

**I. OPENING SESSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the Public Works Commission was called to order by Chair Funabashi at 7:01 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present:	Garcia, Hannon, Simpson, Chair Funabashi
Commissioners Absent:	Brown, Fox, Glass
Officials Present:	Gene Kim, City Traffic Engineer Ted Semaan, Public Works Director Camy Byrd, Minutes Secretary

**3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Chair Funabashi led the audience and Commissioners in a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**II. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA**

Motion by Commissioner Hannon, seconded by Commissioner Garcia to approve the order of agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Brown, Fox and Glass absent.

**III. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 1. APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING** for the Public Works Commission meeting of February 25, 2019.
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES** – Public Works Commission meeting of December 3, 2018.
- 3. CITY COUNCIL REVIEW CITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN** - Receive and file the City's Strategic Plan Update of the City Council Meeting of February 19, 2019.

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Hannon, to approve Consent Calendar. Motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Brown, Fox, and Glass absent.

**IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - NONE**

**V. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE**

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Marian Dooley, lives on Wollacott and suggests the curb on Artesia, between Wollacott and Axenty be painted gray.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS - NONE**

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. TIME LIMIT PARKING RESTRICTION REMOVAL – SOUTH SIDE OF ARTESIA BOULEVARD BETWEEN CARVER STREET AND AVIATION BOULEVARD** – Discuss the removal of time limit parking restrictions on the south side of Artesia Boulevard between Carver Street and Aviation Boulevard.

City Traffic Engineer Kim gave a report on the following:

- Background – a resident on Wollacott requested a review of time limit and potential removal of the restriction.
- Two-hour parking restriction every day from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and street sweeping restriction on Monday from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- Approximately 180 letters sent out to residents in the vicinity. Nine responses were received via email. Five were against, and four were in favor of the removal of the time restriction.
- Two potential reasons for parking restrictions – Mira Costa students parking during school hours, or vehicles parked “for sale”, for prolonged periods of time.

Staff’s recommendation is to discuss the removal of the time restrictions on the south side of Artesia Boulevard between Carver Street and Aviation Boulevard.

Commissioner Simpson asked if the rate of response they received was usual. City Traffic Engineer Kim said it is not uncommon to get a low response rate from the public. This was brought before the Commission because although low, the responses were virtually half-and-half.

Kent Adams, lives on Wollacott Street, said he never understood what the original petition was about. He would like the signs removed or changed to a longer period of time.

Maryann Dooley, lives on Wollacott, is against the parking restrictions.

In response to Commissioner Hannon, City Traffic Engineer Kim said increasing the time from two hours to four hours is an option.

In response to Commissioner Garcia, City Traffic Engineer Kim said vehicles cannot stay in one position for more than 72 hours by City ordinance and as part of the vehicle code.

Chair Funabashi said when school is out and on weekends, it would be nice to free up spaces for cars and for people who want to sell their cars or want to park their van or their motor home for a couple of days.

Chair Funabashi noted the area from Ford to Aviation where he believes has a 2-hour parking limit on the south side of Artesia. He considered a four-hour limit from Ford to Aviation.

In response to Commissioner Simpson regarding similar arterial streets with 2-hour parking limits, City Traffic Engineer Kim said on Artesia, east of Aviation there are numerous pockets of time restricted parking which is mainly to serve the commercial sites.

Motion by Commissioner Hannon, seconded by Commissioner Simpson to proceed with modifying the parking from two hours to four hours.

Commissioner Hannon made a friendly amendment, for staff to look at blocks east and west, for consistency on the street, in addition to the modification.

Chair Funabashi suggested directing staff at the end of the meeting and moving forward with the time restriction for this area.

Public Works Director Semaan said if the Commission thinks there should be consistency on the block, rather than having a block that is different than some of the other blocks, the item can be continued, directing staff to reach out to the other blocks on the south side of Artesia for further support or denial of the modifications.

Chair Funabashi clarified that the motion is to change the parking restriction from two hours to four hours for the two-block subject and direct staff to explore the remaining sections of the south side of Artesia, to potentially change those in the future to make it consistent with what is being voted on tonight.

Motion carried, with Commissioner Garcia opposing, and Commissioners Brown, Fox and Glass absent.

**2. TRAFFIC CALMING AND SAFETY ENHANCEMENT– TRAFFIC CIRCLE AT PEARL STREET AND LUCIA AVENUE** – Review the engineering report, receive public input and discuss installation of a mini traffic circle at the intersection of Pearl Street and Lucia Avenue.

City Traffic Engineer Kim gave a report on the following:

- Mini traffic circles are raised circular islands constructed in the center of residential intersections. Their intent is to reduce speeds and manage traffic.
- Roundabouts are used to move more significant amounts of traffic through larger areas and intersections.
- The mini traffic circle that was tested at the intersection of Blossom and Plant saw reduced speeds of up to 8 mph in the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, from 28 to 20 mph, and an 8 mph drop of average speed, from 24 mph to approximately 16 mph.
- Injury crashes were reduced by 75% at intersections where stop signs or signals were previously used, traffic data has shown a 37% reduction in overall collisions, 75% reduction in injuries, 90% reduction in fatalities and a 40% reduction in pedestrian collisions.
- Reduction of T-bone, head-on and more serious types of accidents.
- Reduced air pollution, noise pollution, fuel use and travel time congestion.
- Drivers travel in the same singular counter clockwise direction.
- Enhances the beauty of the area, and increases the community feel.
- Intersection chosen for the proximity to Prospect Avenue. Staffs' evaluation and initial field visits have shown that vehicles speed along Pearl Street to get to Prospect Avenue, which is signalized and classified as an arterial roadway.
- Preliminary speed data showed the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile on Pearl Street was 32 mph, and the average speed was 28 mph.

- Additional signage notifying motorists to reduce speeds may be required for the westbound downgrade on Pearl Street and the northbound downgrade on Lucia Avenue.
- A permanent installation may require raising the intersection manhole.
- This intersection was presented at a public meeting for Council Districts 1 & 2 and received very positive feedback from the residents, in regard to the installation of traffic circles.
- Temporary mini traffic circle will cost approximately \$6,000.

Staff recommendation is to review the engineering report, receive public input and discuss installation of a mini traffic circle at the intersection of Pearl Street and Lucia Avenue. Following installation, monitor the effectiveness for the period of six months and report back to City Council for follow up action.

Commissioner Garcia is in favor and said it looks like a good location for it.

Commissioner Simpson is a big fan of these and fitting them in wherever possible. This is an ideal location.

Commissioner Hannon is a big fan, although noted that it will take a while for drivers to adapt.

In response to Commissioner Hannon regarding edge lines, City Traffic Engineer Kim said following installation of the traffic circle, edge lines can be considered.

Motion by Commissioner Hannon, seconded by Commissioner Garcia to proceed with six-month trial basis and ask staff to consider some of the comments and implementation. Motion passed unanimously, with Commissioners Brown, Fox, and Glass absent.

- 3. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR TREE TRIMMING, PLANTING AND REMOVAL** – Receive and file a report regarding the City's policies and procedures for trimming, planting and removing trees in the public right of way.

Public Works Director Semaan gave a report on the following:

Tree Trimming:

- Approximately 11,575 trees in the parks, parkways, medians, City facility exteriors and other green spaces.
- Trees are trimmed on a 4-year contract basis using an outside contractor/vendor - currently West Coast Arborists.
- The City is divided into four grids, geometrically varied in size.
- Trees that are located in heavily traveled corridors are trimmed every other year.
- Requests by residents for out-of-grid pruning, are considered on a case-by-case basis, with consideration given to safety concerns and availability of funding.

Tree Removal:

The intention is to protect the trees whenever and wherever possible. Removal requests are reviewed by the City's certified arborist and are approved only if certain specific conditions exist.

Removal criteria are non development-related and development-related. Removal of trees that are not development related are approved if one of the following conditions exist:

- Tree health – If the tree is found to be in such poor health due to age or disease that their presence on public property is no longer appropriate.
- Damage to Infrastructure – trees can grow to the point where the canopy, trunk and/or root system causes damage to underground utilities, sidewalks, driveways, roadways or private property. If the tree is found to be causing significant damage, that cannot be remediated through pruning or root removal, removal will be approved.
- Safety Hazards – if a tree is found to present a potential safety hazard that cannot be mitigated, it can be removed. Examples of safety hazards include weakened/falling limbs, and the possibility of a tree toppling over especially on high wind days, and in the case in winter when the soils become quite saturated.

Tree removals are not approved for view issues, maintenance issues, or age.

Removals that are requested as part of a development related project often involves a tree in the driveway or proposed driveway location. These requests are only approved if the impediment is found to be significant, and there are no other reasonable alternatives available.

When the removal is approved, the developer or owner is required to pay for the removal of the tree and a fee equal to the estimated value of the tree. Those funds are held within the tree enhancement account that is used to plant new trees in suitable locations.

#### Tree Planting:

As resources allow, staff identifies appropriate locations to expand the City's urban forest by planting new trees. Currently, Public Works attempts to utilize the tree enhancement account, planting 100 trees a year.

Tree planting is required as a condition of approval for development projects. If the property has an extensive amount of frontage, multiple trees will be required.

Recommendation is to receive and file a report and forward it to the City Council.

In response to Commissioner Garcia regarding conflicts with the utility companies, Public Works Director Semaan said they work very closely with the utility companies.

In response to Commissioner Garcia regarding who chooses the trees, Public Works Director Semaan said the City Arborist identifies an appropriate species for the parkways. They try to keep a variety of trees because when there is the same species in an area, it is possible to lose an entire roadway segment to disease.

In response to Commissioner Hannon regarding the number of trees that are lost per year, City Arborist Alejandre said approximately 20 were lost last year.

Public Works Director Semaan said the City Arborist and his team assess the tree conditions before high winds, and proactively trim trees which helps retain trees. In addition to preserving and replenishing the canopy, proactive steps are taken to minimize future infrastructure damage by planting new trees with

root barriers to go deeper than the sidewalks, the curb and gutter area, to minimize shallower roots that cause damage.

Motion by Commissioner Hannon, seconded by Commissioner Simpson to receive and file report regarding the City's policies and procedures for trimming, planting and removing trees in the public right of way. Motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Brown, Fox and Glass absent.

#### **IX. MEMBERS ITEMS AND REFERRALS TO STAFF**

Commissioner Garcia noted that he is waiting for the no left turn signs on Inglewood Avenue, before Grant Avenue.

Commissioner Hannon said part of the road needs to be repaired near the roundabout on the Esplanade. Requested someone take a look at it.

Commissioner Simpson said at the entryway of the Starbucks on Artesia, a parking spot was removed and red curb added, which necessitated blocking out one of the white parking stripes. The stripe was blackened out, however, it wears off after three months and people park there again. He noted that it makes a huge difference in terms of visibility getting in and out of that parking lot.

In response to Chair Funabashi regarding the discussion of an ordinance that restricts "for sale" signs, Public Works Director Semaan said he believes the Police Department and the City Attorney's office are the lead on that. Public Works will be involved because parking restrictions are sometimes the best solution. Cars for sale cannot be prohibited from parking on a public street, however, restrictions on the street may prevent the car from being there for an extended period of time.

#### **X. ADJOURNMENT AT 8:38 P.M.**

Motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Hannon, to adjourn at 8:38 p.m. to a Regular meeting on Monday, March 25, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., in the Redondo Beach City Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California. Motion carried unanimously, with Commissioners Brown, Fox and Glass absent.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ted Semaan', followed by a period.

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Ted Semaan, Public Works Director