



**MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
September 19, 2017**

City Council Chamber
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Transportation Commission was called to order at 5:31 p.m. on September 19, 2017 in the City Council Chamber, Irvine Civic Center, One Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, California; Chair Montgomery presiding.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 5	Commissioner:	Rose Casey
	Commissioner:	Carrie O'Malley
	Commissioner:	Sandy Moody
	Vice Chair:	Steve Greenberg
	Chair:	Ken Montgomery

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Montgomery led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

ORAL COMMUNICATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MINUTES

ACTION: Moved by Commissioner Greenberg, seconded by Commissioner Casey and unanimously carried to:

Approve the minutes of a regular meeting of the Transportation Commission held on September 5, 2017.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

2. CONCEPT PLANS FOR JAMBOREE ROAD/MICHELSON DRIVE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Manuel Gomez, Director of Public Works and Tom Perez, Capital Improvement Program Administrator presented the item and answered questions. Hilton Yee and Travis Frankel, of AECOM, were also available for questions.

Commission discussion included: Request for pedestrian traffic analysis; concern regarding heavy interaction between pedestrians and motorists on Michelson; benefits of the bridge such as increased mobility, time savings, and increased safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles. Review of the truss bridge design; best practices for bridge selection; City protocols for bridge selection, fees, scope of project and final design. Review of the recommendations from the September 9 Irvine Residents with Disabilities Advisory Board meeting and the March 28 City Council meeting. Commissioners requested clarification on surveys taken at all the pedestrian crossings and requested revisiting the option of the truss bridge design.

ACTION: Moved by Commissioner O'Malley, seconded by Vice-Chair Greenberg, motion carried 5-0 to:

Move forward with an open truss bridge design.

3. JAMBOREE ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT MAIN STREET AND AT BARRANCA PARKWAY

Manuel Gomez, Director of Public Works and Darrell Hartman, Senior Civil Engineer presented the item and answered questions. Jaimee Bourgeois, City Traffic Engineer and Tran Tran, Senior Transportation Engineer, were also available for questions

Commission discussion included: Right-of-way impacts; the difficulty in revisiting the project once an offer is made; concern for pedestrian traffic; the possibility of building a bridge to support the wide intersection; request for clarification on the traffic studies; the possibility of combining this project with a separate upcoming road widening project; request for information regarding the right-of-way acquisitions and permanent vs. temporary easements.

Concerns were expressed regarding how much this will really improve traffic, the drastic impact on landscape and the possibility of a study session being warranted. Concerns were also raised regarding this project moving forward and other Jamboree improvements not moving forward; there could be a lack of adequate parking, what would happen to existing landscape, and the potential for increased traffic levels with the IBC project.

Director Gomez stated these two intersections are part of the IBC Mitigation Fee Program intended to address traffic impacts from upcoming improvement development.

Public Comment:

Les Card, with LSA Associates, spoke against the Jamboree/Main Intersection Complex Project. He suggested a new study be completed, to reflect how traffic models have changed.

ACTION: Moved by Commissioner O'Malley, seconded by Vice-Chair Greenberg, motion carried 3-2 (Chair Montgomery and Commissioner Casey voting no) to:

Recommend to City Council that a study session be conducted for the Transportation Commission to better understand the impact of this project and to evaluate additional alternatives before making recommendations on further action.

4. JAMBOREE ROAD WIDENING PROJECT UPDATE

Manuel Gomez, Director of Public Works and Tom Perez, Capital Improvements Administrator presented the item and answered questions. Gabriel Rodriguez and Trisha Munoz, with David Evans & Associates, were also available for questions

Commission discussion included: Concerns about the width of the road and it potentially being the widest road in Orange County, seemingly comparable to a freeway; removal and relocation of sidewalks; accessibility to apartment entrances and impact to shopping and businesses; actual impact on time saved during peak hours; the impact of the elimination of the bus turnout. Additional alternatives, such as dedicated turn-lanes, were discussed. Concerns were raised in regards to changing the overall landscape of Irvine from green to concrete. The importance of explaining traffic benefits in terms everyone can understand and how this translates to benefit vs. cost; a study session was recommended. Other concerns included the adequacy of the existing traffic study, the challenges of creative left-turns, lack of room to add U-turns, and the addition of two more signals to the recommended plan; there was a request for the traffic study to be revised to reflect traffic impacts and benefits of this project.

Public Comment:

Les Card with LSA Associates spoke against the project, recommending a study session on alternatives indicating that this project does not fit the concept of planned community.

ACTION: Moved by Vice-Chair Greenberg, seconded by Commissioner O'Malley, motion carried 4-1 (Commissioner Casey voted no) to:

Not proceed with the Jamboree Road Widening project.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were none.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE BY DIRECTOR LINSENMAYER

Approved speed limit increases per staff recommendation, including addition of five segments for future review and did not approve speed limit sign increases on the five Northwood segments.

Approved plans for University widening project including alternate scoping project to review additional safety features along bike trail on University.

Approved Transportation Commission recommendation of IBC increase by Construction Cost Index (CCI) as opposed to full staff recommended increase.

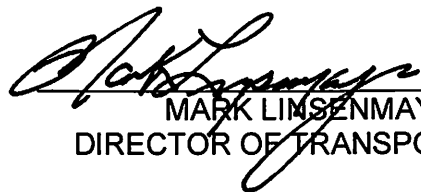
ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Request for information regarding Planning Commission vote on Land Swap project.

ADJOURNMENT

By consensus, Chair Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m. to a regular Transportation Commission meeting on October 3, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., City of Irvine, City Council Chamber, One Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, CA.


KEN MONTGOMERY
CHAIR


MARK LINSENMAYER
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION


DEBORAH KELLY
RECORDING SECRETARY

10-17-17
DATE APPROVED