

**LA JOLLA TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION BOARD**  
**Regular Meeting: Wednesday November 18, 2015**  
**La Jolla Recreation Center**

**Members Present:** Dave Abrams (Chairperson) LJCPA, Tom Brady LJCPA, Donna Aprea LJTC, Earl van Inwegen LJTC, Michelle Fulks BRCC, Nancy Warwick LJVMA Corey Bailey LJVMA, John Kassar LJSA.

**Members Absent:** Patrick Ryan BRCC, Brian Earley LJSA

**Approve Minutes** of Wednesday October 21, 2015. Motion to Approve: Brady, Second: Van Inwegen. 7-0-0 (Warwick not available to vote)

**Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:** No Comments

**Agenda Item 1: Village Parking Time-Limit Review:** Patrick Ryan

Nothing to Report. Ad Hoc Subcommittee did not meet

**Agenda Item 2: Traffic Signal Timing on Torrey Pines Road:** Glen Rasmussen Continued from October 21. Mariana Sadek, Assistant Traffic Engineer for the City presented on City efforts with Adaptive Signal Timing to improve signal coordination at the Throat where the La Jolla Parkway meets Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla Shores Drive and Hidden Valley Road. Currently the traffic lights cycle on standard time every 120 seconds. This cycle can be manipulated by Fire Station 9 to deploy emergency vehicles through the intersection quickly but the cycles do not automatically reset back to normal operations after the emergency vehicles have preempted them resulting in major traffic congestion throughout the intersection. As a short term solution the City will be installing special timing perimeters to help the traffic lights return to normal operation after they have been preempted.

As for a long term solution, the City is testing Adaptive Signal Timing using special camera's to detect traffic waiting in queues at the Intersection and can adjust the red and green lights based on real time traffic conditions and not synchronization with other traffic lights. There will be a series of adaptive signal cameras for the Parkway, Torrey Pines, La Jolla Shores, and Ardath Road that will communicate the traffic patterns. If one camera sees a large volume of traffic sitting in front of it on Torrey Pines Road another camera will look at the traffic on La Jolla Shores Drive and make a determination how much time the light can stay green for Torrey Pines. Each adaptive signal camera will be preset with three different zone ranges and band widths to choose from that will determine how long the lights can stay red or green. If there is little movement on Torrey Pines or La Jolla Shores then most of the green light time will revert to the Parkway. The traffic lights can stay red or green for a longer amount of time than the standard cycle of 120 seconds, anywhere from 120 to 170 seconds. La Jolla Parkway is on the City's list to be part of the testing phase starting within the next six months. This will be just a Test, the City will revert back to standard synchronization if adaptive timing does not solve the traffic problems at the intersection.

Several residents living on Torrey Pines Road down by the Throat are concerned that the adaptive signal timing will cause problems for them trying to exit their driveways. Currently they have a small window of time they referred to as a gap in the traffic that they wait for to exit their driveways. They wanted to know if they would lose that gap with the new signal timing process. Mariana said the process was not even in the testing phase for La Jolla yet so she was unable to address their concerns about losing that gap in the traffic but she remained after her presentation to speak to them.

**Agenda Item 3: EddieV Restaurant Request for Additional Valet Parking Spaces: Action Item.**

Christophe Cevasco. Continued from October 21. Mr. Cevasco appeared before the Board with a petition of support from seven of his retail neighbors and a user friendly electronic parking validation instruction booklet for the parking validation program. It appears that the seven retailers who signed his petition also signed up for his parking validation program. In two letters written to the Board, merchants from The La Jolla Gallery and the Prospect Rug Gallery wrote that the additional valet parking spaces would ensure that parking spaces would go to shoppers and not employees of neighboring businesses. Both merchants wrote about the benefits of hassle free parking for their customers outweighing the nuisance of back-ups on Prospect St. waiting to valet.

Mr. Cevasco presented a Valet Staffing Schedule from Ace detailing Off Season and Peak Season staffing schedules. Off season schedule M (3)-T (4)-W (5) TH (6)-F (6) Sat (10)-Sun (5) valet attendants. During the Peak Season schedule two additional attendants are on staff M (5)-T (6) - W (7)-TH (8) F (8)-Sat (12) and Sun (7) valet attendants. Monday through Thursday valet attendants begin their shift at 4pm ending at 10pm, Friday valet attendants begin at 4pm and end at 11pm, Saturday and Sunday valet attendants begin at 11:00am and end at 11:00pm on Saturday nights and 10:00pm on Sunday nights.

Mike from Ace Parking explained the staffing schedule that was presented to the Board. The valet attendant schedule can change depending on the events/reservations. The night of October 31, Halloween, it was dead and there was nothing going on so the 10 valet attendants normally scheduled to work that night were not all needed. The next day Sunday all of them were needed. Staffing valet attendants depends on a variety of factors not just on valet parking spaces available.

Ian Allen of Africa and Beyond an immediate neighbor to EddieV was present at the Meeting. He did not sign the petition of support for the additional parking spaces nor did he sign up for the parking validation program for his customers, although he did ask Mr. Cevasco if his customers were eligible for it. Mr. Allen spoke of having parking spaces available when they have not yet switched over to valet parking but the signage is so confusing that his customers are always asking him if they can park in the space. He also brought up the Sysco Trucks that double park on Prospect St. exceeding the 20 minute allotted time by almost one hour and causing major back-ups. Mr. Cevasco has terminated Sysco's Contract with EddieV when they could not conform to certain delivery times so that took care of one issue but there remains confusion on who is responsible for the signage alerting the public when the spaces are not valet parking. Mr. Cevasco does not know how to resolve that one.

Lincoln Foster owns the Building at 1261 Prospect St directly across from EddieV and spoke to the Board about his interactions with the Ace valet attendants. He can see them from his office window and several times he has witnessed transactions that were so bothersome that he went out to speak to them. Some cars are not being parked in EddieV's parking garage as they should be but are parked in open parking spots on the Street per the request of the car owners. Area Merchants depend on impulse shoppers for the success of their businesses; those shoppers who come to La Jolla for a cup of coffee and just to window shop and do not want to bother with valet parking or a validation program. They do make purchases and they are important to the businesses and every time we (LJT&T) turn over a parking space to valet we are taking one away from them. He requested that T&T look into a 3<sup>rd</sup> party parking study to objectively look at the valet parking program.

Corey is familiar with Mr. Foster's Building and with many of Mr. Foster's employees. He knows that there is no off street parking for them. He asked Mr. Foster if his employees were possibly using those open parking spaces since there is no place for them to park their cars. Mr. Allen of Africa and Beyond spoke of watching employees go to their cars with Windex and spraying the chalk marks off their tires every two hours so he knows that there are employees parking in those spaces. Mr. Foster does not know where his employees are parking their cars.

The discussion went back to signage alerting the public when the parking spaces were open and when they switched to valet. Deborah Marengo spoke of including the signage issue in our Motion and the City would respond to it.

**Motion was made to: Approve Two Additional Valet Parking Spaces with Modifications to the Signage to clearly indicate a 2-hour parking zone during non-valet hours for all the valet spaces; staffing at a level of 1 per 10 cars; institution of a free Parking Validation Program for the benefit of area merchants; and an annual review from LJT&T. The two new valet spaces are to be only for the hours 6pm to 11pm seven days each week. Brady Second: Warwick 7-1-0 (Fulks)**

**Agenda Item 4: Pedestrian Crossing and Loading Zone Parking Space on La Jolla Scenic Drive**

**North:** Michelle Kanan Montessori Institute of San Diego Continued from October 21.

Montessori Institute of San Diego, a private school serving K-5, is requesting a Pedestrian Crossing and Loading Zone Parking Spaces in front of their School at 8745 La Jolla Scenic Drive North. City Staff Response to request by Michelle Kanan via email:

*We are still in the process of evaluating for legality of the old white zone fronting the school on La Jolla Scenic Dr N per Michelle's request. Once we find out who the white zone was installed by then I can give an update.*

*Also, we are in the process of waiting for the studies in order to proceed with the Stop sign evaluation on Sugarman Dr and La Jolla Scenic Dr N intersection and also for the crosswalk. I don't have the studies yet. They could take up to 4 weeks. These requests are category 3 which could take up to 90 days until January to be completed. In the meantime, we are most likely not going to have any results this month.*

**Agenda Item 5: Traffic Issues on La Jolla Scenic Drive South: Ed Ward**

Continued from April 23 and October 21: City Staff Response to request by resident Ed Ward via email:

*At this moment we are waiting on a signed petition that was sent to Mr. Ward that will show support from the residents regarding the installation of edge lines as well as the traffic circle at the intersection of La Jolla Scenic South and Pintura Drive. His concern regarding the posted speed limit at this moment cannot be changed based on the California Speed Trap Law which determines posted speed limits based on an engineering and traffic survey. However, he was informed that the survey is expiring early next year and the study will be re-done which might change the posted speed limit. I also informed the constituent that bike lanes cannot be installed without removing the existing parking on La Jolla Scenic South as there is not enough width on the street to accommodate two travel lanes, parking and bike lanes.*

Mr. Ward was not present at the Meeting but responded that he and his neighbor will be circulating the Petitions shortly.

**Agenda Item 6: Four -Way Stop Sign on La Jolla Scenic Dr. North at Moonridge Dr. John Kassar.**

Continued from October 21. City Staff Response to request by resident John Kassar via email:

*We don't have the results of the analysis yet because we did not receive the traffic counts necessary to conduct the evaluation. This traffic request is due in early January 2016.*

**Agenda Item 7: Temporary Street Closure on Portion of Herschel Ave south of Wall Street for YMCA Firehouse Grand Opening: James Gable      Action Item**

The Shepherd YMCA Firehouse is hosting their grand opening celebration on Wednesday December 9 at 9:00 am. They are requesting a brief street closure of a portion of Herschel Ave from the corner of Herschel and Wall, up to the parking garage on Herschel, for the safety of their event performers and guests. The Street closure will be in place at 7:00 am and end no later than 11:00 am at which time the Street will reopen to resume normal traffic flow. The Y is submitting all necessary petitions and following the protocol of the City to coordinate this brief street closure, and will have ample staff onsite to direct potential traffic to alternate Routes.

Tom cannot support a Motion to Approve the Street closure due to the YMCA not following the City of San Diego Guidelines for First Time Events which state:

*The San Diego Municipal Code requires permit applications to be submitted no later than sixty (60) days prior to the actual date of your event and allows applications to be submitted as early as two years before the event date.*

The Y is appearing before the Board on November 18 for a December 9 event date. Tom does not want to give the YMCA preferential treatment however Cindy Kodama Special Events Administrator for the City does not have an issue with the timing of the Y's request and the Board agreed that it is such a brief street closure and the Y has support from surrounding Businesses.

**Motion to Approve temporary street closure on portion of Herschel Ave south of Wall Street on December 9 from 7:00 am to 11:00 am for YMCA Firehouse Grand Reopening: Fulks, Second: Warwick 7-1-0 (Brady).**

**Agenda Item 8: Request for Review of Traffic Issues on Hidden Valley Road:      Tim Haas.**

Tim Haas appeared before the Board to address the growing problems of traffic on Hidden Valley Road most notably:

***The road experiences very high volumes of traffic*** – This is particularly true at “rush hour” when it backs up a half mile due to the traffic signal at La Jolla Parkway. The bridge to relieve this traffic was never built.

***The road experiences high speeds*** – This is a winding residential road posted at 25 mph but traffic is much faster. Traffic calming is needed so residents can safely enter and exit their driveways.

***The road has many cars depart the roadway*** – At the 2600 block there is a sharp turn where they have frequent accidents when cars can't stay on the road due to their speed. Residents have lost numerous mailboxes, several block walls, and most recently, a street light which was removed by the City but not yet replaced, adding darkness to the list of problems on that Roadway.

Dave will contact the City to get City evaluations started for Hidden Valley Road.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:18 pm

Next Meeting on Wednesday December 16, 2015

Respectfully Submitted: Donna Aprea, Secretary