

**CITY OF ESCONDIDO**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**OF THE TRANSPORTATION AND**  
**COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMISSION**

**July 12, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Escondido Transportation Commission was called to order at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, by Chairman Blackstock, in the City Council Chambers, 201 North Broadway, Escondido, California.

**Commissioners present:** Martha Maes, Commissioner; Omar Dayani, Commissioner; Doug Blackstock, Chairman; Robert Berkstresser, Commissioner; Bill Durney, Commissioner; and Sherri Sarro, Commissioner.

**Commissioners absent:** Ray Leone, Commissioner.

**Staff present:** Ali Shahzad, Associate Engineer; Eric Skaja, Traffic Sergeant; Homi Namdari, City Engineer; and Ty Paulson, Minutes Clerk.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** – None.

**ConnieSue Dickinson, Escondido**, expressed her view that there was an issue in the historic district with a lack of traffic enforcement for speeding vehicles. She stated that the engineering department had turned three of the streets in the historic district to collector streets, noting this impacted traffic. She expressed her concern with high vehicular speeds on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, noting vehicles were traveling in excess of 60 mph. She stated that during the last speed survey the street was encumbered which she felt impacted the results of the survey. She also noted that Juniper had no crosswalks, noting the historic district was for pedestrian activities.

**MINUTES:**

Moved by Chairman Blackstock, seconded by Commissioner Durney, to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2012, meeting. Motion carried. Ayes: Berkstresser, Durney, Blackstock, Dayani, and Maes. Noes: None. Abstained: Sarro. (5-0-1)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Traffic Signal Priority List – Request to evaluate a short list of intersections for new traffic signal and traffic signal modification.

Ali Shahzad, Associate Engineer, referenced the staff report and noted based on the data provided by City staff, it was recommended that the Commission approve

five (5) intersection each from the Traffic Signal Priority List and Traffic Signal Modification Priority List for City staff to conduct warrant analyses and ranking. Staff was to complete this task and bring the results to the October meeting of the Commission for final approval.

Mr. Namdari referenced the background history for creating and implementing the priority lists. He noted that due to budgetary constraints only one intersection could be done this year.

Commissioner Dayani questioned whether all of the listed intersections were warranted. Mr. Namdari noted a new warrant analysis would be conducted on the selected intersections.

Commissioner Dayani felt all of the intersections should be studied. He also questioned whether grants were considered. Mr. Shahzad and Mr. Namdari replied in affirmative.

Commissioner Durney questioned whether the data for previous warrant analyses could have changed over the years. Mr. Namdari replied in the affirmative.

Commissioner Durney asked how much staff time and cost it took for each intersection. Mr. Shahzad noted that each intersection took approximately a day of staff time and cost approximately \$500 in data collection effort.

Commissioner Sarro questioned whether the primary collision factor was known for crash sites. Mr. Shahzad replied in the affirmative.

Commissioner Sarro asked if all accidents were taken into consideration. Mr. Shahzad noted that all reported accidents would be taken into consideration.

Commissioner Sarro questioned whether citations were taken into consideration. Mr. Namdari replied in the negative, but noted this might be a good factor to consider.

Sergeant Skaja questioned whether the accident report showed the distances of the accidents to the intersections. Mr. Shahzad replied in the affirmative.

**Carol Rea, Escondido, President of the Old Escondido Historic District**, noted that they felt a traffic signal at 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Juniper would make matters worse, noting they were looking for traffic calming measures such as a four-way stop. She noted that vehicles were traveling in excess of 50 to 60 mph on Juniper. She stated that Article 65, Section 33-1370c stated that the purpose and intent of the historic district was to emphasis orientation toward pedestrian activity in the area, noting this was difficult given the vehicular activity in the area.

**Justin Lewis, Escondido**, concurred with Ms. Rea's comments. He expressed concern with the bottleneck between 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He suggested the City consider constructing roundabouts and stop signs. He asked that the City consider the residents in the neighborhood.

**ConnieSue Dickenson, Escondido**, noted that the speed limits along Juniper were not enforced. She stated that the traffic analysis did not take accidents that were not reported., noting accidents occurred constantly. She did not feel a traffic signal at 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Juniper would be a viable solution.

Mr. Namdari noted that installing all way stops at the intersection of Juniper and 9<sup>th</sup> would not meet the traffic warrants. He stated signage and striping was being along Juniper and side streets, noting that once this was installed a better evaluation could be conducted.

Discussion ensued regarding reviewing all 10 locations on the traffic signal priority list.

Commissioner Berkstresser stated that the crosswalks gave individuals a false sense of security. He was concerned for the safety of students.

Commissioner Dayani suggested a before and after report on the improvements in the historic district.

**ACTION:**

Moved by Chairman Blackstock, seconded by Commissioner Dayani, to direct staff to evaluate the entire Traffic Signal Priority list and the Traffic Signal Modification list. The motion included directing staff to include tables for the different types of accidents, citations, staff observations, and complaints from the public. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Time Limit Parking – Request to remove time-limit parking from 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue between Juniper Street and Ivy Street.

Mr. Shahzad referenced the staff report and noted staff recommended removing the time limit parking from 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue between Juniper Street and Ivy Street.

Commissioner Durney referenced the businesses in the area and expressed his view that employees in the area would probably park in the subject parking spots. Mr. Shahzad noted that staff could notify all of the businesses in a 500-foot radius to see if there were any concerns.

Mr. Namdari noted that the Commission could recommend not changing the parking limits.

Chairman Blackstock felt the time-limit parking should remain as it currently exists. Commissioner Dayani concurred.

**ACTION:**

Moved by Chairman Blackstock, seconded by Commissioner Dayani, to deny staff's recommendation and retain the time-limit parking. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Time Limit Parking – Install new time-limit parking on Lincoln Avenue, between Ash Street and Harding Street.

Mr. Shahzad referenced the staff report and noted staff recommended installing time-limit parking on Lincoln Avenue, between Ash Street and Harding Street.

**ACTION:**

Moved by Commissioner Sarro, seconded by Commissioner Durney, to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Speed Surveys – Certification of new speed zones. Speed Surveys recommendations presented to the Community Safety Commission (TCSC).

Ali Shahzad, Associate Engineer, referenced the staff report and noted staff recommended the Commission adopt the certification of the presented speed surveys.

**ACTION:**

Moved by Commissioner Durney, seconded by Commissioner Sarro, to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Project Status Update - An overview of various projects involving the City.
  - a. Traffic Signal System/ICM State 3 ITS Strategy
  - b. Escondido Transit Center Modifications
  - c. Radar Speed Signs on Bear Valley Parkway
  - d. City Council/Transportation Commission Action Plan
  - e. Status of items previously brought before the commission

Mr. Shahzad provided the updates to the Commission and requested input.

## **SCHOOL AREA SAFETY**

1. Discussion of pedestrian and vehicular issues

Mr. Shahzad noted that the left-turn pocket at Juniper and Felicita would be completed within the next month.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Future Agenda Items – A briefing of future agenda items proposed to be presented to the Transportation Commission.

Mr. Shahzad questioned whether the Commission desired to meet during the afternoon or evenings.

Commissioner Sarro noted it was difficult for her to make the afternoon meeting, feeling it would also be easier for the public to come to evening meetings.

Commissioner Durney felt evening might be easier but noted either one worked for him.

The consensus of the Commission was to keep the meetings at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Shahzad noted the Commission would be discussing the traffic signal prioritizations at next meeting.

**COUNCIL ACTION:** None.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** - None.

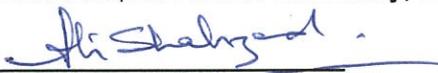
## **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Durney questioned what could be done to create traffic calming on Juniper. Mr. Shahzad noted staff would be bringing some traffic calming suggestions for Juniper to the Commission at the next meeting.

Commissioner Dayani asked if the Commission could receive staff reports sooner.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Blackstock adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m. The next meeting of the Commission would be held on October 11, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers, 201 North Broadway, Escondido.

  
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Ali Shahzad, Associate Engineer

  
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Ty Paulson, Minutes Clerk