

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A Virtual, Regular Meeting of the City of Redondo Beach Public Works Commission was called to order by Chair Funabashi at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Garcia, Glass, Hannon, Minne, Vice Chair Simpson, Chair Funabashi

Commissioners Absent: Bajaj (Excused)

Officials Present: Ted Semaan, Public Works Director
Gene Kim, City Traffic Engineer
Andrew Winje, City Engineer

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chair Funabashi led in the Salute to the Flag.

D. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Hannon, seconded by Vice Chair Simpson, to approve the Order of Agenda, as presented. Motion carried (6-0), by roll call vote, with Commissioner Bajaj, absent.

E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS - None

E.1 For Blue Folder Documents Approved at the Public Works Commission Meeting

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

F.1 APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2021

F.2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 2020

(INSERT TITLE AND NAME) announced there were no public comments or eComments for this item.

Motion by Commissioner Hannon, seconded by Vice Chair Simpson, to approve the Consent

Calendar, as presented. Motion carried (6-0), by roll call vote, with Commissioner Bajaj, absent.

G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - None

H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NON-AGENDA ITEMS

H.1 For eComments and Emails Received from the Public

There were no public comments.

I. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS - None

J. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

J.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE BERYL STREET CORRIDOR TRAFFIC SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS

Traffic Engineer Gene Kim presented the administrative report addressing previous Commission consideration, background, concerns regarding recent collisions and near misses, existing conditions, installation of a Class 2 bicycle facility along the corridor, previously proposed traffic-calming alternatives, collision history and staff analysis and updated recommendations.

Commission Glass asked about benefits in placing the speed limit on the pavement and Traffic Engineer Kim stated it could be done, but the purpose of the proposed recommendation is to address cars entering the intersections at higher speeds. Commissioner Glass feared people might accelerate between the intersections, especially as they travel downhill.

In reply to Commissioner Garcia's question regarding the installation of traffic circles, Traffic Engineer Kim explained the Commissioner had recommended installing traffic circles; noted the proposed alternative could be a better enhancement and reported staff received a lot of unfavorable responses from residents in relation to traffic circles that were previously installed.

Commissioner Hannon reported speaking with residents who preferred four-way stops to roundabouts; felt residents could be persuaded to accept them; spoke about the need to consider their aesthetic; discussed reduced speeds with reductions in lane widths and proposed doing so as an option. He recommended reducing the lane width to ten feet, thereby giving cyclists an additional buffer, added that roundabouts are a better solution than four-way stops, and feared installing four-way stops would shift the problem to other areas.

Commissioner Minne commented positively on traffic circles and suggested installing them on a trial basis.

Vice Chair Simpson spoke in support of roundabouts; felt they would be appropriate for the corridor and suggested the possibility of adding dots at the crosswalks if four-way stops are installed.

Chair Funabashi referenced traffic data; noted City residents do not support the installation of traffic circles; discussed cost savings of installing four-way stop signs compared to other traffic-calming measures and supported staff's recommendations.

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Hannon pointed out there are no crosswalks in any of the three streets between Catalina and Pacific Coast Highway; suggested a well-lit crosswalk would be well-utilized; noted most of the crash data occurred before the bicycle lanes were installed and reiterated his support of reducing lane widths.

Vice Chair Simpson noted staff's recommendations include adding crosswalks at the subject intersections; stated the four-way stop solution is one that residents will accept and supported staff's recommendations with the proviso that staff continue to look for locations where successful roundabouts could be installed.

Commissioner Minne spoke about considering traffic circles in the future with substantial community input and urged staff to consider potential locations for them, in the near future.

Chair Funabashi suggested installing artistic renderings on future temporary roundabouts so that residents could see what they could look like and doing greater outreach to the public.

Traffic Engineer Kim distinguished between traffic circles and roundabouts and noted staff will continue to look out for potential areas for installing traffic circles and other alternatives.

City Engineer Andrew Winje discussed the current policy of working with each Councilmember to identify locations within their districts; reported if the Commission decides on temporary locations for traffic circles, they would be installed, and report to Council after six months with data regarding their performance. He suggested the Commission may want to consider modifying the policy.

Commissioner Minne commented on the need to reconsider changing the process.

Traffic Engineer Kim reported staff is in the process of identifying locations for traffic circles along Catalina Avenue.

Commissioner Hannon discussed the need for standardized processes; spoke about the benefits of increased marketing efforts and encouraged staff to narrow the lane width.

Traffic Engineer Kim noted the travel lanes are already ten feet and noted a previous proposal was listed in the report.

City Engineer Winje added that staff is working on a project to resurface Beryl, separate and apart from the present recommendations.

Chair Funabashi stated it is incumbent upon the Commission to engage City Council to obtain support from local neighborhoods.

Motion by Vice Chair Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Glass, to approve staff's recommendations for four-way stops and enhanced pedestrian crosswalks on the Beryl Street corridor, with the proviso that staff continue to look for locations where successful traffic circles could be installed. Motion carried (5-1), by roll call vote, with Commissioner Hannon, opposed and Commissioner Bajaj, absent.

J.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF REDONDO BEACH'S SECTION OF THE COASTAL BIKE PATH AS PART OF US BIKE ROUTE 95

Traffic Engineer Kim presented the administrative report; addressed the U.S. Bicycle Route System and the Adventure Cycling Association; discussed the portion of the bike route within the City and stated recommendations.

Vice Chair Simpson spoke in support of the item.

Commissioner Hannon expressed excitement about the project; discussed connecting Torrance Boulevard to the Class 1 bicycle lane and spoke about the possibility of grant funding for additional infrastructure.

Commissioner Minne supported the project and in response to his question about changes in maintenance responsibilities, Traffic Engineer Kim stated there are no changes in responsibilities and commented on the possibility of applying for grants.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Hannon, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, to direct staff to write a letter on behalf of the Commission, in support of designating Redondo Beach's section of the Coastal Bike Path as part of the U.S. Bike Route 95. Motion carried (6-0), by roll call vote, with Commissioner Bajaj, absent.

K. MEMBER ITEMS AND REFERRALS TO STAFF

Commissioner Glass observed that cyclists are running stop signs; suggested signage to remind them they must obey traffic laws; reported removal of a fire hydrant at Green Lane and noted the need to replace it.

Commission Hannon requested review of the Class 2 bike lane on Beryl between PCH and Prospect to make sure they can accommodate children and parents.

Commissioner Minne noted the City of Torrance is interested in working on a storm water effort with other South Bay cities and requested they provide a presentation to the Commission as soon as possible.

Vice Chair Simpson referenced traffic-calming measures on Ford Avenue between Aviation and Artesia and asked about installing radar feedback signs. Traffic Engineer Kim reported staff is finalizing consideration of a co-op agreement to obtain reasonable pricing on those units.

Public Works Director Ted Semaan announced he and Mr. Kim were invited to a District 2 meeting where discussion will include the Beryl Street corridor and invited Members of the Commission to join the meeting. Additionally, he reported Metro is currently seeking input for the Line C extension and will be holding a meeting February 23, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and another meeting on February 27, 2021, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Glass commented on the proposed routings of Line C and expressed concerns that if Metro chooses the Hawthorne route, passengers going from Line C to the Transit Center will have a long walk.

Public Works Director Semaan reported the scoping meetings will kick off the environmental report Metro will be doing, and they will be assessing various alignments.

City Engineer Winje announced receiving affirmation the City was awarded the MAT Grant for the Redondo Beach Boulevard corridor.

Commissioner Hannon announced a meeting of the South Bay COG and encouraged Members of the Commission to participate.

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Hannon motioned, seconded by Vice Chair Simpson, to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. to the next, regular meeting of the Redondo Beach Public Works Commission to be held at 7:00 p.m. on April 26, 2021. Motion carried (6-0), by roll call vote, with Commissioner Bajaj, absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Semaan
Public Works Director