TRAFFIC COMMISSION OF MONTEREY PARK
AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING
Monterey Park City Hall – City Council Chambers
320 W. Newmark Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 91754

Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM

MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the City of Monterey Park is to provide excellent services to enhance the quality of life for our entire community.

Documents related to an Agenda item are available to the public in the Public Works Department located at 320 West Newmark Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 91754, during normal business hours and the City’s website at www.montereypark.ca.gov.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS
You may speak up to three (3) minutes on Agenda item. You may combine up to two (2) minutes of time with another person’s speaking. No person may speak more than a total of 5 minutes. The Commission Chair and Commissioners may change the amount of time allowed for speakers.

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please call City Hall at (626) 307-1359 for reasonable accommodation at least 24 hours before a meeting. Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible.

CALL TO ORDER   Chairperson
FLAG SALUTE      Chairperson
ROLL CALL        Benkin Jong, Daisy Ma, Paul Perez, Allan Shatkin

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (Related to Items NOT on the Agenda). While all comments are welcome, the Brown Act does not allow the Traffic Commission to take action on any item not on the agenda. The Traffic Commission may briefly respond to comments after Public Communications is closed.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

[1.] PRESENTATIONS

1-A. S. Garfield Ave Traffic Pattern At Garfield Estates-II (1030-1140 S. Garfield Ave)  
1-B. Monterey Views Elementary School Drop-Off Zone Installation  
1-C. Local Roadway Safety Plan Presentation

[2.] CONSENT CALENDAR

2-A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It is recommended that the Traffic Commission:

(1) Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of June 16, 2022;
(2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable

[3.] OLD BUSINESS - None

[4.] NEW BUSINESS -

4-A. CHANGE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING TIMES

It is recommended that the Traffic Commission:

(1) Approve a change in the Traffic Commission meeting start time.
(2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.
[5.]  COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

ADJOURN
Next regular scheduled meeting is on September 15, 2022.
TO: Traffic Commission  
FROM: Cesar Vega, Civil Engineering Associate  
SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It is recommended that the Traffic Commission:

(1) Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of June 16, 2022; and

(2) Take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Attachment: Minutes of June 16, 2022
The Traffic Commission of the City of Monterey Park held a regular Meeting of the Commission in the City Council Chambers located at 320 W Newmark Avenue, in the City of Monterey Park, on June 16, 2022.

CALL TO ORDER:
Chair Allan Shatkin called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE:
Commissioner Perez led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL:
Allan Shatkin, Daisy Ma, Benkin Jong, Paul Perez

ALSO PRESENT:
Civil Engineering Associate Cesar Vega; Administrative Secretary Cristina Garcia, Ziad Mazboudi, Interim City Engineering Manager

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS – None.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

1. PRESENTATIONS

1A S. Garfield Avenue Traffic Pattern at Garfield Estates-II (1030-1140 S Garfield Ave) presented by Ziad Mazboudi, Interim City Engineering Manager

Commissioner Jong – requests staff to provide the Commission with collision diagrams and data used to make the determination to install the delineators, including the type of accidents, specifically driveway collisions as opposed to general speeding collisions.

Ziad Mazboudi, Interim City Engineering Manager – Responds that there is no data currently to provide the Commission. The actions and decision were made between traffic engineering standards and the police department’s recommendation and observations. Between June 13, 2017, to April 7, 2022, there were 22 collisions and 12 injuries. Since the installation there have been no accidents. Police enforcement has observed a reduction of speed travelling south down Garfield at the location, since the installation of the delineators.

Commissioner Perez – Explains that he had previously recommended installing red curb along the eastside of the street, south of the driveway to improve sight distance at the curve as well as painted arrows on the pavement, to indicate moving left. He feels that by installing the delineators the problem may have moved south, where drivers are making u turns against oncoming traffic.

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Commissioner Shatkin – Explains that he is not satisfied with the statistics provided, as they do not specify the type of accidents, if residents or speeding were involved, nor the comparison with accidents over a period of years to just a few months of data. Concerned with the u turns residents will have to make on to oncoming traffic to enter their complex as well as the lack of communication with the residents, that has impacted their quality of life.

Asks if a red blinking light was considered to change the nature of the driving, where drivers must slow down at flashing red light.

Commissioner Ma - asks that when the project started if there was any communication with the area residents and if the red curb was extended, south of the driveway.

Ziad Mazboudi, Interim City Engineering Manager – replies that there has been no communication with the residents.

Speakers:

Ralph Valencia, Garfield Estates II HMO president, representing the 72 residents who are concerned with the traffic pattern and the speed problem on Garfield. Asks if signage to allow for left hand turns into the complex traveling south bound could be considered.

Say Leung - states that he does not believe that any of the accidents involved any of the complex' residents.

Karl Wong – requests that residents be notified and believes that safety risks have been moved further north and south forcing residents to make U-turns to enter the complex. Understands that the speeding is the problem and asks that the Commission bring the item back as an action item.

Teresa Real Sebastian- agrees that speeding is the ongoing problem in this area and recalls that the city lost a crossing guard on Garfield, at the Fire Station, who was killed by a vehicle speeding down Garfield. Suggests removing delineators and other alternatives for residents traveling northbound to enter the complex.

Vinh Ngo – opposes the delineators installed at S. Garfield.

Commissioner Shatkin – requests staff to provide an update at the next regularly scheduled meeting with suggested modifications and outreach to the residents.

Commissioner Jong – inquires as to the previous condition of the median, for southbound direction, does not recall if the left turn in the median was previously allowed. The new median has created a narrowing and as double striped has the same effect as a raised median, in terms of law. No u turns over a double striped. Identifies the following problems:
-Drivers making u turns at the first available spot
Southbound left turns out of the driveway
Northbound right turns into the driveway

Asks staff to provide the accident history and a presentation to show an analysis of the accidents to determine the actual problems in this area.

**Ziad Mazboudi, Interim City Engineering Manager** - responds that staff will continue to investigate the issues in this area and to assess the initial action taken. Staff will return to the August meeting with the updates as requested.

**1-B S. New Avenue and E. Graves Avenue Intersection Cross Walk**

Ziad Mazboudi, Interim City Engineering Manager provides the update presented by Chief Gordon, to City Council at the June 15 meeting.

**Commissioner Jong** – states that the presentation does not address the concern at the school cross walk at Monterey Vista School at Graves and New, nor the speaker’s concern from last month’s Traffic Commission meeting, requesting a stop sign at this location. Fellow **Commissioners** agree that there was nothing in the presentation that addressed the specific request as identified in Item 1B.

**Ziad Mazboudi, Interim City Engineering Manager** – explains that the Chief’s presentation includes the entire concerns around the schools which are being addressed by various City departments, school districts and neighboring cities.

**Speakers**

**Teresa Real Sebastian** – explains that she was contacted by parents asking her to help find a solution to the eminent problems in this area. The handout provided is attached hereto, and made a part of the minutes. The handout illustrates the 2 drop off sections. Suggests additional striping, parking restrictions and designated parking areas for teachers and parents. Recommends to conduct a study and reach out to the school and neighboring school districts.

**Christine Lam** – a parent of 2 children of Monterey Vista School. Asks the Commission to help with changing the current system. Some of the problems are double parking, parking in residential driveways, dropping off children at undesignated areas and in the middle of the street, lack of parking and drop off areas. Possible solutions; adding valet lanes on Pomelo and Graves and New, adding a cross walk on Pomelo.

**Vinh Ngo** – current school board president of Monterey Vista. Requests safety measures be installed, with additional valet drop off and cross walk. Provides a handout, which is attached hereto, and made a part of the minutes. The handout illustrates the areas where a stop sign and cross walk is suggested. Working with the parents to enforce good education and safety practices and with the school staff to see if school release times can be staggered.

**Hing Chow** – Principal of Monterey Vista School, explains that they have the highest enrollment in the district, and it is extremely congested. Realizes that
there must be additional traffic measures in place to alleviate the problems in this area.
Requests an additional crosswalk at Graves and New, additional valet drop offs at Graves and Pomelo and removal of the street sweeping restrictions on the opposite side of Graves

**Commissioner Jong** – asks who is responsible to create school valet drop off zones at the schools and if the school has previously approached the city with its concerns. Encourages the speakers to also work with the school district

**Civil Engineering Associate Vega** - replies that the valet zone, in this case, was done by the City Engineer’s office. A new installation on the Graves’ side would also be through the City of Monterey Park’s Engineer's office. Further explains that New Avenue is shared by three local agencies, however, any additional valet zones, would be within the City of Monterey Park and, of the issues raised, the valet lane striping and help with the drop off and pick up zone can be immediately addressed.

**Commissioner Perez** – asks that the school be included with the staff’s decisions and analysis.

**Commissioner Ma along with fellow Commissioners** – request staff to research this concern further and return with an update and an analysis for the Commission to review, at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

**Ziad Mazboudi, Interim City Engineering Manager** – responds that staff will address the issues that can be tackled immediately, before school starts on August 18. The multi jurisdiction issues will require more time and will continue to be discussed.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

2-A. Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of May 19, 2022.

**Action Taken:** Approve the Traffic Commission minutes from the regular meeting of May 19, 2022,

**Motion:** Moved by Commissioner Perez and seconded by Commissioner Shatkin
The Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes:      Commissioner: Allan Shatkin, Benkin Jong, Paul Perez
Noes:      Commissioner: None
Absent: Commissioner: None
Abstain: Commissioner: Daisy Ma

3. OLD BUSINESS - None

4. NEW BUSINESS

4-A. CANCELLATION OF JULY 21, 2022, TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
Action Taken: Cancel the July Traffic Commission Meeting in observance of the summer holiday season.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Ma and seconded by Commissioner Perez. Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioner: Allan Shatkin, Benkin Jong, Daisy Ma, Paul Perez
Noes: Commissioner: None
Absent: Commissioner: None
Abstain: Commissioner: None

5. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Civil Engineering Associate – provides the following information:
- Council approved the addition of 4 addresses within the Vancouver permit parking district, the residents will be notified.
- Asks if the Commission would consider starting the regular Traffic Commission meetings at 6:30 pm to be in line with other Commission start times.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Traffic Commission meeting is August 18, 2022.

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Cesar Vega
Civil Engineering Associate
Staff Liaison to the Traffic Commission
City of Monterey Park
ADD STREET SIGNAGE
FOR EXAMPLE
NO PARKING WEEKDAYS 7 AM TO 9 AM AND 1 PM TO 4 PM

ADD STRIPING ON GRAVES, POMELO AND NEW TO QUEUE CARS TO LINE UP FOR STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP ZONES.
TO: Traffic Commission  
FROM: Cesar Vega, Civil Engineering Associate  
SUBJECT: PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION START TIME.

PROPOSAL

The Commission is asked to consider a proposed change to the Commission start time from 7:00 PM to a new time of 6:30 PM.

BACKGROUND

The City of Monterey Park in 2013 adopted Ordinance No. 2098 amending the regulations and general requirements for City commissions, boards and committees. Section § 2.90.020 Meetings and Proceedings establishes the rules by which the Traffic Commission is governed.

ANALYSIS

At the June 16, 2022, the Commission was asked if it would consider a change to its meeting start time; currently the commission meets at 7:00 PM. Per Section § 2.90.020 Meetings and Proceedings, the commission is allowed to set a time and place for its regular meetings. As proposed, the new start of 6:30 PM is being considered at this time; the Commission may adopt the earlier start time if it so desires.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Commission adopt a start time of 6:30 p.m. for the Traffic Commission meetings.