

These minutes will be considered for approval at the Planning Commission meeting of 09-06-2018.

**MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE
PLANNING COMMISSION
August 22, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
100 Avenida Presidio
San Clemente, CA**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Crandell called the Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of San Clemente to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Don Brown, Jason Talley, Zhen Wu; Chair pro tem Michael Blackwell, Vice Chair Jim Ruehlin, Chair Barton Crandell

Commissioners Absent: Chris Kuczynski

Staff Present: Sheri Vander Dussen, Interim City Planner
Thomas Frank, Transportation Engineering Manager
Matthew Richardson, Assistant City Attorney
Eileen White, Recording Secretary

4. SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

None

5. MINUTES

A. Minutes from the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of July 18, 2018

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAIR PRO TEM BLACKWELL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BROWN, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to receive and file the minutes from the regular meeting of July 18, 2018 as submitted.

6. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

None

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

None

8. **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Camino Mira Costa and Camino Capistrano Restriping and Adding Class II Bicycle Lanes** (Frank)

A report from Tom Frank, Transportation Engineer Manager with the City of San Clemente, reviewing and recommending to the City Council alternative striping plans to establish Class II Bicycle lanes on the subject streets.

Mr. Frank narrated a PowerPoint Presentation entitled, "Camino Mira Costa and Camino Capistrano Restriping and adding Class II Bicycle Lanes," dated August 22, 2018. A copy of the Presentation is on file in Engineering Division.

Chair Crandell opened the public hearing.

Marie France-Smith, resident, supported the reduced lanes on Mira Costa to increase safety for pedestrians crossing the street; commented most cars are exceeding the 35 MPH speed limit.

Pat Wiggins, resident, expressed concern that Shorecliffs residents are not aware of the proposed changes; suggested the proposal be continued to allow all residents of Shorecliffs to be informed and have the opportunity to state opinions.

Cheryl Kelly, president of the Shorecliffs Villas HOA, noted that many Shorecliffs residents were unaware of the proposed change; suggested all residents, not just the HOA, should have received notification of the proposed change.

Brenda Miller, resident, endorsed Alternative 2 with incorporation of Alternative 1 merging revisions; commented on the importance of buffers as they increase safety for bicyclists; recommended use of Sharrows for increased safety; noted most serious bicyclists will travel in the center of the vehicular lane.

Steve Smith, resident, supported the Mira Costa Road Striping plan to increase safety for all users, including children riding their bikes to school; commented that adjacent two-lane streets, such as Pacific Coast Highway, function well with just two lanes of traffic and Complete Streets improvements.

Dan Ignusa, resident, supported the proposed road diet for Camino Capistrano to increase safety for children, bicyclists and pedestrians.

Chair Crandell closed the public hearing.

Camino Mira Costa Restriping:

In response to questions, Manager Frank advised that crosswalks not associated with signals or stop signs are generally less safe than controlled crosswalks due to a potential false sense of security by the public; typically crosswalk installations that are not backed by data indicating they are warranted are ignored by drivers over time; new speed surveys will be performed on the City's collector streets soon as surveys are done every five years; high speed averages along the proposed road diet roads should reduce once the road diets are installed; and staff anticipates more bike users along the roadway once the bike lanes are installed. As per the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, the City installs bike lanes whenever there is opportunity; staff is following State Law by implementing Complete Streets guidelines; the proposed change does not change the existing parking configuration; the Traffic Study indicates the intersection at Camino Mira Costa and Camino De Estrella will retain its "A" level of service following implementation of the road diet modifications.

During the ensuing discussion, the Commissioners, either individually or in agreement, provided the following commentary:

- Expressed concern with taking away lanes for vehicular use and resulting inability for faster drivers to pass slower ones.
- Questioned whether the proposed project is Categorically Exempt from CEQA.
- Opined that an EIR is unnecessary because the EIR performed for the Updated General Plan and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, which was adopted into the Mobility Section of the Updated General Plan, included Road Diets.
- Commented the original configuration of the subject streets was similar to freeway lanes; wide lanes have been proven to encourage speeding.
- Suggested staff consider using green road paint instead of white for bicycle lane transition areas near intersections.

- Supported removal of the vehicular traffic lane as traffic is very light.

Camino Capistrano Restriping:

Manager Frank advised that staff is recommending the Commission select Alternative 2 as it best serves all users' needs and has the least amount of disruption to the existing road configuration. Additionally, staff recommended the Commission incorporate the proposed road merging markings as depicted on Alternative 1 from 250 feet before Monte Vista to Del Gado into Alternative 2. In response to questions, Mr. Frank noted although there is demand for additional parking at the DMV facility on Avenida Vaquero, the parking meters along Camino Capistrano do not have high usage; a Parking Study would have to be performed before adding additional parking/metered parking along Camino Capistrano. Speed limit enforcement typically has a temporary influence on decreasing motorists' speeding; and bicyclists have to follow the vehicular rules of the road, including speed limits.

During the ensuing discussion, the Commissioners, either individually or in agreement, provided the following commentary:

- Noted that Los Angeles has been served with lawsuits in response to road diets; questioned whether removal of a traffic lane is included in the CEQA exemptions.
- Opposed removal of the traffic lane traveling north along Camino Capistrano between Avenida Vaquero and Del Gado.
- Established with staff that notification had been sent to all residents living within a 300 foot radius of the project.
- Pointed out the extensive technical analysis performed on City intersections during the General Plan Update; supported the road diet concept to better control intersections, reduce motorists' speed, and implement Complete Streets Guidelines; noted that although there is an increase in parked cars on streets surrounding the DMV, the metered spaces are underused.
- Commented that the City properly noticed residents and held public meetings for input; supported the proposed road diets as they follow the City's Updated General Plan guidelines, engineering standards, and Complete Streets Guidelines.
- Suggested the City Attorney's office confirm the environmental determination and report its findings to City Council when this project is presented for Council consideration.
- Suggested more bicyclists will use the improved roads as they will appear safer and more inviting.
- Commented on the importance of incorporating Sharrows to help educate drivers to share the road with all users.

- Recommended the City consider conducting a parking study to increase parking on Camino Capistrano to accommodate parking demands for DMV customers.
- Supported removal of the extra lane on Camino Capistrano traveling east beginning at Pacific Coast Highway to eliminate cars accelerating too fast in order to pass each other going up the hill.
- Supported using green paint for the bicycle lane markings instead of white for bicycle lane transition areas near intersections.
- Supported a written policy statement from the City Attorney's office providing direction regarding environmental documentation when implementing road diets.
- Commented that the proposed changes are easily removed/revised if necessary.

Manager Frank recommended staff include a paragraph in the staff report indicating how the projects comply with CEQA Guidelines for the City Attorney's review and approval.

Actions:

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BROWN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WU, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO RESTRIPE CAMINO MIRA COSTA AS CONCEPTUALLY SHOWN IN ATTACHMENT 2.

IT WAS MOVED BY VICE CHAIR RUEHLIN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BROWN AND CARRIED 5-1-0, WITH COMMISSIONER TALLEY OPPOSED, TO RESTRIPE CAMINO CAPISTRANO AS CONCEPTUALLY SHOWN IN ALTERNATIVE 2 IN ATTACHMENT 3, FROM AVENIDA VAQUERO TO DEL GADO, INCLUDING THE REVISION FOR THE MERGING PROPOSAL ALONG CAMINO CAPISTRANO 250 FEET FROM MONTE VISTA TO DEL GADO AS SHOWN IN ALTERNATIVE 1.

IT WAS MOVED BY VICE CHAIR RUEHLIN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALLEY, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO RESTRIPE CAMINO CAPISTRANO AS CONCEPTUALLY SHOWN IN ALTERNATIVE 2 IN ATTACHMENT 3 FROM PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY TO AVENIDA VAQUERO.

Amended as follows:

The staff report submitted to the City Council will confirm the appropriate CEQA determination for this project.

Recommendation that green paint be used for bicycle lane markings as appropriate.

[ACTIONS SUBJECT TO CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL.]

10. OLD BUSINESS

None

11. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS/STAFF

- A. Tentative Future Agenda
- B. Zoning Administrator Minutes of 7/19/2018
- C. Zoning Administrator Minutes of 8/9/2018
- D. Staff Waiver 18-468
- E. Staff Waiver 18-478
- F. Staff Waiver 18-486
- G. Staff Waiver 18-487
- H. Staff Waiver 18-494
- I. Staff Waiver 18-495
- J. Staff Waiver 18-496
- K. Staff Waiver 18-506
- L. Staff Waiver 18-512

Commissioner Wu reported that at its last meeting, the Coastal Advisory Committee elected Susan Ambrose and Jorine Campopiano as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively; voted to move its meetings to City Council Chambers and revise its start time to 6:30 p.m.; heard presentations regarding ocean water bacteria testing; and made recommendations for biannual Environmental Sustainability Grants.

12. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAIR PRO TEM BLACKWELL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BROWN, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. to the Next Regular Meeting of the Study Session and the Planning Commission to be held at 6:00 p.m. on September 5, 2018, in Council Chambers located at 100 Avenida Presidio, San Clemente, California.

Respectfully submitted,

Barton Crandell, Chair

Attest:

Sheri Vander Dussen
Sheri Vander Dussen, Interim City Planner

DRAFT