

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
14TH DAY OF JUNE, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE
AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:04p.m. by Chair Abelson. Present were Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Hughes, Commissioner Glauz and Commissioner Granath. Councilmember Robert Joe arrived approximately at 8:45 p.m. Staff present: Deputy Public Works Director (DPWD) Rafael Casillas, and Public Works Assistant Leonna DeWitt.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Fisher led the pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Meeting on May 18, 2017.

Minutes approved as amended. (Hughes, Abelson 5-0)

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

John Genovese – 1000 El Centro Street, #323. Mr. Genovese is concerned with the difficulty of entering and departing from his residence at the Golden Oaks due to the amount of traffic on Diamond Avenue, especially on Thursdays, when the Farmer's Market takes place. He suggested two options 1) eliminate parking on one side of the street; or 2) make Diamond Avenue between Mission Street and El Centro Street a one-way street.

Marshall St. John – 1000 El Centro Street, #301. Mr. St. John expressed support with the previous suggested options presented by John Genovese, the previous speaker. He also shared that the issue of safety increases on the days that trash is picked-up, as the bins and the trucks can make exiting even more dangerous.

Palma Jones – 1000 El Centro Street, #107. Ms. Jones expressed concern regarding the traffic on Diamond Avenue and supports the suggestions presented by John Genovese.

Lynn Feng – 1000 El Centro Street. Ms. Feng has been the property manager of the Golden Oaks apartments for 11 years and she is in support of restrictive parking on one side of the street. She believes that the traffic is getting worse.

Elsbeth MacDougall – 1000 El Centro Street. Ms. MacDougall expressed support for restrictive parking on one side of the street.

Sally Kilby – 1000 El Centro St. Ms. Kilby stated Mr. Genovese spoke at the City Council meeting and the then City Manager Sergio Gonzales stated the City was going to be looking into the parking and safety issues on Diamond Avenue. Ms. Kilby stated Mr. Genovese submitted a document at the City Council meeting.

Commissioner Fisher inquired if staff received a formal request regarding this issue.

DPWD Casillas responded that he would follow up regarding the request.

Anthony Genovese – resides in Pasadena. Mr. Anthony Genovese is the grandson of John Genovese who is as a resident at 1000 El Centro Street. He stated the traffic is very congested and it backs up onto Mission Street which could cause an accident.

Mary Grogan – 1000 El Centro Street. She has lived at the Golden Oaks for two years and expressed support to make Diamond Avenue between Mission Street and El Centro Street a one-way street.

A motion was made to request staff to investigate the conditions on Diamond Avenue between Mission Street and El Centro Street and the potential for making it one-way or one sided parking, as well as to investigate other options. A recommendation would then be presented to the commission. (Abelson, Hughes 5-0)

Public Comment Closed.

5. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

No comments.

6. STAFF COMMENTS

No Staff Comments.

7. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Fisher commented on the repair of the guardrail on Arroyo Drive and the resourcefulness of Caltrans to weld the pieces together, which are vintage 1940.

Commissioner Granath commented on the intersection at Monterey Road and Pasadena Avenue and how the traffic signals continue to malfunction. He requested staff to coordinate with Metro to resolve the issue.

Commission Hughes commented on the same intersection and she noticed drivers making U-turns to avoid the intersection.

Chair Abelson reordered the agenda to hear Item 8B first.

8. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

B. Restricted Parking in High Fire Risk Area

DPWD Casillas gave a brief summary of the item and introduced Paul Riddle, Deputy Chief to give the presentation. Staff recommends that the Public Works Commission (PWC) receive and provide comments on the proposed Parking Restrictions in High Fire Risk Areas.

Deputy Chief Riddle gave a presentation, accompanied with PowerPoint slides. He stated the goal for the South Pasadena Fire Department (SPFD) is to maintain critical fire response in areas of the City that are difficult to access. The SPFD is also to provide public awareness and education about on-street parking and fire access issues. Chief Riddle extended an invitation to the Commissioners to ride along to witness firsthand the issues of narrow streets and fire equipment access limitation.

Some of the points that were made were that some residents park in their driveways in such a way, that they stick out into the street and can block the road, making it difficult to pass on the road. An incident was shared, where a baby was having problems breathing and the SPFD had to request support to come from another area, as the regular access was impassible due to cars and the narrowness of the road. Deputy Chief Riddle stated that 80% of SPFD emergency responses are health related.

Deputy Chief Riddle would like to bring this item back to the Commission for a public hearing in July and then present the issue to the City Council for approval in August.

Discussion ensued regarding outreach to what will be affected properties (Neighborhood Watch, Nextdoor website etc.), parking, and enforcement.

Public Comment Period Open.

Gary Lee – 2016 Fletcher Avenue. He commented on looking at different options instead of eliminating parking.

Public Comment Period Closed.

Commissioner Granath requested an exhibit with existing and proposed red curbs. Information is needed as to how many parking spaces would be lost in all of the areas that would have new restrictions.

A motion was made to request a neighborhood meeting prior to bringing the item back to the Commission in August. (Abelson, Glauz 5-0)

C. Discussion of Existing Speed Hump Policy

DPWD gave a brief overview on this item. The Commission requested the number of requests received for installation of speed humps. Staff received three (3) requests, Summit Drive, Fletcher Avenue and Fremont Avenue, none of which qualified.

Discussion ensued regarding street classifications, street segments and eligibility.

Public Comment Period Open.

Mike Nuttall – 2012 Fletcher Avenue. He expressed concern regarding speeding and supports the use of police radar. He said that he lost two animals on the street, due to the animals being hit by vehicles.

Gary Lee – 2016 Fletcher Avenue. He expressed concern regarding speeding on Fletcher Avenue and safety for his children. He supports any traffic calming solution including additional signage, street markings etc. Speed has gotten worse with the street improvements.

Jodi Dewey – 1957 Fletcher Avenue. She expressed concern regarding speeding on Fletcher Avenue and she believes it's a very serious issue that needs to be addressed.

James Buxbaum – 2026 Fletcher Avenue. He expressed concern regarding speeding and the City should reconsider the potential for installing speed humps on collector streets.

Peter Lam – 2032 Fletcher Avenue. He expressed concern regarding speeding and supports any traffic calming solution.

Public Comment Period Closed.

A motion was made to request staff to evaluate the safety and speeding issues on Fletcher Avenue and come back at a future meeting with the results and suggestions on ways of addressing the issues that are consistent with the City's current policies. (Abelson, Glauz 5-0)

Discussion ensued regarding the existing speed hump policy, waiting for the General Plan adoption and looking at other options for calming traffic. Chair Abelson has concerns that collector streets are excluded for speed bumps

A motion was made to revisit the Street Hump Policy at the end of the year based on the adoption of the General Plan. (Hughes, Glauz 5-0)

Council Liaison Joe requested staff to check with PD to see what measures can be done to help with speeding.

DPWD Casillas responded he will speak with the Police Department regarding the speeding issues on Fletcher Avenue.

A. Capital Improvement Project Update

DPWD Casillas gave a brief update on this item.

B. Discussion of the Freeway and Transportation Proposed Revisions to the Joint Report.

Chair Abelson gave a brief overview of this item.

A motion was made to approve the report as amended.

A request was made for a volunteer from the commission to participate on the new, Ad Hoc Water Committee. Kim Hughes volunteered to be the representative.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Abelson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

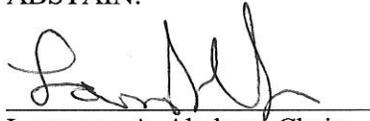
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Public Works Commission of the City of South Pasadena at a meeting held on July 12, 2017.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Lawrence A. Abelson, Chair