



MEETING MINUTES

STREETS & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

City Hall - Study Session Room
68700 Avenida Lalo Guerrero
Cathedral City, CA 92234

DATE: September 20, 2007
TIME: 6:30 P.M.

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COMMISSIONERS:

James Navarro (Chairman), Harold Blumberg (Vice Chair)
Rosalina Nava, William Baker, Art Gregoire

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Present: Commissioners: Navarro, Baker & Gregoire.
Also attending: Robert Mohler- Traffic Manager (S&T Commission Liaison); Steven Sims (representing *GO BIKE*- Bicycling & Pedestrian Group), based in Palm Springs; RaNeeka Claxton, The Desert Sun newspaper.
- II. **APPROVAL OF ABSENCES:** (Blumberg & Nava were unable to attend). Motion: Gregoire, Second: Baker, the two absences were approved by the Commission.
- III. **APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES:** (of August 16, 2007 Meeting):
Motion: Navarro, Second: Baker, the Commission approved the 8/16/07 Minutes.
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** (not related to agenda items below): Steve Sims- President of GO BIKE of Palm Springs addressed the Commission about his group's efforts to promote Bicycling in Coachella Valley. He has been contacting cities and other agencies in the valley, stressing the need for alternative transportation options, other than fuel burning vehicles. He suggested the City pursue *Safe Routes to Schools* Federal Grants, and noted that AB-57 is coming up for legislative action, to extend state-wide grants for those programs, which otherwise is due to expire and sunset on 1/1/2008. Sims asked the Commission to please support Bicycling & Pedestrian efforts as part of the Streets & Transportation Commission's review process on Transportation Projects.
- V. **NEW BUSINESS:** NONE
- VI. **OLD BUSINESS:** (Updates to Commission by R. Mohler):
1. **Date Palm & Vasquez Traffic Study:** W2 Design, Inc. submitted the first draft concepts at meeting with staff on Tuesday, September 18th. W2 Design plans to make a presentation to the Commission on October 18th.
 2. **Crossley Rd. Extension n/o Ramon:** The Planning Director plans to take this General Plan Amendment to City Council on October 10, 2007 for adoption.
 3. **New Federal Standards for Intersection Street Name Signs:** Staff distributed the 11/30/06 letter from FHWA/MUTCD explaining a 2012 deadline for agencies nationwide to adopt improved Street Name signs for Major, Collector and Residential intersections using increased reflectivity & larger letters for improved visibility. City staff is hoping to seek federal assistance for a City-Wide Sign Replacement Program, but first staff will inventory the existing signs and do cost estimates to determine the cost of the entire program.
 4. **New Illuminated Street Name Signs:** The first eleven signs for first 3 intersections are in production for
a. Cathedral Canyon Dr. & Perez Rd., b. Date Palm Dr. & Perez Rd. and c. Dinah Shore Dr. & Plumley Rd.
Pat Milos' Public Works crews will install the signs using in-house forces, saving on installation costs.
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VI. (Continued):

5. FY 2007/08 Traffic Division CIP Budget: Purchase Orders have been issued for the implementation of the four elements, approved by City Council for a. Signal Battery Backups, b. New Signal Controllers/Cabinets, c. Signal Video Detection Cameras, d. New Illuminated Street Name Signs at Signalized Intersections. A \$750,000 Traffic Safety Budget was approved by City Council, authorizing these traffic signal upgrades.

VII. COMMISSION/STAFF COMMENTS: Art Gregoire, (new Streets & Transportation Commission rep) on the Steering Committee for the NORTH CITY SPECIFIC PLAN, Study by the Arroyo Group, gave the Commission an update on the discussion at the first (Sept.) meeting of the Committee. He said a wide variety of uses were brain-stormed at the initial meeting, and there would be further meetings held quarterly during the process. The Steering Committee included the consultant, City staff, and a member of each City Commission.

The Commission asked that Pat Milos, Public Works Manager, give the Commission an update on the status of Cathedral City Street Maintenance projects at the upcoming October Commission meeting.

The Commission suggested that staff liaison please send a message to Commissioner Blumberg, wishing that his wife recovers quickly from her illness, in a good will message in behalf of the entire Commission.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. Next Commission Meeting: October 18, 2007
(Commission meetings are held routinely on the third Thursday each month, in the Study Session Room)