

PARTICIPATE BEFORE THE MEETING by emailing TrafficCommission@TorranceCA.Gov by 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Write "Public Comment" in the subject line and in the body of the email include the item number and/or title of the item with your comments.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's office at (310) 618-2780. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison, Shin Furukawa at (310) 781-6900 prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the concern will be included on a subsequent agenda.

Any correspondence received before 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting on any item on the agenda will be provided to the Commission electronically and available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office. A copy of the correspondence will be available for public inspection in a binder at the back of the Council Chamber or Commission Meeting room.

**TORRANCE TRAFFIC COMMISSION AGENDA
DECEMBER 4, 2023
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M. IN WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AT 3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD**

**TRAFFIC COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission members: Endo-Roberts, Farao, Gibson, Sharma, Suruki, Thoma, Obejas

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. REPORT OF THE STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, November 30, 2023.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited up to a 15-minute period)

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on items on the Consent Calendar or not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Commission cannot act on items raised during public comment, but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. **No longer than 1 minute per speaker.** If presenting handout material to Commission, please provide 10 copies to staff before speaking.*

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. Approve Commission Minutes: November 6, 2023

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. Overview of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

8. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

- 9A.** Adjournment of Traffic Commission Meeting to Monday, February 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Traffic Commission convened in a regular session at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023, in the West Annex Commission Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Endo-Roberts, Farao, Gibson, Sharma, Suruki, Thoma, and Chair Obejas.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Public Works Associate Engineer Jessamine Que, Public Works Deputy Director/City Engineer Shin Furukawa, and Torrance Police Sergeant Koenig.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Gibson led The Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Public Works Associate Engineer Que reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's Website on Thursday, November 2, 2023.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Public Works Associate Engineer Que stated that Item 6B will be deferred.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 7, 2023

MOTION: Commissioner Sharma moved to approve the August 7, 2023, minutes. Commissioner Endo-Roberts seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

6B. CONSIDERATION OF EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR COMMISSION MEETING OF OCTOBER 2, 2023

Public Works Deputy Director/City Engineer Furukawa stated that Item 6B will be deferred to see if an action should be taken regarding a quorum not being met during the October 2, 2023 meeting.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. PROPOSED ALL-WAY STOP AND EAST-WEST PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT OCEAN AVE AND 227TH STREET.

Public Works Associate Engineer Que presented Item 7A:

- Recommendation to install an all-way stop and an east / west pedestrian crossing at Ocean Avenue and 227th Street.
- Public input was gathered during the May 1, 2023 meeting and a staff report was generated for the Commission's review.
- Crossing guards are currently deployed at West 227th Street and Ladeene Avenue and West 228th Place and Adolph Avenue.
- Plan under consideration has (2) new stop signs on Ocean Avenue.
- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) had criteria for multi-way stops, and with staff's investigation, (2) criteria apply to the consideration: northbound left turn and eastbound left turn, there is a need to control left turn conflicts and vehicle and pedestrian conflicts.

Members of the public spoke.

Sergeant Koenig clarified that the (2) accidents happened at a 4-way controlled stop sign at 226th Street and Ocean Avenue; both accidents (five days apart and around the same time) were contributed to the sun being in the driver's eyes facing eastbound.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Thoma moved to adopt the staff's proposal as written in the report. Commissioner Suruki seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

8. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Public Works Deputy Director/City Engineer Furukawa stated that retired City Engineer Steve Finton may be coming back to Public Works as a consultant.

Commissioner Suruki apologized to the public regarding the October 2, 2023 meeting not taking place.

Commissioner Sharma requested follow up on the project that will take place on Anza Avenue. Public Works Deputy Director/City Engineer Furukawa stated that the project will be awarded December 12, 2023, and will take approximately (120) working days to complete; information is currently posted on the city's website.

Chair Obejas requested a press release on the Anza Avenue project. Public Works Deputy Director/City Engineer Furukawa stated that staff can research ways to inform the public through various platforms the city provides.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: At 7:22 p.m. Chair Obejas moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, December 4, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Room. Commissioner Thoma seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

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Subject to Approval

Agenda Item No. 7A

TO: Traffic Commission

FROM: Craig Bilezerian, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Overview of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

RECOMMENDATION

The Public Works Director recommends that the Traffic Commission receive and file a report and presentation regarding the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD).

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The Public Works Department is responsible for the oversight, design, installation and maintenance of traffic control devices (TCDs) such as markers, signs, striping and signals to inform, guide and control traffic, including motor vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists on City roadways. This Item will provide an overview of the CA MUTCD standards that City staff uses for maintaining City infrastructure, as well as applies to the design and construction of Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects.

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Devices (MUTCD) by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the national standard for the design, application, and placement of TCDs on all streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel and provide uniformity and consistency throughout the Nation.

The California Manual on Uniform Traffic Devices (CA MUTCD) was created by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) by amending the MUTCD to incorporate state-specific policies on TCDs issued by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). It is adopted as the standard for all official traffic control devices in the state of California under Section 11340.9(h) of California Government Code and Section 21400 of California Vehicle Code. The latest version is available at:

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/camutcd/camutcd-files>

The CA MUTCD is divided into nine parts:

Part 1 – General

Purpose, design principles and general guidance, responsibility, and authority over the placement of TCDs.

Part 2 – Signs

Standards, warrants, application, and design of different types of signs, including regulatory, warning, guide, and general information signs.

Part 3 – Markings

Standards and warrants for markings (striping and raised pavement markers) including pavement and curb markings, delineators, colored pavements, channelizing devices, and islands.

Part 4 – Highway Traffic Signals

Basis of installation or removal, warrants, design and funding considerations, features, timing, and standards for traffic signals, including traffic control signals, pedestrian signals, hybrid beacons, flashing beacons, and in-roadway lights.

Part 5 – Traffic Control Devices for Low-Volume Roads

Low-volume roads including agricultural, recreational, resource management and development such as mining and logging and grazing, and local roads in rural areas.

Part 6 – Temporary Traffic Control

Standards and devices for temporary traffic control (TTC) when the normal function of a road is suspended due to highway construction, utility work, maintenance operations, and the management of traffic incidents.

Part 7 – Traffic Control for School Areas

Planning guidelines and standards for traffic control signs and marking specific to school areas, as well as guidelines for crossing supervision and school safety patrols.

Part 8 – Traffic Control for Railroad and Light Rail Transit Grade Crossings

Planning guidelines and standards for TCDs specific to railroad and light rail transit grade crossings, including signs, markings, flashing-light signals, gates, traffic control signals, and pathway grade crossings.

Part 9 – Traffic Control for Bicycle Facilities

Signs, pavement markings, and highway traffic signals specifically related to bicycle operation on roadways, separated bikeways, and shared-use paths.

The Public Works Department utilizes the CA MUTCD for applications such as the development, review, and implementation of temporary traffic control plans which is essential for public safety during construction of CIP projects. Part 6 of the MUTCD sets the fundamental principles for temporary traffic control including placement and spacing requirements of TCDs (cones, delineators, drums, arrow boards, barricades, etc.), advance warning areas, taper and transition lengths, detours, sign placement and maintenance, road closures, night closures, and applications on single or multi-lane roads.

The CA MUTCD is also referenced during the consideration of new stop sign installations; new traffic signal installations; and new pavement striping and marking installation. Parts 2, 3, and 4 specify the criteria and studies required to warrant the installations. Studies may include traffic and pedestrian counts, major and minor street volumes, roadway speed, and roadway characteristics.

The MUTCD is a dynamic document because standards change to address travel patterns and road conditions, and to incorporate technology and materials advancements. FHWA has stated its intention to issue a new edition of the MUTCD approximately every 5 years.

In addition to the CA MUTCD, the Public Works Department also utilizes additional references including the Standard Plans for Public Works Construction (SPPWC), Greenbook Public Works Standards, Caltrans Standard Plans and Specifications, California Vehicle Code (CVC), and the Torrance Municipal Code.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAIG BILEZERIAN
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

By  _____
Shin Furukawa
Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer