

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MAY 4, 2016**

The meeting was held in Conference Room A at the Department of Public Works Headquarters.

1. Call to order

At 9:03 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Recited.

3. Roll Call

Present: Chairperson Thurston T. Reese
 Commissioner Marvin Estey
 Commissioner Robert A. Ringler
 Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos
 Commissioner John Watkins

Absent but excused: Vice Chair Greg Knapp
 Commissioner Rhett Price

Also in attendance were the following:

Dean R. Lehman, Assistant Deputy Director; Mary Reyes, Senior Civil Engineer; Guillermo Gonzalez, Associate Civil Engineer; Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant; and Joshua Lugavere, Senior Civil Engineering Assistant

4. Approval of March 2, 2016, Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the March 2, 2016, Highway Safety Commission (HSC) meeting were approved.

5. Citizen Appeal of Denied Request by Public Works

There were no citizen appeals.

6. Report on Business Other Than Appeals

Crossing Guard Update.

Ms. Irena Guilmette stated that during the 3-month period since the March 2, 2016, HSC meeting, Public Works completed three studies for crossing guard services,

two in which new crossing guard services was recommended and one in which crossing guard services were not recommended. Also, Public Works is still evaluating 12 additional locations for crossing guard services.

Ms. Guilmette stated the total number of locations with crossing guard service is 222. Please note that the total number of crossing guards employed by the Los Angeles County Office of Education for these 223 locations is 231, which is due to some locations being served by more than one crossing guard. Ms. Reyes also informed the HSC that every study for a crossing guard has a letter sent to the school principal and the school district, and that for any denials for crossing guard service, the school is provided information on the appeal process through the HSC.

7. Public Comments on Any Matter Not on the Agenda

None.

8. Reports from Special Committees

None.

9. Special Orders

None.

10. Unfinished Business and General Notes

Denial of red curb at 616 Ditman Street; Appellant: Cerise Varela.

Mr. Lugavere presented the attached power point presentation and summarized the HSC's approved motion from the March 2, 2016, meeting as follows:

1. Deny the appeal to install red curb in front of the property at 616 Ditman Street.
2. Public Works to draft a letter on behalf of the HSC to the Sheriff's Parking Enforcement Detail to request increased parking enforcement.
3. Commissioner Villalobos will follow up with the First Supervisorial District to discuss the parking issues in the East Los Angeles/City Terrace communities.

4. HSC to bring the item back on the May 4, 2016, Agenda.

Mr. Lugavere indicated Public Works drafted a letter on behalf of the HSC and this letter was sent to Ms. Sharon Bilbrey of the Los Angeles County Parking Enforcement (Parking Enforcement) on April 6, 2016. Mr. Lugavere indicated that in this letter, the HSC requested assistance from the Parking Enforcement in providing targeted enforcement of Vehicle Code Section 22500 as a means to discourage continued violations of motorists parking in a manner that has been blocking residential driveways.

Commissioner Villalobos stated that within a week of the March 2, 2016, HSC meeting, he met with Supervisor Hilda L. Solis and two of her staff, Benjamin Polk and Derek Galey. During the meeting he discussed the outcome of the HSC meeting and the fact that the majority of vehicles blocking driveways occur in the first district, although it is a Countywide issue. Commissioner Villalobos stated that Supervisor Solis told him to follow-up with Mr. Galey on this issue. Commissioner Villalobos informed the HSC that Ms. Guilmette forwarded the HSC agenda, minutes, and power point presentation from the March 2, 2016, HSC meeting to Mr. Galey so that he could be better informed of the issue. Commissioner Villalobos indicated that although there were 50 new approved deputies in the Sheriff's Department, they were not being assigned to the area where Ms. Varela lives.

Commissioner Reese asked Ms. Varela if the neighbors were still blocking her driveway or the neighbor's driveway. Ms. Varela stated that the violations have eased up but there are still issues on the weekend. She stated that the neighbors get upset if they see her taking a photo of their car blocking a driveway and she is in fear of retaliation when she calls Parking Enforcement or the Sheriff. Commissioner Ringler asked Public Works' staff if the Sheriff could be called for a parking enforcement issue. Ms. Reyes indicated that she had spoken to a Parking Enforcement officer regarding this case and he stated that as a practice, they do not enforce Section 22500 unless the vehicle is blocking the complainant's driveway directly, as they recognize that parking is very limited in this community. The Parking Enforcement officer also indicated that they have responded when vehicles block Ms. Varela's driveway and that all of the calls from Ms. Varela lately have been regarding cars blocking other driveways. Ms. Reyes also stated that if the violation occurs during the weekend, it will get referred to the deputy on patrol for the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Ringler stated it appeared these violations appeared to be a weekend issue. Ms. Varela stated she was happy that there had been some progress since the last meeting. Commissioner Watkins commended Ms. Varela

on her efforts in her community. Commissioner Villalobos stated that Parking Enforcement has been inundated with enforcement calls lately due to motorists parking their vehicles on the streets for extended periods of time. He stated that the HSC will keep her posted when there are any updates.

11. New Business

There were no new business items.

12. Date for Next Meeting Announced and Adjournment

Commissioner Villalobos requested the meeting be adjourned in honor of his father-in-law, Joseph E. Garcia. He stated that Mr. Garcia was born October 14, 1925, and had passed away of Acute Leukemia on March 31, 2016. He stated that Mr. Garcia was a United States Marine veteran who had dedicated much of his time to volunteering to help the homeless. The meeting was adjourned in his honor at 9:52 a.m. and the next meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 1, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,



IRENA GUILMETTE
Executive Officer
Highway Safety Commission

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Attach.