



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**ATHERTON TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, July 9, 2019**

**6:00 PM – Regular Meeting**

**HOLBROOK PALMER PARK – MAIN HOUSE**

**150 Watkins Avenue**

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL** (5 minutes)  
Committee Members: Carol Collins, Joseph Davis, Sriram Iyer (Vice Chair), Gary Lauder (Chair)  
Steve Meller.  
Councilmember Liaison: Michael Lempres  
Staff: Chief of Police Steven McCulley, Sergeant Anthony Kockler, PW Director Robert Ovardia

- The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm
- Committee Chair Lauder was not present – out of the country
- Committee Member Davis was not present – out of town
- Commander Wade was present for Chief McCulley

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** Public Comment for items not on the agenda (10 minutes)

- There were no public comments.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** March 12, 2019 meeting minutes

- This item was deferred to the next Transportation Committee Meeting.

4. **REGULAR AGENDA**

- 4a. Welcome of New Member G. Lauder

Committee will welcome Steve Meller to the Committee, appointed on June 19, 2019. Committee Member Miller may describe his background and interests as they relate to service on the Transportation Committee. **Not an action item.**

- Committee Member Meller introduced himself and discussed his background.

- 4b. Set/confirm meeting schedule for the year G. Lauder

Committee will discuss the meeting calendar for the fiscal year. Meetings are scheduled on the second Tuesday of every other (odd) month. **The Committee will act to confirm the meeting calendar and may make adjustments to the calendar.**

- The meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of every other month (odd months).

- 4c. Appointment of Chair/Vice Chair G. Lauder

The Committee will discuss the positions and duties of the Chair and Vice Chair. **The Committee will act to appoint a Chair and Vice Chair for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.**

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- Committee Chair Lauder was elected as Committee Chair.
- Committee Vice-Chair Iyer was elected as Committee Vice-Chair.

4d. Consideration of Encinal School Crossing Improvements Robert Ovadia

The Encinal School Safe Routes Committee, a group of parents at Encinal School, previously requested consideration of safety improvements along Encinal Avenue near the school. Staff will present results of a traffic engineer's analysis, with recommendations for potential improvements, including relocation of the crosswalk fronting the school and the potential installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) at the Encinal Avenue/Felton Drive intersection. **The Committee may act to recommend improvements along Encinal Avenue and at the Encinal Avenue/Felton Drive intersection.**

- PW Director Ovadia gave the introduction and presentation on this item.
- Questions and answers between the Committee Members and PW Director Ovadia.
- Public comments were made by the following persons:
  - Elizabeth Blois, 100 Felton Drive – Opposed and submitted a letter to PW Director Ovadia.
  - Kay Anderson, 170 Encinal Avenue – Opposed and read a letter from a fellow neighbor, Russel Moore
  - Geri Nelson, 136 Encinal Avenue – Questioned the letter she received
  - John Anderson, 170 Encinal Avenue - Opposed
  - Marcy Abramowitz, 360 Lennox Avenue - Opposed
  - Ahmad Sheikholeslami, 195 Encinal Avenue (Encinal School) – Discussed Encinal School's objectives, responsibilities, and what the school had already done to remedy the situation.
  - Gordon Deeg, 196 Encinal Avenue – In favor of doing what was necessary to alleviate the traffic congestion.
- The Transportation Committee requested wider public outreach and this item to be placed on the next Transportation Committee Meeting agenda in September 2019.

4e. Consideration of Parking Restrictions – Toyon Road Robert Ovadia

Residents along Toyon Road have requested consideration of parking restrictions along Toyon Road between Oak Grove Avenue and Ringwood Avenue. **The Committee may act to recommend parking restrictions along Toyon Road including but not limited to No Parking Anytime, No Parking on certain days, or between certain hours.**

- PW Director Ovadia gave the introduction and presentation on this item.
- Public comments were made by the following persons:

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- Leo Dreyer, 153 Toyon Road - Support
- Michael Neril, 198 Toyon Road - Support
- Stuart Sagan, 177 Toyon Road - Support
- Resident, 92 Toyon Road – Support, and wanted the same parking restrictions on the cul-de-sac portion of Toyon Road, north of Oak Grove Avenue.
- Jan Wong, 139 Toyon Road – Support, but concerned about the number of signs.
- Resident, 128 Toyon Road – Support, but concerned about the number of signs.

- The Transportation Committee requested an outreach study for permit parking restrictions, both with and without a specified time frame before this item moves to the City Council.

4f. Consideration of Pedestrian Improvements – Valparaiso Ave Chief McCulley

Sacred Heart Schools has submitted a request for the consideration of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) at the intersection of Valparaiso Avenue at Elena Avenue. The schools intend to deploy a crossing guard at the intersection and are requesting the installation of RRFB's as an additional safety device. **The Committee may act to recommend improvements at the Valparaiso Avenue/Elena Avenue intersection.**

- PW Director Ovadia introduced and discussed this topic.
- Questions and answers between Committee Members and PW Director Ovadia.
- Sherman Hall from Sacred Heart Schools was present and made a presentation.
- Questions and answers between the Committee Members and Sherman Hall.

- The Transportation Committee requested public outreach before taking this item to the City Council in July 2019.

4g. Consideration of Striping Modifications for the Middlefield Road Class II Bicycle Lanes Improvement Project Robert Ovadia

Staff received a request to consider revising the striping on Middlefield Road between Watkins Avenue and James Avenue/Lane Place. The request was to consider conversion of the striped median between James Avenue to Watkins Avenue into a dual left turn lane to improve traffic flow. Upon review and consultation with the design engineer for the project, staff and the designer concluded that though the conversion to a dual left turn lane would be inappropriate, the left turn lanes at both Watkins Avenue and James Avenue could be extended to facilitate mobility near the intersections. **The Committee may act to recommend striping modifications to Middlefield Road between Watkins Avenue and James Avenue.**

- PW Director Ovadia presented and discussed this issue.

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- This issue was approved unanimously by all present members of the Transportation Committee.
- This issue will be moved to the City Council for approval.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

**Police Traffic Unit** (10 minutes)

- a. Monthly Report for March 2019 – A. Kockler
- b. Monthly Report for April 2019 – A. Kockler
- c. Monthly Report for May 2019 – A. Kockler
- d. Monthly Report for June 2019 – A. Kockler

*These items discuss the monthly traffic reports for March, April, May and June of 2019.*

- This items were not discussed.

**6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- This item was not discussed.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- PW Director Ovadia discussed the sinkhole at the intersection of El Camino Real and Maple Avenue. According to PW Director Ovadia, CalWater believes a water valve at Isabella Avenue may be leaking, which may be related to the sinkhole. CalWater has applied for an Encroachment Permit to fix the water valve. If the water valve is determined to have caused the sinkhole, CalWater will be responsible for all roadway repairs.

**8. NEXT MEETING DATE Tuesday, September 10, 2019**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sergeant Anthony Kockler

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