

**PARTICIPATE BEFORE THE MEETING** by emailing [TrafficCommission@TorranceCA.Gov](mailto:TrafficCommission@TorranceCA.Gov) by 5:30 p.m. on the day before 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 5:30 p.m. on the day before 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  
OCTOBER 6, 2025  
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:** Commissioners: Endo-Roberts, Gibson, Nichols, Schwartz, Suruki, Vice-Chair Thoma, Chair Sharma.

**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, October 2, 2025.

**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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**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: August 4, 2025

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

7A. Appointments of Traffic Commission Chair and Vice-Chair

7B. Intersection Improvement at Newton Street and 242nd Street/Walnut Street

**8. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**9A.** Adjournment of Traffic Commission Meeting to Monday, November 3, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.



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

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Traffic Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 4, 2025, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, 3031 Torrance Boulevard.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Endo-Roberts, Suruki, Nichols, Gibson, Vice Chair Thoma and Chair Sharma

Absent: Commissioner Schwartz

Also Present: Engineering Manager Helen Shi  
Deputy Public Works Director Shin Furukawa

**MOTION:** Chair Sharma moved to excuse Commissioner Schwartz absence from today's meeting. Commissioner Nichols seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (Commissioner Schwartz absent).

**MOTION:** Chair Sharma moved to excuse Commissioner Endo-Roberts absence from the May 5, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioner Schwartz absent and Commissioner Endo-Roberts abstained).

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Endo-Roberts.

**3. REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA**

Engineering Manager Shi reported that the agenda for the Traffic Commission was posted on the Public Notice Board and on the City's website on Thursday, July 31, 2025.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

Engineering Manager Shi announced that an email regarding Item 7B was received after 2:00 p.m. cutoff time.

**5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Members of the public spoke.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**6A. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 2, 2025**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Suruki moved to approve the meeting minutes for June 2, 2025. Commissioner Endo-Roberts seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioner Schwartz absent and Commissioner Gibson abstained).

**6B. ACCEPT AND FILE THE FY2024-2025 TRAFFIC COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

Engineering Manager Shi provided the FY2024-2025 Traffic Commission Annual Report.

Chair Sharma raised concern regarding a split vote at the October 7, 2025 meeting on whether a Torrance Gardens Permit Parking District should be rescinded from the Municipal Code or remain in it. She requested that the split vote be reflected in the annual report.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Endo-Roberts moved to accept and file the FY 2024-2025 Traffic Commission Annual Report, pending an amendment to note the split vote regarding whether a Torrance Gardens Permit Parking District should be rescinded from the Municipal Code. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (Commissioner Shwartz absent).

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**7A. APPOINTMENTS OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON**

Engineering Manager Shi recommends that the Commission appoint a Chair and Vice Chair for the fiscal year.

Chair Sharma was unanimously re-nominated as Chair of the Traffic Commission.

Commissioner Thoma was unanimously nominated for Vice Chair of the Traffic Commission.

A roll call vote was conducted; no formal motion was made. The vote reflected 6-0 approval. (Commissioner Schwartz absent).

**7B. POTENTIAL RELINQUISHMENT OF HAWTHORNE BLVD TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE**

Engineering Manager Shi presented on the potential relinquishment of Hawthorne Blvd. (SR-107) between Pacific Coast Highway and Redondo Beach Blvd. from the State of California to the City of Torrance.

- Hawthorne Blvd, from Pacific Coast Highway to Redondo Beach Blvd , is currently a State Route (SR-107) owned by the State of California.
- The objective is to transfer ownership and maintenance responsibilities to the City of Torrance.

Timeline of Key Milestones:

- 2008: Assembly Bill 2326 was passed which provides legislative authority for relinquishment
- 2014: Caltrans identified segment as high priority candidate for relinquishment
- 2017: It was recommended for relinquishment in the District System Management Plan
- 2020: Caltrans completed the formal assessment
- 2025: City staff submitted a formal request to Caltrans to initiate official discussions.

Assessment Findings:

- The City determined that traffic signals, pedestrian facilities, pavements, street names and traffic signs would require updates.
- The City plans to discuss terms with Caltrans regarding cost and timing.
- Once the relinquishment occurs, the City will be responsible for ongoing maintenance costs.

**MOTION:** Chair Sharma moved to accept and file the update on the potential relinquishment of Hawthorne Blvd (SR-107) between Pacific Coast Highway and Redondo Beach Blvd from the State of California to the City of Torrance. Commissioner Thoma seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (Commissioner Schwartz absent).

**8. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Engineering Manager Shi announced the Traffic Commission's dark nights for observed holidays in the upcoming fiscal year as follows: September 1, 2025; January 5, 2026; April 6, 2026; and July 6, 2026.

Engineering Manager Shi provided an update on the traffic calming measure for the Calle Mayor Middle School. City staff contacted the school and Torrance Unified School District and confirmed that school start and end times remain unchanged; however, early drop-off and late pick-up are permitted. The school has, and will continue to, inform parents of the existing and upcoming turning restrictions. The City will proceed with installing turning restriction signs. The proposed parking restrictions will not be implemented.

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa provided a few updates. He announced that the new stop signs on Maple Avenue and Monterrey Street have been installed. He also reported that work on the Lomita and Madison Traffic signal will commence in the coming weeks.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 8:02 p.m., Chair Sharma adjourned the meeting to Monday, October 6, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, 3031 Torrance Boulevard. Vice Chair Thoma seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (Commissioner Shwartz absent).

Traffic Commission Meeting  
**October 6, 2025**

**Agenda Item No. 7A**

TO: Traffic Commission  
FROM: Craig Bilezerian, Public Works Director  
SUBJECT: Appointments of Traffic Commission Chair and Vice-Chair

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Public Works Director recommends that the Traffic Commission:

1. Appoint a Chair for the term beginning immediately (October 6, 2025) and ending upon appointment of a Chair at the first meeting of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026; and,
2. Appoint a Vice-Chair for the term beginning immediately (October 6, 2025) and ending upon appointment of a Vice-Chair at the first meeting of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026.

**BACKGROUND/ ANALYSIS**

Below is the Torrance Municipal Code Section governing the appointment of Chair.

**Torrance Municipal Code Section 13.9.5 APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIRMAN**

*At the first meeting of the Commission in every fiscal year, the members shall appoint one (1) of their number as Chairman who shall hold office for one (1) year and until his successor is appointed.*

On August 4, 2025, the Traffic Commission selected Commissioner Sharma as Chair and Commissioner Thoma as Vice-Chair for the term beginning August 5, 2024, and continuing until the appointment of a new Chair and Vice-Chair at the first meeting of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025.

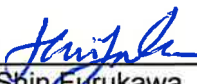
However, there was a procedural error during the proceedings in that there was no motion made or seconded to approve the nominations before the roll call vote was taken. Therefore, the City Clerk recommends that the Traffic Commission adopt a formal motion to appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair for the term beginning immediately (October 6, 2025) and ending upon the appointment of a Chair and Vice-Chair at the first meeting of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026.

Provided below are the Commissioner current term dates sorted by last name in alphabetical order:

<b>Commissioner</b>	<b>Current Term</b>
Kathryn Endo-Roberts	07/01/2023 – 06/30/2027
Michael Gibson	07/01/2025 – 06/30/2029
William Nichols	07/01/2024 – 06/30/2028
Isabel Schwartz	07/01/2024 – 06/30/2028
Arohi Sharma	08/09/2022 – 06/30/2026
Ginny Suruki	07/01/2023 – 06/30/2027
Lucas Thoma	08/09/2022 – 06/30/2026

Respectfully submitted,

CRAIG BILEZERIAN  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

By  \_\_\_\_\_  
Shin Furukawa  
Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer

**Agenda Item No. 7B**

TO: Traffic Commission

FROM: Craig Bilezerian, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Intersection Improvement at Newton Street and 242<sup>nd</sup> Street/Walnut Street

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Public Works Director recommends that the Traffic Commission concur with staff's recommended changes to the configuration of the intersection at Newton Street and 242<sup>nd</sup> Street/Walnut Street, including removal of the existing crosswalk.

**BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

In July 2025, a resident requested that the City review the intersection of Newton Street and 242<sup>nd</sup> Street/Walnut Street, citing driver confusion caused by the existing configuration and associated safety concerns. The intersection is currently controlled by All-Way STOP signs.

Newton Street runs in a northwest–southeast direction and intersects 242<sup>nd</sup> Street/Walnut Street at a sharp diagonal angle (Attachment 1). Due to this geometry, the northbound approach on Newton Street is controlled by two separate STOP signs: one serving vehicles continuing northbound or turning westbound, and one serving vehicles turning eastbound (Attachment 2). This configuration, along with the wide intersection, adds complexity and contributes to driver uncertainty.

Staff conducted a field review and identified several opportunities to simplify operations and improve efficiency (Attachment 3):

- **STOP Sign Reconfiguration:** The two existing northbound STOP signs create confusion. Staff recommends reconfiguring the control by installing a single STOP sign for northbound through and left-turning vehicles, and a YIELD sign for northbound right-turning vehicles. This modification will simplify operations and provide clearer guidance for motorists.
- **Sidewalk and Crosswalk (East Leg):** Staff evaluated the east leg sidewalk and crosswalk and found that pedestrian activity is minimal and does not justify a marked crosswalk. Counts conducted in September 2025 recorded only one pedestrian crossing the intersection during both the AM and PM peak hours, and they did not cross using the crosswalk (the pedestrians crossed closer to the middle of the intersection). Additionally, there is no curb ramp or sidewalk on the south side of 242<sup>nd</sup> Street, making the crosswalk impractical. Staff therefore recommends removing the crosswalk. If the Commission concurs, staff will return with a separate item to conduct a public hearing to remove the crosswalk, as required by California Vehicle Code (CVC) 21950.5.

In summary, Staff recommends the Traffic Commission support the following modifications at the intersection of Newton Street and 242<sup>nd</sup> Street/Walnut Street:

1. Reconfigure the two northbound STOP signs into a STOP control for northbound through and left-turning vehicles and a YIELD sign for northbound right-turning vehicles.
2. Install pavement hatch markings on the south leg to channelize southbound traffic to improve visibility.
3. Recommend removal of the exiting crosswalk at the east leg of the intersection.
4. Relocate the STOP sign on the east leg closer to the intersection to improve sight distance, reduce driver confusion, and minimize unnecessary delay.

A public notice (Attachment 4) was mailed to 303 parcels that are most likely to be affected by the proposed improvement (Attachment 5) notifying residents of tonight's meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

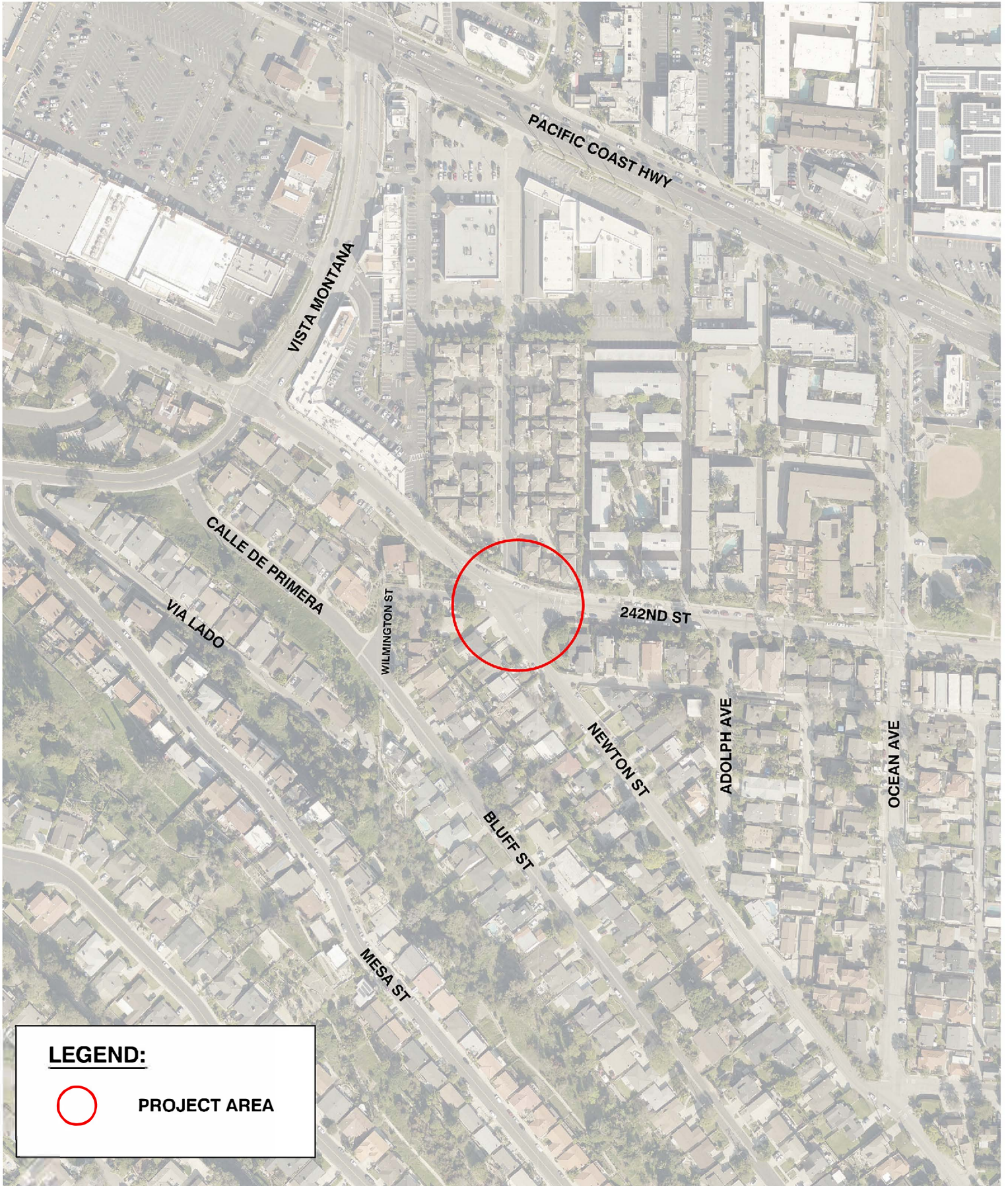
CRAIG BILEZERIAN  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

By   
Shin Furukawa  
Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer


- Attachment 1: Project Location Map
- Attachment 2: Existing Conditions
- Attachment 3: Proposed Improvement
- Attachment 4: Public Notice
- Attachment 5: Notification Area
- Attachment 6: Correspondance Received

# Attachment 1

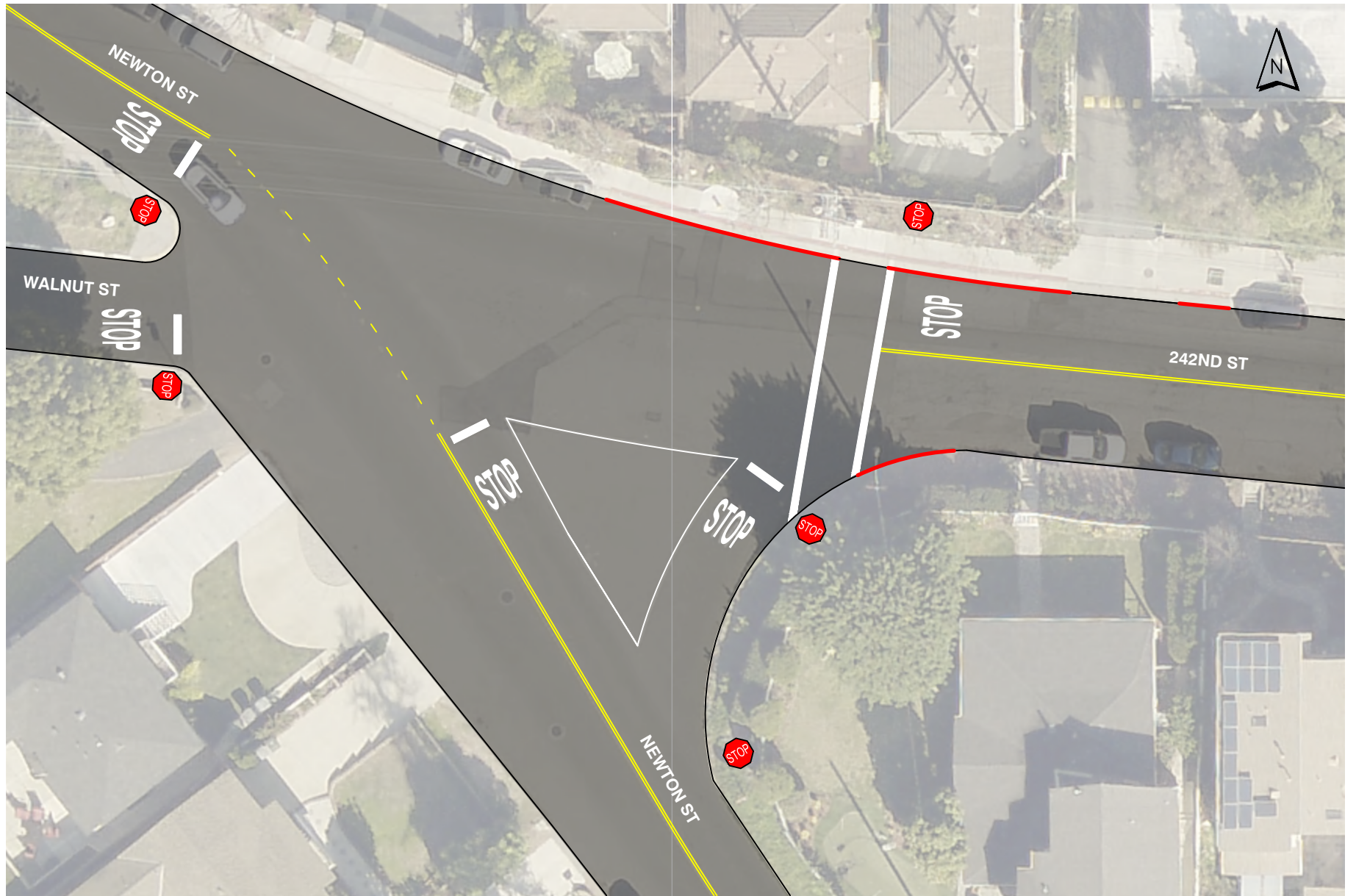
## PROJECT LOCATION MAP



**LEGEND:**

 PROJECT AREA

# Attachment 2



CITY OF TORRANCE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

NEWTON ST AND 242ND ST  
EXISTING CONDITIONS





## Discussion of proposed Intersection Improvement at Newton Street and 242nd Street/Walnut Street

**Monday, October 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**West Annex Commission Meeting Room**  
**3031 Torrance Boulevard**

On **Monday, October 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**, the City of Torrance Traffic Commission will discuss proposed intersection improvements at Newton Street and 242nd Street/Walnut Street.

Public input is an important part of the City's decision-making process. You may provide input by speaking at the meeting or by submitting comments in writing to: [TrafficCommission@TorranceCA.Gov](mailto:TrafficCommission@TorranceCA.Gov) by 5:30 p.m. of the day before the meeting.

**Information about the subject topic will be included in the Commission Agenda Packet, which will be posted on Thursday, October 2, 2025 on the Traffic Commission website at:**



[https://www.torranceca.gov/government/city-clerk/commissions-and-advisory-boards/traffic-commission/agendas-minutes/-folder-5434#docfold\\_14\\_3951\\_3227\\_5434](https://www.torranceca.gov/government/city-clerk/commissions-and-advisory-boards/traffic-commission/agendas-minutes/-folder-5434#docfold_14_3951_3227_5434)

### For questions, please contact:

Helen Shi, Engineering Manager (310) 618-3069

[www.TorranceCA.Gov/TrafficCommission](http://www.TorranceCA.Gov/TrafficCommission)

### CITY COUNCIL

Mayor George K. Chen

Dr. Jeremy Gerson      Bridgett Lewis

Jon Kaji      Aurelio Mattucci

Sharon Kalani      Asam Sheikh

Rebecca Poirier      Tim Goodrich

City Clerk      City Treasurer

Aram Chaparyan  
City Manager

Patrick Q. Sullivan  
City Attorney



# Attachment 5



 NOTIFIED PARCELS



## NOTIFICATION AREA

## Attachment 6

**From:** [Dave Roelen](#)  
**To:** [Traffic Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Traffic Commission Newton St. & 242nd St.  
**Date:** Monday, September 29, 2025 10:41:36 AM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Traffic Commission consideration for intersection improvement options at Newton St. & 242<sup>nd</sup> St.

The above Walteria intersection (Newton/242nd/Walnut) with either an elongated traffic roundabout or circle would improve traffic safety by slowing the traffic flow through the neighborhood. In addition, each would allow traffic to safely move while preventing the very common and dangerous occurrence of failure to stop at existing stop signs.

The intersection of Walnut and Newton/242nd has always been confusing and less safe for all intersection traffic. Making Walnut St. a one-way solves that issue and still provides access for Bluff St. residents. An Elongated Roundabout (Option #1 preferred) or Traffic Circle would improve safety and visually enhance community appearance with more greenery and would blend nicely with the existing City pocket park.

Redondo Beach used a similarly small traffic circle to solve a traffic issue at the intersection Calle Miramar/Esplanade and Paseo De La Playa near Torrance Beach .... with much success.

For public safety and community appearance please consider Option #1 for an Elongated Traffic Roundabout at the intersection of Newton/242nd/Walnut. Thank you!

Dave & Carol Roelen  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



Newton St

Single  
park



Walnut St

One-way



Option # 2  
Curbed Traffic Circle  
With Trees and Native Plantings

Newton St



ton St

ngle  
park



Walnut St

One-way



Newton St

Option # 1  
Curbed Elongated Roundabout  
With Trees and Native Plantings

**From:** [NANCY REY](#)  
**To:** [Traffic Commission](#)  
**Subject:** For consideration the 10/6 meeting  
**Date:** Monday, September 29, 2025 10:17:25 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

I have received a notice that you will be discussing intersection improvements at Newton/242nd St/Walnut St at the 10/6 meeting but I will be unable to attend as I will be out town so I am forwarding my concerns via email.

As a resident that uses the Walnut St entrance of this intersection frequently, typically going to 242nd street or taking a right onto Newton street from Walnut, I would say at least once a week someone from Newton Street (going South East) will run that stop sign. As a driver entering the intersection from Walnut, we must assume the other person is not stopping. Furthermore, even if the first car does stop, often the person behind them follows through without stopping. They are not aware to look *sharply* to their right for a car (they seem unaware that Walnut street is even there). The only solutions would appear to be a round about in this area or somehow better signage so they know about Walnut Street. This can also happen when you are going from 242 to Walnut, but not as often because of the clearer view of 242nd.

Thank you,  
Nancy Rey  
[REDACTED]