

CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission (MTIC) was called to order by Chair Dunlap on September 19, 2023, at 6:33p.m. The meeting was held inperson in City Council Chambers at 1424 Mission St, South Pasadena, Calif. and virtually via Zoom.

ROLL CALL: Chair Dunlap

PRESENT Chair Eric Dunlap

Vice Chair Kimberley Hughes

Commissioner John Fisher
Commissioner Larry Abelson
Commissioner Diego Zavala

Council Liaison: Councilmember Jack Donovan arrived at 7:40 p.m.

ABSENT None.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Ted Gerber, Public Works Director ("PWD"), Anteneh Tesfaye, Deputy Director of Public Works ("DDPW"), and Leaonna DeWitt, Public Works Assistant ("PWA")

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Zavala led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Public Comment - General

In-person Public Comments:

Nick Howell expressed concern about the recent fatal collision on Orange Grove Avenue.

Caroline Howell expressed concern regarding speeding on Orange Grove Avenue and would like slower streets. She reported that there had been another collision in the vicinity the past Sunday.

Rona Bortz expressed concern regarding speeding on Orange Grove Avenue and the impacts on Oliver Street.

Beth Levinson who lives on Oliver St expressed concern with the increase in traffic from Orange Grove Avenue that goes down Meridian Avenue and drivers ignoring the stop sign at Oliver St.

Nizam Hosaini expressed concern regarding the number of collisions related to Orange Grove Avenue. He referenced Del Mar Avenue and the "all-red" signal operation during late night hours as a mitigation for speeding.

William Hoyman expressed support for traffic calming measures along Orange Grove Avenue and eliminating the lane drop on southbound Orange Grove Avenue south of Columbia St.

End of Public Comment.

Chair Dunlap requested PWD Gerber give a brief overview on next steps on Orange Grove Avenue.

PWD Gerber discussed that the City went through a process to appropriate a portion of its Measure M – Multiyear Subregional Program for Orange Grove Avenue. The next steps in the project are to evaluate Orange Grove Avenue and the alternatives from the comments given tonight and from discussions staff had with other Orange Grove Avenue residents. He encouraged the group to participate in the charrette process starting on Monday, September 25, which will focus on Fremont Avenue, Huntington Drive and Fair Oaks Avenue.

Vice-Chair Hughes requested PWD Gerber to discuss some of the improvements made at the intersection of Orange Grove Avenue and Columbia St.

PWD Gerber stated that the City has restricted the right turn on red at the north and west corners of Orange Grove Avenue and Columbia St. Staff has a monthly meeting with the City of Pasadena Department of Transportation to discuss upcoming projects and ideas.

ACTION/DISCUSSION

2. Slow Streets Program Update and Recommendation

PWD Gerber gave an update on this project.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission:

- Receive and file the update on the Slow Streets Program including feedback on residential street installations and the parklet design process. Survey results were shared representing around 300 survey respondents. The commission suggested developing outreach to remind residents to respond to the survey.
- 2. Provide recommendations and advisement on the Mission Street roadway configuration.

Extensive discussion ensued.

Public Comment

In-Person Public Comments

Michael Ten commented that he had been around when there had been a pilot effort in 2007

and noted the past community opposition. where Mission Street had the lanes reduced. The effort lasted around 6-weeks, as the community was not happy with the loss of lanes. .

A motion was made by Commissioner Abelson supporting Commissioner Fisher's and Chair Dunlap's approach for the City to report back with simpler approach that generally includes one travel lane in each direction, one turn lane and or two-way left-turn lane, and a buffered bike facility. (Abelson, 5-0)

3. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission Meeting on August 15, 2023

PWD Gerber informed the Commission that staff has received direction on standardizing the minutes across commissions.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2023 meeting. (Hughes, Abelson, 5-0)

INFORMATION REPORTS

4. Project Status Update

PWD Gerber gave an update on this item.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission receive and file an update on the status of projects related to the City's mobility and transportation infrastructure.

Discussion ensued.

COMMUNICATIONS

5. City Council Liaison Communications

Council Liaison Donovan apologized for arriving late.

He informed the Commission of the Special Meeting held on September 18, 2023 regarding the General Plan, which was well attended. The meeting was postponed and continued until Wednesday, September 27. There will be one more public meeting in October, date to be determined.

At the last Council meeting, the discussion was regarding a proposal for upgrades to the golf course, which garnered a number of comments. Council Liaison Donovan stated everyone wanted improvements to the golf course but no changes. He stated more meetings to come.

6. Commissioner Communications

Commissioner Hughes thanked the residents who came to the meeting regarding Orange Grove Avenue. She requested receiving agenda materials to receive them sooner. She thanked staff for the budget information added to the presentation materials.

Commissioner Abelson commented there have been two recent vehicle accidents on Orange Grove Avenue with one at Oliver Street and at Prospect Avenue. He thanked staff for the loading zone in front of the high school. He also thanked the Police Department for their show of enforcement on Charter Oak Street and Grand Avenue.

Commissioner Zavala commented on the installation of the delineators and that the adhesive was compromised when vehicles drive over it and that led to visual damage. The switch over to the new pads is working out pretty well.

7. Staff Communications

PWD announced the outreach sessions regarding Huntington Drive., Fremont Avenue and Fair Oaks Avenue will be held at the South Pasadena Library, from Monday, September 25 – Thursday, September 28, presentations are from 4pm – 6pm.

PWA DeWitt announced the Annual Dumpster Day Event scheduled for Saturday, October 21, from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M., on Arroyo Drive, south of Mission Street. For seniors, please contact the Senior Center at 626-403-7360 to register.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further matters. Chair Dunlap adjourned the meeting at 10:05p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission of the City of South Pasadena at a meeting held on October 17, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

Eric Dunlap, Chair