of support or opposition of the proposed speed hump installation; and 2. if at least 51% resident support is obtained, approve for City Council consideration the installation of two (2) proposed speed humps on Ira Avenue as shown in Exhibit 2; or 3. if less than 51% resident support is obtained, deny and close out the citizen speed hump request.

STAFF COMMENTS

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF DECEMBER 5, 2023

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

October 3, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Heredia called the Traffic & Safety Commission Meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Sanchez took roll call.

PRESENT: Commissioner Alvarado attended the meeting via teleconference under "just cause." Commissioner Barrera, Commissioner Gavilanes and Chair Heredia were present. Bernardo Iniguez, Director of Public Works/Facilities, Douglas Benash, City Engineer, and Veronica Sanchez, Secretary were also present.

INVOCATION: Mr. Iniguez led the invocation.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023: Commissioner Barrera made the motion to approve and Commissioner Alvarado seconded the motion. AYES: Alvarado, Barrera, and Heredia.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS
REQUEST FOR RED CURB
PARKING RESTRICTIONS
FRONTING 6872 GAGE
AVENUE:**

Mr. Iniguez briefly summarized. The department received a request for installation of red curb parking restrictions fronting 6872 Gage Avenue due to traffic safety concerns. The recommendation to the Traffic and Safety Commission is to approve for City Council consideration the installation of 11 feet of additional red curb parking restrictions to improve sight distance conditions.

Mr. Benash provided the full report. In response to the request from a resident for the installation of additional red curb at 6872 Gage Avenue and in accordance with City policy, a field review was conducted. The current striping on Gage Avenue and within 100 feet east and west of the property is double-double yellow painted median island.

Per California Vehicle Code a vehicle cannot cross a double-double yellow. Therefore, turning movements into and out of the property at 6872 Gage and the adjacent property are right turn only since a left turn is not allowed. The same situation exists for other multi-family properties west of Chalet Drive. 6872 and 6868 Gage Avenue are multi-family properties with multiple structures with some on-site parking. On both parcels, eastbound Gage Avenue currently has on-street parking spaces available with some red curb parking restrictions. In their request, the resident indicated that a large truck parks in front of 6872 Gage Avenue and does not move for several days making it difficult to exit the driveway due to limited sight distance. The California Vehicle Code states vehicles cannot park for more than 72 hours, which is a parking enforcement issue. Additionally, the Chalet Drive traffic signal creates a break to allow access out of the property. Sight distance issues are considered part of the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) guidelines and warrants when looking at intersections. There is no accident history at this location. The community has an overall parking shortage, which was taken into consideration when reviewing this specific case. After reviewing the field conditions, it was recommended to approve the additional 11 feet of red curb parking restrictions fronting 6872 Gage Avenue immediately west of the driveway, leaving 15 feet of unpainted curb to allow for one on-street parking space for a compact car.

Chair Heredia confirmed if the request is for the residents making right turns in and out of the property. Mr. Benash confirmed it was, adding that when a large vehicle is parked there the view is obstructed.

Commissioner Barrera made the motion to approve staff's recommendation and Commissioner Gavilanes seconded the motion. AYES: Alvarado, Barrera, Gavilanes and Heredia.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS
REQUEST FOR SPEED HUMPS
ON LIVE OAK STREET FROM
EMIL AVENUE TO SCOUT
AVENUE:**

Mr. Iniguez briefly summarized. The department received a signed petition from residents for the installation of speed humps on Live Oak Street from Emil Avenue to Scout Avenue in accordance with City Policy. Staff's

recommendation to the Commission was to authorize staff to distribute a Speed Hump Survey Questionnaire to all residents fronting Live Oak Street from Emil Avenue to Scout Avenue, requesting their confirmation of support or opposition of the installation; and if at least 51% resident support is obtained, approve for City Council consideration the installation of the 3 proposed speed humps on Live Oak Street; or if less than 51% resident support is obtained, then deny and close out the citizen speed hump request.

Mr. Benash provided the full report. The department received a signed petition from residents on Live Oak Street from Emil Avenue to Scout Avenue for the installation of speed humps. In accordance with the Speed Hump Policy, each speed hump request is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The policy summarizes some key points during the evaluation process by the City Traffic Engineer, including: 1) the street must be a local residential street with one traveling lane in each direction, 2) the roadway width is no more than 40 feet, 3) there are no curves that would make it difficult to see, 4) traffic volumes are between 500 to 3,500 vehicles daily, 5) the speed limit is 25 miles per hour, 6) the actual measured 85th percentile speed is greater than 25 mph by 8 mph or more, 7) the street is not a transit route, and 8) the citizen support of the residents is at least 51%.

In response to the request, traffic volume counts and speed profiles were ordered. Live Oak Street is an east-west local street with one lane of travel in each direction and a posted 25 mph speed limit. The roadway width is approximately 36 feet and the length of Live Oak Street from Emil Avenue to Scout Avenue is approximately 1,230 feet. The results of the ordered counts and profiling during the 4-day period from August 3rd to August 6th indicated that the 85th percentile speed is 33.5 mph and with an average of 624 vehicles per day. After reviewing the criteria and collecting the data, the next step is the consideration of the citizens' support, which would include distribution of the Speed Hump Survey Questionnaire to all residents fronting Live Oak Street.

Chair Heredia commented that this could potentially aide in the visibility when turning onto Live Oak Street as vehicles would have to slow down.

Commissioner Gavilanes made the motion to approve staff's recommendation and Commissioner Barrera seconded the motion. AYES: Alvarado, Barrera, Gavilanes and Heredia.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF: Mr. Iniguez advised the Commission that staff received the report from CalWalks on September 18th and is currently being reviewed.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner Alvarado was happy to see the progress being made at Ford Park. Commissioner Gavilanes was happy to see everyone and is looking forward to the holidays being underway.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Heredia adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting of November 7, 2023.

APPROVED BY:

David Heredia, Chairperson

Submitted by:

Veronica Sanchez, Secretary



**CITY OF BELL GARDENS
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

AGENDA REPORT

Item No. 2

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Traffic and Safety Commission
FROM: Bernardo Iniguez, Director of Public Works/Facilities
BY: Douglas Benash, P.E., City Engineer
SUBJECT: TRAFFIC SAFETY ANALYSIS – REQUEST FOR SPEED HUMPS ON IRA AVENUE FROM CLARA STREET TO GOTHAM STREET
DATE: November 7, 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

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

1. Authorize staff to distribute a Speed Hump Survey Questionnaire to all residents fronting Ira Avenue from Clara Street to Gotham Street, requesting their confirmation of support or opposition of the proposed speed hump installation; and
2. If at least 51% resident support is obtained, approve for City Council consideration the installation of two (2) proposed speed humps on Ira Avenue as shown in Exhibit 2; or
3. If less than 51% resident support is obtained, deny and close out the citizen speed hump request.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Public Works Department received a signed Speed Hump Petition from residents requesting the installation of speed humps on Ira Avenue from Clara Street to Gotham Street in accordance with the City's Policy for the Installation/Removal of Speed Humps ("Speed Hump Policy"). The residents expressed concerns regarding speeding activity on this street segment. Exhibit 1 shows an aerial photo of the subject street block.

ANALYSIS OF REQUEST

In accordance with the Speed Hump Policy, each speed hump request is reviewed on a case-by-case basis and submitted to the Traffic and Safety Commission for review and consideration.

The following information summarizes some of the key points reviewed during the speed hump evaluation process by the City Engineer and/or City Traffic Engineer:

- Local, residential street with one lane of travel in each direction.
- Roadway width is not more than 40 feet.
- There are no curves that would make it difficult for drivers to see the speed humps.
- Traffic volumes are between 500 and 3,500 vehicles per day.
- Posted speed limit/Prima facia speed limit of 25 miles per hour (MPH).
- Actual measured 85th percentile speeds greater than 25 MPH by 8 MPH or more.
- Speed humps shall not be installed on roadways with grades over 6 percent.
- Street is not a transit route or primary emergency response route.
- Citizen Support: Prior to the installation of speed humps, at least fifty-one (51%) percent of residents residing along the affected street should support the request (one vote per each legal address).

In response to the request, the City Engineer ordered traffic volume counts and a speed profile for Ira Avenue from Clara Street to Gotham Street. The purpose was to confirm the extent of reported speeding activity on Ira Avenue and review the traffic volume data needed to determine if the local street meets the City's speed hump policy requirements.

Ira Avenue is a north-south local residential street providing one lane of travel in each direction with a posted speed limit of 25 MPH. This block has single family and multi-family homes on both sides of the street. The roadway width is approximately 26 feet wide from curb to curb. Parking is allowed on the east side of the street. The approximate length of Ira Avenue from Clara Street to Gotham Street is approximately 800 feet. Ira Avenue is 'stop' controlled at Clara Street.

The results of the average daily traffic volume counts over a four-day period show that Ira Avenue carries an average of 2,839 vehicles per day. The traffic volumes were recorded from July 20, 2023, to July 23, 2023. If the 85th percentile speed exceeds the posted speed limit by 8 MPH, this would indicate speeding activity. The recorded speed profile measurements for the combined directions of eastbound and westbound Ira Avenue indicate the 85th percentile speed is 35 MPH, which exceeds the posted speed limit by 10 MPH; therefore, it meets the City's speed hump policy speed criteria.

CONCLUSION:

After reviewing the Speed Hump Policy criteria and the collected traffic-related data, the City Engineer has determined the subject block of Ira Avenue meets the requirements to proceed with the next step in the consideration of the citizen speed hump request; which would

include distribution of the Speed Hump Survey Questionnaire to all residents fronting Ira Avenue from Clara Street to Gotham Street.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If the necessary resident support is received based on the results of the Speed Hump Survey Questionnaire, and the City Council subsequently approves the request, the estimated cost for the installation of speed humps, signage, and pavement markings is approximately \$2,530, which is available in the current Street Maintenance Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit 1 – Aerial Photo of Block (Ira Avenue from Clara Street to Gotham Street)

Exhibit 2 – Proposed Approximate Locations of Speed Humps

Exhibit 1

Aerial view of Ira Avenue from Clara Street to Gotham Street



Exhibit 2

Proposed two Speed Humps on Ira Ave approximately 180 feet south of Clara Street, and 180 feet north of Gotham Street- spaced at approximately 420 feet

