

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022**  
**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA**  
**MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Fisher called the Regular Meeting of the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission to order on August 16, 2022, at 6:36 p.m. The meeting was held in-person and virtually via Zoom.

**ROLL CALL:** Chair Fisher

**Present:** Chair Fisher, Commissioner Abelson, Vice-Chair Dunlap, and Commissioner Hughes

**Council Liaison:** Mayor-Pro Tem John Primuth

**Absent:**

**Staff Present:** Ted Gerber, Director of Public Works, Tatevik Barakazyan, Civil Engineering Associate (CEA) and Leonna DeWitt, Public Works Assistant (“PA”)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Hughes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT AND SUGGESTIONS**

**1. Public Comment – General**

Felicia Yu – Expressed concern regarding driving behavior and traffic control near at and near the intersection of Marengo Avenue and Maple Avenue.

Jeffery Litter – Expressed concern regarding driving behavior and traffic control near the intersection of Marengo Avenue and Maple Avenue. He shared that he was almost the first one on the scene of the recent pedestrian fatal accident.

Christian Ovalle – Expressed concern regarding driving behavior and traffic control near the intersection of Marengo Avenue and Maple Avenue.

Joanne Nuckols--Expressed concern with congestion and blocked driveways caused by the current student drop off operations at Holy Family School and South Pasadena High School. Her second comment suggested that the commission review the list of traffic congestion “hot spots” that was compiled a number of years ago, as part of the “General Plan” process.

**INFORMATION REPORTS**

**2. Project Status Update**

PWD Gerber shared that the South Pasadena Police Department is still investigating the fatal collision that occurred at the intersection of Marengo Avenue and Maple Street on July 27, 2022. The Commission requested that he keep the Commission apprised of any further actions that might be taken by the Public Works Department after the Police Department concludes its investigation.

PWD Gerber gave a brief overview of the on-going projects list. Discussion ensued regarding the various projects. Street design work will move forward with the approved consultants to prepare a design for the resurfacing and realignments at the intersections of Mission Street and Pasadena Avenue and Arroyo Drive and Mission Street.

An update was shared regarding the congestion issues near Holy Family School and the South Pasadena High School. A meeting with South Pasadena High School took place. A traffic plan had been developed in the 1990s and is being reviewed. More efforts will continue, especially as the school year commences.

An update was provided regarding the Columbia Street project it was indicated that the City of Pasadena is willing to finance a majority of the project costs to improve the striping and other improvements. The City of South Pasadena is meeting regularly with the City of Pasadena as they look to re-envision the I-710 “stub” area. Pasadena will be hosting community meetings about how the area should be re-envisioned for the future.

PWD Gerber shared how the street improvement lists going back a few years were being reviewed in lieu of current conditions, associated sewer and water infrastructure costs, etc.

It was shared that there continues to be a plan to fill a Transportation Manager vacancy and this individual will assist in analyzing the street improvement projects.

Chris Miller – Inquired about reducing speeds near intersections along Meridian Avenue.

### **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **3. Slow Streets Program Recommendation**

PWD Gerber gave a brief presentation on this item.

Discussion ensued regarding timing of installation, outreach, event planning, parklet policy and Metro coordination. It was voiced that it is important to have adequate time for community outreach and engagement. After review, the installation and debut of the Mission Street elements will move to 2023, so there is time for feedback. The Mission Street improvement elements, parklets, benches, furniture will start being installed tentatively in April and May 2023.

There might be a way to time the debut so it coincides with the Eclectic Music Festival planned right now for the end of April 2023.

PWD Gerber shared how the al fresco dining element will fall under the Economic Development Department, as they will work on standards, etc.

Commissioner Dunlap commented that there is a concern about when improvements are made on Mission Street, it could cause back-up traffic into the Meridian intersection and could block the street and train routes. We need to look at the signals and possible back-ups

Chair Fisher voiced concerns regarding the signal timing at the intersection of Mission Street and Meridian Avenue and believes that there will be a need to extend the “green” timing for Mission Street with any plan to reduce the number of lanes on Mission Street.

Commissioner Abelson commented that the Alta agreement must provide for revisions to the residential streets proposals, as discussed at the Commission’s December 2021 Special meeting with Alta.

The improvement elements for the residential streets will tentatively start in November 2022. The Commission asked it be updated as the plans develop.

Motion made by Commissioner Dunlap to approve the professional services agreement with Alta Planning + Design with changes discussed by the Commission and seconded by Commissioner Hughes (4-0, motion passes).

#### **4. Minutes of the Regular Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission on July 19, 2022**

The Minutes were approved as amended. The Motion was made by Commissioner Abelson and was seconded by Commissioner Dunlap (4-0, motion passes).

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **5. City Council Liaison Communications**

Mayor Pro-Tem informed the Commission of the items on the City Council agenda scheduled for August 17, 2022. Some of the key items include, the Finance Ad Hoc Report, the situation with peafowl in the city, as well as the

critical issue of the housing element.

## 6. Commissioner Communications

Commissioner Hughes thanked staff for all of their hard work.

Vice Chair Dunlap expressed his sympathy for the recent tragic accident. He also voiced concern in developing traffic safety measures. He believes that the City should be more proactive in implementing "Safe Streets" elements such as curb extensions, speed humps or bike lanes. Vice-Chair Dunlap thanked Public Works for their amazing job of being responsive to the community.

Commissioner Abelson commented on the City Council's recent action to a 6<sup>th</sup> crossing guard for Marengo Elementary school at Huntington and Marengo. He shared how the Commission can be utilized as a resource and can make suggestions and recommendations, if staff thinks it would be helpful. There will be a presentation to the Cultural Heritage Commission regarding a development project that would be planned for the former South Pasadena School District headquarters parking lot. He voiced how important traffic impacts are to the community and that all projects and developments be shared with the commission for review. Commission Abelson said how it would be beneficial to locate the "Hot Spots" streets and locations list, mentioned by Mrs. Nuckols during public comment and share it with the commission.

Chair Fisher commented that he has observed an increase in the number of peafowl in the City and observed some crossing Mission Street just before the meeting. Fortunately, everyone stopped for them. He shared that the former school property is no longer available for hazardous waste recycling events, but that there will be a Household Hazardous Waste event on August July 27 in Alhambra.

A two-page document from Chair Fisher was distributed about traffic control pedestrian safety as shown in the California Manual of Traffic Control Devices. Key points in the document were the special controls that are recommended where there are higher speeds and multiple lanes.

## 7. Staff Communications

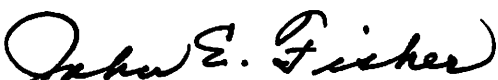
PWD Gerber informed the Commission that in regards to the proposed additional crossing guard at the intersection of Huntington and Marengo, South Pasadena staff presented information to the South Pasadena City Council. The presentation regarding the location was led by Police department. A traffic study will be conducted. In order to conduct the study, a task order will be issued to one of the new "on-call" consultants.

With regard to the 1020 El Centro project that will be under development, after the Planning Department completes their review of the project, the Public Works Department will then conduct their review and this will include access issues. Public Works establishes a set of conditions and staff was made aware of the Cultural Heritage Commission review. These types of projects based on the municipal code traditionally have not been part of our process.

The City will be doing a citywide Open House on Sunday, October 2, 2022 with a street closure from Fair Oaks Avenue to Fremont Avenue.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission of the City of South Pasadena at a meeting held on September 20, 2022.

  
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John Fisher, Chair