

LA JOLLA TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Regular Meeting: Wednesday April 19, 2017

Members Present: Dave Abrams (Chairperson) LJCPA, Tom Brady LJCPA, Donna Aprea LJTC, Erik Gantzel BRCC, Brian Earley LJSA , Corey Bailey LJVMA, Aaron Goulding LJVMA

Members Absent: John Kassar LJSA, Patrick Ryan BRCC, Nancy Warwick LJTC

Approve Minutes of: Wednesday March 15, 2017 **Motion to Approve: Brady, Second: Earley 5-0-0, not available to vote: Bailey, Goulding**

Public Comments on Non-Agenda LJ&T Matters:

Greg Benner comments on the confusion at taking the right turn onto Prospect Street from Torrey Pines Road since the Bike Lane was established about a year ago. Drivers believe that the Right Turn Lane is for Bikes Only. They are now making that right turn at the last minute from the second traffic lane causing confusion with drivers continuing on Torrey Pines and resulting in congestion at the lights. He wants a sign there that says Bikes and Cars can use the Right Turn Lane.

This issue was discussed at LJCPA with a LJCPA Trustee, Janie Emerson, asking Justin Garver, former Representative for Sherri Lightner, if something can be done to alert drivers that they can also use the right turn lane that it is not strictly for Bikes only. The City may be holding off due to the Torrey Pines Corridor renovations set to begin in the Fall but Dave will contact City Staff and inquire about installing the traffic sign in the interim.

No further public comments.

Agenda Item 1: End of Summer Fire Run- Request for Temporary Street Closure and No Parking areas related to the 18th annual event on Sunday August 27, 2017 on portions of Prospect Street and La Jolla Boulevard. **Kathy Loper Action Item**

End of Summer Fire Run 4Mile, Sunday August 27, 2017 is the 18th annual run/walk. The event benefits San Diego Area High Schools: La Jolla High School, Mission Bay High, Clairemont High, University City High, Patrick Henry High.

The event begins at 8am at Girard & Prospect, travels west on Prospect Street to La Jolla Blvd, left on La Jolla Blvd to Mission Blvd, turns right onto Mission Blvd, running in the southbound lanes to finish at Felspar.

They are expecting 1200-1500 participants.

Prospect Street from Girard to Fay will be closed from 5:30am-8:30 am.

Prospect Street west from Girard to La Jolla Blvd to Pearl St will be closed to traffic 7:45am- 8:15am.

The runners will move into the southbound lanes of La Jolla Blvd from Pearl to Mission Blvd. Vehicles will be allowed to be in the northbound lanes of La Jolla Blvd from Loring. San Diego Police Traffic Control Officers will be at all intersections directing traffic. Garnet Avenue will be closed from Bayard to Mission Blvd from 6am-11am.

This is a Fundraiser for High School Students to raise money for their track teams. Dave pointed out that the mission of La Jolla Traffic and Transportation is to ensure that the street closures are done safely with signage and barricades and other appropriate measures and safety is our primary responsibility on the closures not necessarily what the event does or where the money from the event goes. He asked Kathy if she had any issues or complaints from last year's event and there were no complaints from the Public, however, Kathy commented that further down the race course Drivers begin to ignore the No Parking signs. One vehicle was towed from the race course and in the back seat was one of the No Parking Signs. Kathy mentioned that they are always open to listening to Resident's comments or concerns, but after 18 years of hosting this event there are usually none.

Bill Robbins spoke during public comments that Parks and Beaches approved the event.

Motion to Approve End of Summer Fire Run: Gantzel, Second: Brady 5-0-0 not available to vote Bailey, Goulding.

Brian had a question not specifically related to the street closures or no parking areas. He asked Kathy about her Revenues and Expenses for the Event listed on her Application form. The estimated gross receipts from the Event are \$50,500.00 and the estimated expenses are \$45,928 leaving a projected distribution of net proceeds at \$4,572.00. He asked if the donations to the area Schools were included in the expenses and Kathy replied that yes they were, also included in their expenses are the San Diego Traffic Enforcement Officers and a combination of other safety expenses. Kathy clarified that the numbers were all estimates because it is unknown how many registrants will actually sign up for this year's event. Her numbers on the application form were based on previous year's participants.

No further comments.

The Board welcomed Aaron Goulding who replaces Richard Walker as the new second representative for the La Jolla Village Merchants Association.

Agenda Item 2: Request for Handicapped Blue Parking Space- On Camino del Oro in front of Unit 104 of the apartment building at 2120 Vallecitos. **Mercedes Lafond Action Item**

Ms. Lafond came to this Country from France and immediately noticed that everyone walked on the grass. In Paris no one ever walked on the grass. She thought it was wonderful to walk on the grass so she started walking on the grass too. Four years ago while on her way to an

appointment she fell into a grass hole and broke the two major bones in her left foot. She now has metal in it and the condition left her permanently disabled.

Ms. Lafond feels very strongly for the elderly who are handicapped. She is asking for the handicapped parking space for them as well as for herself. She is requesting a parking space on Camino del Oro across from Kellogg Park, which is in front of her home, be designated for the handicapped. This particular parking space is most convenient for her condition.

She is assigned an underground parking space in her Building but in order for her to access it she has to walk up or down 19 steps. There is an elevator but that is on the other side of the Building. She lives alone and carrying grocery bags up 19 steps, or, through the apartment building if she used the elevator, with a bad foot just to get to her home compelled her to ask the City for a handicapped parking space in front of her Unit. She could just walk her grocery bags to her patio.

She has the handicapped placard and she asked the City for a handicapped parking space on Camino del Oro. City Staff investigated her claim and her medical condition. She mentioned that they usually charge \$300.00 for the investigative work. The City called her and told her she was right, there was no handicapped parking in her vicinity, they would approve her request for the handicapped parking space and they would not charge her the \$300.00. The City made it clear to her that the handicapped parking space would not be for her own personal use and Ms. Lafond understands she has to share it with the public (anyone with a handicapped placard)

Board discussion began with Brian asking her about the number of handicapped parking spaces in Kellogg Park and around the Streets. Ms. Lafond responded that there are 2-3 handicapped parking spaces by the Life Guard Station at the Park and in front of Piatti but on the side streets there are none.

Tom asked her if the City approved this parking space and she said that they did but her request had to be heard by this Board. Dave also received notification at the same time she did. Tom asked if there were any Guidelines to refer to but Dave does not have any Guidelines for this particular request although he does have one for another request. Tom is concerned that this request could lead to other people, who already have an assigned parking space, asking that another one be made available to them on a public street which would set a precedence. Ms. Lafond responded that her building does not have handicapped parking. Dave asked her if she could negotiate for a more accessible parking space but there is none that would be easily accessible for her.

Corey asked her if she called the ADA about the building's ownership. Corey explained to her that there are Guidelines that hold them to accommodating her needs. If she is dealing with a disability the ownership of her property must allow her prompt and easy access to her home. Ms. Lafond explained she purchased the cheapest unit in her building which had no easy access to begin with and the owners most likely wanted to unload it. She described the building as a few families owning many of the units. She clarified the owners are not accommodating people.

Corey asked her about her HOA, Home Owners Association, and she said that there was one but the building has 12 units with 6 people owning them. She has just one but several people own multiple units. Corey told her there is a legal precedent that she can behold them to and they have to, by law, comply.

Brian explained this is a code compliance issue. There should be a blue handicap parking space in that parking garage that is close to her home. Brian thanked Ms. Lafond for coming before the Board and we understand her needs but he wants to see her exhaust all opportunities with her Home Owners Association. Even though it is made up of just a few people someone there should give her their parking space, close to her home, to help her. She does not agree with Brian, telling him the people there are not accommodating.

Corey explained to her this is an ADA (American Disabilities Act) issue that we cannot overlook especially if we are being asked to give up an unrestricted public parking space. Even with her handicapped placard, anyone with that placard could park in that parking space limiting her availability to it. The weight of the Boards decision comes into play when we look at losing a parking space that is serving the community needs on the slim chance that it could possibly serve her needs. Her best option is to work within the structure of the underground parking garage.

Debbie Hill-Williams, here on another Agenda Item, commented that even if Ms. Lafond was to obtain a more accessible parking space in the parking garage she would still have a lot more walking to get to her Unit than if she parked outside of it but Corey responded that the parking space on Camino del Oro would not always be available to her still requiring her to walk.

Eric is not convinced the ADA is a workable solution since they have specific parameters they have to follow and they do not have to make something accessible to a specific person, the person would have to meet certain criteria. There is a Group called Disability Rights California and they advocate for disabled people who have access issues. Eric is not convinced the solution is in the underground parking garage for the way Ms. Lafond described it. He is in favor of adding a handicapped parking space to the residential area since most handicapped parking spaces are in front of businesses and very few in front of homes.

Dave advised Ms. Lafond to approach her Home Owners Association, explain her problem and tell them she has been advised that they are obligated to make a legitimate reasonable attempt to accommodate her needs. In the interim Dave is going to approach the City for Guidelines on handicapped parking spaces in residential areas. Dave concurs with Tom about the Board setting a precedence. He believes the issue is not urgent and it can wait a month.

Brian looked up contact information and presented Ms. Lafond with phone numbers and email addresses for The City of San Diego Office of ADA Compliance and Accessibility and the American Disability Association Member Services in Seattle Washington

Motion to Continue to May 17: Bailey, Second: Brady 7-0-0

Agenda Item 3: Request for Legal Passenger Loading Zone White Parking Space- In front of Clinton Manor condos at 7550 Eads Ave. **Bob Williams Action Item**

There is an existing illegal 3 minute white loading zone fronting 7550 Eads Ave. The City contends they never installed it. This loading zone is sandwiched in between 2 angled parking spaces along the street and the City would never install a parallel loading zone in between angled parking spaces. The City wants to convert that illegal loading zone into 2 angled parking spaces but they held off for the possibility of installing either 1 or 2 white waiting zones.

Bob Williams represents the Homeowners who live at 7550 Eads Ave. He is appearing before the Board to answer some questions the Board has for him regarding the 2 new angled parking spaces however Mr. Williams has a lot of questions for the Board as well. He does not understand what is illegal about the existing loading zone. He has been living there for 4 years but others have lived there for 40 years and that loading zone has always been there as far back as anyone can remember. He asked if the issue is one of reconfiguration and can that white loading zone be converted to 2 white angled zones. Dave responded that they could. Another question, who the Requestor is who is asking for it. This is something the City asked Dave to look into but Mr. Williams also received an email asking who the Requestor is. The City has an App referred to as Get it done. Anyone can put a request in anonymously so the Requestor for 7550 Eads Ave appears to be Unknown however they brought an illegal white loading zone to the City's attention and now the City has to rectify it.

There are 3 options to convert the illegal 3 minute loading zone to legal standing: create a dividing line down the middle for 2 additional 2 hour angled parking zones; make them both white zones; or, make 1 white zone and the other regular 2 hour parking.

A basic requirement must be met for the installation of a passenger loading zone. The facility must have more than 50 separate living units and 7550 Eads Ave has just 40 Units.

Mr. Williams stated that there are other Buildings with HOA's within the area that have 3 minute passenger loading zones that are much smaller than 50 Units. Debbie Hill-Williams remarked that they are on Eads Ave and she has addresses to back that up.

Mr. Williams would like to answer Dave's questions at this Meeting but he is unable to do so at this time. His HOA Board wants to keep the loading zone. They have elderly people living in the Building who get along in Walkers and Scooters, as well as a legally handicapped person who is in a Wheelchair. For a taxi cab to stop at that loading zone to pick these Residents up is certainly advantageous for them. However, he needs to consult his Board to determine how many white zones they would prefer to have 1 or 2. He also wants time to walk around his neighborhood to see what configurations other people have. Dave explained to him that the City is not going to allow that loading zone to remain as it stands now. Right now there is one parking space illegally configured and Dave asks if they can live with one space but both of them reply that they cannot although Dave said they are living with one now. Mr. Williams is

asking to return to the Board next month, he needs more time to respond. He is just one person on the HOA Board and he needs to discuss this with the other Board Members. Bill Robbins commented that city code says the Driver has to stay behind the wheel of the vehicle if the loading zone is 3 minutes, they should ask for 10 minutes if they need longer time. Parking tickets are being given out at the Cove for Drivers leaving their vehicles at a 3 minute loading zone. Brian responded that to have a 10 minute loading zone at 7550 Eads they would have to be a Hotel. Bill is just saying they might want to do a little research.

Debbie Hill- Williams advised the Board that the elderly people living at 7550 have food delivered to them from Vons. Vons delivery service brings the food up to their homes and they would have to exit their truck to do so. If the loading zone they request is 15 minutes can the driver get out of the truck to make the delivery? Corey responded that yes they could if the zone was 15 minutes. Ms. Hill-Williams advises the Board that some kind of loading zone needs to be there otherwise Vons, UPS, and Post Office Trucks would all park in the Street and Eads Ave is already congested from various oversized vehicles parked across the street. Eads Ave also has an issue with the speed of traffic and to have trucks doubled parked on the street because the loading zone was removed will make it a safety hazard for the street. Dave reassured them the delivery drivers will find a place to park their trucks to make the deliveries. The Williams request a continuance to study the issue and Dave will confer with the City on their options.

Motion to Continue to May 17, 2017: Brady, Second: Earley 7-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 4:55pm

Next Meeting is on May 17, 2017

Respectfully Submitted: Donna Aprea, Secretary