

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
April 10, 2008 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Burbank Traffic & Transportation Committee was held in the City Council Chambers, 275 E. Olive Avenue, on the above date. Joe Terranova, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Members Present: Joe Terranova, Vice Chair
Michael Napolitano
Donald Farquhar
Ralph Herman
Brian Malone
David Kriske
Celeste Francis
Hank Jannace
Paul McKenna, Jr.
Lt. Ron Caruso

Members Absent: Michael Flad, Chair, Robert Heins, Rene Salas

Staff Present: Ken Johnson – Traffic Engineering, Public Works
Terre Hirsch – License and Code Administrator, License and Code
Rabie Rahmani – Traffic Engineering, Public Works
Melissa Blau – Recording Secretary, Public Works

I. FLAG SALUTE

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the March 13th, 2008 meeting with one abstention from Paul McKenna.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: (Limited to items on the printed agenda or items regarding the business of the Traffic & Transportation Committee)

A. Public

None.

B. Committee Members/Staff

Brian Malone motioned to move Future Agenda Item B., Burbank Committee Coordination, up to Oral Communications B. for discussion particularly regarding time of day. Mr. Johnson advised members that Mr. Flad needs to be in attendance to make any decisions and informed the committee that the proposed composition is in the City Attorney's Office being reviewed. Mr. Malone feels that the committee should discuss a new time before any new or current applicants decide to apply for the future openings. Ms. Francis felt that the public would be served better if the committee met later in the day so they would be able to attend after work hours. Mr. Herman reasoned that meeting too late would stretch out city staff and that the time should be balanced. Mr. Terranova wanted to get a sense of what day and time everyone had in mind to meet. The committee voted unofficially, and the majority prefers to continue to meet on Thursday with 5 members. The suggested times to begin the meeting are as follows:

- At the current time- 2 members
- Anytime after 4:00pm- 2 members
- Between 5:00-6:00pm- 4 members
- Between 6:00-7:00pm- 1 member

Mr. Malone reminded members that the meetings are required to be recorded so location is important. Mr. Johnson suggested keeping the meeting length down to 2 hours. Mr. Terranova pointed out that when the subject matter is important enough to people, they will come to the meetings no matter what time the committee meets. He instructed staff to have this subject on the agenda next month. Joe Terranova, Brian Malone, Celeste Francis, Paul McKenna, David Kriske, Lt. Ron Caruso, Don Farquhar, Ralph Herman, and Mike Napolitano participated in the conversation.

IV. REPORTS

A. Taxi Cab Report– Terre Hirsch

Mr. Hirsch updated the committee members on the status of the taxi cab ordinance request for amendments by the City Council. Those four amendments are as follows:

- Give the Community Development Director and the Traffic and Transportation Committee a broader ability to deal with taxi cab transportation emergencies.
- Initiate a secondary application acceptance date if License & Code has not received a sufficient number of applications.
- Provide a reminder notice to current permittees prior to the expiration date of their permit.
- Create a county wide public notification process when the application acceptance period is open.

This information will be presented to City Council for their consideration on April 22nd. Staff is to return to Council with a 1-step 2-step report concerning CNG or alternative fuel vehicles. They received an email from a company named Clean Energy, who is the current provider of the city's vehicle fleet and the local taxi cab agencies for fuel at the gas station on Lake Street. In that email, Clean Energy asked City Council to consider amending the code to provide for CNG requirements of fleet vehicles at the airport in consideration of what is being done in other airport areas around the nation in regards to where the fuel stations are located. Staff is reviewing the issues for CNG vehicles for taxicab service and the Traffic & Transportation Committee will be given note when it is done.

Note and File.

B. Status of RV Sub-Committee Recommendations – Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson stated that the City Attorney's office has the recommendations for review and approval. There was no discussion between committee members.

Note and File.

C. Proposed Revisions to the Los Angeles County Code relative to Ambulances – Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that Los Angeles County has proposed revisions to the Code relative to non-emergency ambulances that will be easier to understand than the previous code. It will require all ambulance companies that operate in Los Angeles County to already be licensed in the county. It will simplify what Burbank needs to

review when considering applying companies. Joe Terranova, Mike Napolitano and Celeste Francis participated in the discussion.

Note and File.

D. Revisions to Radar Speed Limit Enforcement Laws – Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported a recent court ruling that changes the current process for establishing speed limits that can be enforced under the “speed trap” law (CVC 40802). The ruling may increase the speed limits on approximately a 1/3 of the streets in Burbank. The new ruling severely restricts the ability of a city to establish a speed limit lower than the traditional 85th percentile speed limit based on conditions not apparent to the driver. Lt. Caruso stated the new requirement to set speed limits is only applicable to enforcement with electronic speed devices such as radar or laser. The city is reviewing existing speed limits to determine what streets if any should be modified. If there was a preference to keep a speed limit not consistent with the survey, it would preclude enforcement with electronic devices. Lt. Caruso, Celeste Francis, Paul McKenna, and Mike Napolitano participated in discussion.

Note and file.

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Alameda Interchange Signing and Striping (May 2007) – Herman
- Burbank Committee Coordination (June 2007) – Flad
- Traffic Calming (speed control devices) – Johnson
- Discussion of finding financing of building a Parking structure behind Porto’s Bakery (Feb. 2008) – Terranova
- Commercial Vehicle Parking – Terranova

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Johnson, Traffic Engineer
KJ: mb