

**CITY OF ENCINITAS
TRAFFIC COMMISSION MINUTES**

Meeting Date: June 9, 2003, 5:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL (called to order 5:31 PM)

Present: Chairperson Arnold Lewin, Vice-Chairperson Travis Straughan,
Commissioners Christopher Hall, Patricia Klaus and Hersey
Mallory.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Rob Blough, Traffic Engineer
Ray Miller, Sgt., Encinitas Sheriff's Department
Robert Silk, Supervisor, North County Transit District
Dave Moore, Fire Marshal
Melisa Bittancourt, Traffic Engineering Aide
Trish Douglas, Traffic Engineering Program Assistant

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Patricia Klaus led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blough introduced Dave Moore, the Encinitas Fire Marshal, who will be attending the Traffic Commission meetings from today forward.

Blough also announced that the July Traffic Commission meeting will cover Traffic Calming Program tools and procedures that are being developed. The consultant, Michael Wallwork, will be in attendance. (Later in the meeting, during Commissioners Corner, the commissioners requested that this subject be moved to a later date as Klaus will be out-of-town for the next Traffic Commission meeting on July 14, 2003.)

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

5. CLOSING AND ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes – April 14, 2003

**Hall moved and Mallory seconded to approve the minutes of April 14, 2003.
Approved: 5-0.**

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2000-2002 Annual Traffic Collision Report

Blough gave the Staff report. **It is recommended that the Traffic Commission receive and file this report, direct Staff to do any further analysis if the Commissioners would like additional information, or make any comments on the material.**

Hall: asked if Staff and the Sheriff's Dept. if they had any idea of what caused the increase in accidents from 2001 to 2002, or if the increase is normal statistical fluctuation? Blough indicated that it is difficult to determine; however, in 2000, the city opened Leucadia Blvd., a few more intersections were added, and overall traffic volume increased.

Sgt. Miller indicated that the increase in accidents might have been affected by the opening of some housing projects to the east of Encinitas and the use of our streets to get through to the freeway. He indicated that all the Sheriff's stats have increased and that the increase in accidents may be a naturally occurring event as traffic volumes increase.

Hall said that the Leucadia Blvd./I-5 intersection stands out, as it appears to him that this intersection can be confusing. Is there a flaw in the design of this intersection? Blough will need to check to see if any of the accidents at this intersection were due to people changing lanes to avoid the "lane trap." The signals are maintained by CalTrans, and the intersection design was done by both City and CalTrans.

Mallory: would like to know if the collisions involving pedestrians were people jaywalking or were they runners? Blough indicated that he would have to look into the detail of these accidents and bring the information back to the commissioners at the next Traffic Commission meeting.

Straughan: are there any plans on reviewing the highest accident rated intersections trying to solve the problems there? Blough indicated that this report is used as part of a list for possible future projects, and that many of the intersections are currently being worked on in conjunction with various capital improvement projects.

Lewin: would like to know the reasons for the accidents at the top 10 intersections in order to determine if something can be done to reduce the accident levels. Blough said that this data could be presented to the Traffic Commission at the next Traffic Commission meeting.

The Traffic Commissioners received this report.

7. **COMMISSIONER CORNER**

- A. Klaus is going to be out of town on July 14th (the next Traffic Commission meeting) and she asked the commissioners to consider moving the Traffic Commission meeting to the fourth Monday of the month, July 28th. Blough indicated that Michael Wallwork, the traffic calming program consultant, is already scheduled for this date; however, he will check to see if Wallwork can rearrange his schedule.


Hall indicated that he might be on vacation at the end of July. After further discussion, it was decided that, if the July 14th meeting cannot be rescheduled for July 28th, it would be acceptable to cover the Traffic Calming Program materials at the August 11th Traffic Commission meeting.

- B. Hall: a few weeks ago, the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce brought the intersection of San Elijo Ave. and Chesterfield Dr. to the attention of the City and the Traffic Commission. Is this issue being worked on? Blough indicated that some striping will be done at this intersection to help alleviate some of the problems. Staff is also addressing the problem of drivers turning westbound on to Chesterfield Dr. from northbound San Elijo Ave. not giving southbound through drivers the right-of-way.
- C. Mallory: noticed a problem on northbound Via Cantabria as it approaches Garden View Rd. When a northbound driver wants to turn west into the housing complex just south of the corner of Via Cantabria and Garden View Rd., the vehicles behind the turning driver are expecting the vehicle to actually turn onto northbound Garden View Rd., and if drivers aren't paying close attention, there could easily be an accident. Blough said he would check on this as the northbound drivers are not supposed to be able to turn into the complex at this location.
- D. Sgt. Miller reminded the traffic commissioners that, as of June 27th, Encinitas would be minus a 5-day car and a 2-day car due to state budget cutbacks. Monday through Friday, one car and 4 motor officers will be available; at night there will be 2 cars. Klaus asked about the weekends; Sgt. Miller thought he would try to cover one of the weekend days by scheduling one of the cars to a Tues-Sat. schedule; however, there will probably be one weekend day where there is no daytime car coverage.
- E. Lewin asked about the requested changes to the speed limits that the Traffic Commission addressed at the last Traffic Commission meeting. There were several speed limits that the commissioners decided not to raise. What has happened with this subject? Blough indicated that this has gone to the City Council twice and, at the second meeting, the Council adopted the ordinance with no discussion. The speed limits will go into effect in approximately 2 weeks. Blough will provide the Sheriff and the Court a copy of the new speed limits. Blough will meet with the Court judges to explain why some of the speed limits weren't raised so that these speeds can be enforced by the motor officers.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Hall moved and Straughan seconded the motion to adjourn. Approved: 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.


Arnold Lewin, Chairperson


Trish Douglas, Commission Secretary