MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION COMMISSION MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2009, 4:00 P.M. City Council Chamber, City Hall

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: J. Michael Cochran

Edmundo Duvignau Rob Hallstrom Jay Park David Rizzo

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Stephen Hall

Johnnie Simmons

STAFF PRESENT: Mark Miller, City Traffic Engineer

Dave Langstaff, Traffic Engineering Analyst Sgt. Steve Williams, Fullerton Police Department

Teri Carlson, Engineering Aide III

Janelle Pasillas, Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Duvignau at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bob Rineer spoke regarding Fullerton College, the current traffic and parking situation, and traffic issues related to the new stadium. Lt. Hamilton had suggested he speak at this meeting. Concerns expressed were pedestrian safety, the impact of the new stadium on parking and traffic, Fullerton College parking capacity, the impact on surrounding neighborhoods, and the possibility of charging students for parking in the residential neighborhoods.

Mark Miller, City Traffic Engineer, advised the Commission he would report back on the above comments at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Commissioner Cochran, SECONDED by Commissioner Hallstrom, and CARRIED unanimously, that the Minutes of the December 1, 2008 meeting be APPROVED as written.

NEW BUSINESS

The following item was heard out of order.

Overnight Parking – Chapman Avenue

Mr. Miller explained the request was to remove the "Early Morning Parking" restriction on both sides of Chapman Avenue, between Adlena Drive and Elizabeth Way, but staff was recommending removal of the "Early Morning Parking" restriction on the south side only between Adlena Drive and Diana Place. He explained that 51% of the property owners on both sides of the street must be in favor of the request, and the area considered off-street parking

deficient, for a request of this type to move forward. Staff believed the exemption was needed on the south side only because off-street parking was available on neighboring streets for the residents on the north side. Staff had reviewed the properties and Mr. Miller gave a recap of the parking available on this segment of Chapman Avenue, and also the surrounding area. Only fifty percent of the property owners had signed the petition.

Commissioner Hallstrom verified that staff recommended approval on the south side only, and Mr. Miller responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Cochran clarified that staff was recommending the exemption stop at Diana Place, and Mr. Miller responded the request was to Elizabeth Way, but staff recommended stopping at Diana Place.

The hearing was opened to public comments.

The following spoke in support of the request:

- Mike Favela, 1708 W. Chapman Avenue
- Greg Brittain, 329 Diana Place
- Sharon Condon, 1712 W. Chapman Avenue
- Georgia Leggett, 401 N. Diana Place
- John Gedley, 400 N. Delphine Place
- Jennifer Kuhns, 1720 Chapman Avenue
- Muriel Favela, 1708 W. Chapman Avenue

Their issues of concern were:

- Parking at Adlena Park overnight had not been an issue until recently.
- Many of the families in this neighborhood have multiple vehicles.
- Parking on neighboring streets would interfere with the parking for people who lived on those streets.
- A family with several teenagers of driving age, along with two adults, needed additional parking.
- Had six children, and the two large vans they had would not fit in their garage.
- The three properties indicated as not signing the petition were not home owners, they
 were rental properties (staff clarified that the petition needed to be signed by the
 property owner).
- Some homes had very limited on-site parking and several vehicles.
- The streets were narrow.
- Vehicles parked in the alley were often vandalized.
- When there are activities at the park they could not get their vehicles in and out of their garage.
- The side streets are very narrow and if cars are parked on both sides it would be dangerous.
- When the homes were built most families did not have multiple cars.
- The people on the neighboring streets did not want them parking in front of their homes.
- Concerned with having teenagers park on the side streets and walk home late at night after work and school.
- Many of the people on the side streets have a driveway that would allow parking, yet they park on the street.

The public comment segment was closed.

Mr. Miller commented that the north side between Delphine Place and Diana Place had 100% of property owner's signature on the petition, so they could allow the exemption on that portion.

Commissioner Duvignau expressed concern with accessibility for emergency vehicles if parking was allowed on both sides. Sgt. Hamilton explained that it would not be a problem for Police, but he was unaware of Fire Department requirements. Mr. Miller stated there would be two 12' lanes which would be sufficient.

Commissioner Cochran asked if staff was not recommending parking on the north side due to the available on-site parking, and Mr. Miller responded that a portion of the north side met the requirements, but the whole section did not.

Commissioner Duvignau asked if it would be best to approve removal of the "Early Morning Parking" on the south side only, and allow the residents to get the additional signatures from the property owners on the north side, rather than do it piece meal. Mr. Miller responded that this would be the first exemption on Chapman, and staff was recommending changing the south side only.

MOTION made by Commissioner Cochran, SECONDED by Commissioner Hallstrom, and CARRIED unanimously that staff's recommendation be recommended to City Council for approval.

Repeal 15-minute Parking – Malden Avenue

Mark Miller, City Traffic Engineer, explained the request had come from the Police Department in response to the number of citations being issued, and the 15-minute parking no longer being needed.

MOTION made by Commissioner Hallstrom, SECONDED by Commissioner Rizzo, and CARRIED unanimously that said request be recommended to City Council for approval.

No Stopping Anytime – Chapman Avenue

Mr. Miller explained the request had come about because students continued parking beyond the one-hour parking limits, which narrowed the traffic lane on Chapman Avenue. This change would also allow for a turn lane into the parking lot.

MOTION made by Commissioner Cochran, SECONDED by Commissioner Hallstrom, and CARRIED unanimously that said request be recommended to City Council for approval.

Request for Marked Crosswalk – Amerige Avenue

Mr. Miller explained staff had been requested to look at adding a mid-block crosswalk at this location due to concerns for pedestrian safety. There is currently signage indicating a pedestrian crossing, but this location did not meet the warrants for a crosswalk. Also, if a crosswalk was installed, handicapped ramps and lighting would be required. There had not been any instances of pedestrian/vehicle conflicts.

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Commissioner Cochran asked if there was a crosswalk at Highland, and Mr. Miller responded it was a four way stop.

Commissioner Hallstrom asked if the majority of pedestrians crossed in this area, and Mr. Miller responded affirmatively. Typically pedestrians crossed diagonally from where they parked their car.

Sgt. Williams commented that installing a crosswalk at this location, when it did not meet the warrants, could possibly cause a problem when the next crosswalk request came in.

Commissioner Rizzo commented on the false sense of security a crosswalk may provide.

MOTION made by Commissioner Rizzo, SECONDED by Commissioner Cochran, and CARRIED unanimously that said request be denied.

COUNCIL REVIEW

City Traffic Engineer Miller gave an update on recent traffic-related Council actions.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

The next parking hearing was in March and Commissioner Hall was scheduled to attend. In April Commissioner Simmons would attend.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Transportation and Circulation Commission adjourned at 4:58 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting of April 6, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.

Janelle Pasillas Administrative Assistant I