



# Agenda

March 4, 2024, 4 p.m.

## Welcome to Your Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission Meeting

We welcome your interest and involvement in the city’s legislative process. This agenda includes information about topics coming before the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission and the action recommended by city staff. You can read about each topic in the staff reports, which are available on the city website and in the Office of the City Clerk. The Minutes Clerk is also available to answer any questions you have about Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission meeting procedures.

### How to watch

#### In Person



City Council Chamber  
1200 Carlsbad Village Drive

#### Online



Watch the livestream at  
[carlsbadca.gov/watch](https://carlsbadca.gov/watch)

### How to participate

If you would like to provide comments to the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission, please:

- Fill out a speaker request form, located in the foyer.
- Submit the form to the Minutes Clerk before the item begins.
- When it’s your turn, the Chair will call your name and invite you to the podium.
- Speakers have three minutes, unless the presiding officer (usually the Chair) changes that time.
- You may not give your time to another person, but groups can select a single speaker as long as three other members of your group are present. Group representatives have 10 minutes unless that time is changed by the presiding officer or the Commission.
- **In writing:** Email comments to [traffic@carlsbadca.gov](mailto:traffic@carlsbadca.gov). Comments received by 2 p.m. the day of the meeting will be shared with the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission prior to the meeting. When e-mailing comments, please identify in the subject line the agenda item to which your comments relate. All comments received will be included as part of the official record.

**Written comments will not be read out loud.**

### Reasonable Accommodations

Persons with a disability may request an agenda packet in appropriate alternative formats as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Reasonable accommodations and auxiliary aids will be provided to effectively allow participation in the meeting. Please contact the City Manager’s Office at 442-339-2821 (voice), 711 (free relay service for TTY users), 760-720-9461 (fax) or [manager@carlsbadca.gov](mailto:manager@carlsbadca.gov) by noon on the Monday before the meeting to make arrangements. City staff will respond to requests by 2 p.m. on Monday, the day of the meeting, and will seek to resolve requests before the start of the meeting in order to maximize accessibility.

**More information about Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission meeting procedures can be found at the end of this agenda and in the Carlsbad Municipal Code chapter 1.20.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Feb. 5, 2024

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** *In conformance with the Brown Act, no Commission action can occur on items presented during Public Comment. A total of 15 minutes is provided so members of the public can address the Commissioners on items that are not listed on the Agenda. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each. If you desire to speak during Public Comment, fill out a SPEAKER CARD and submit it to the Minutes Clerk. If there are more than five (5) speakers, the remaining speakers will be heard at the end of the agenda just prior to Commissioners Reports.*

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** *The items listed under Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion as listed below. There will be no separate discussion on these items prior to the time the Commission votes on the motion unless members of the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission, the Liaison or the public request specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action. A request from the public to discuss an item must be submitted to the Minutes Clerk in writing prior to Traffic Safety & Mobility consideration of the Consent Calendar.*

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

1. **POLICE REPORT REGARDING TRAFFIC & MOBILITY-RELATED MATTERS DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2024, INCLUDING NOTABLE NEWS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY** - Receive a presentation from a representative of the City of Carlsbad's Police Department that will provide an overview of traffic and mobility-related police matters during the month of January 2024, including notable news for the month of February. (Staff Contact: Lieutenant Alonso DeVelasco, Police Department).

**Staff's Recommendation:** Receive the presentation.

2. **CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE** – Receive a presentation regarding the Intergovernmental Affairs Program of the City of Carlsbad and the city's recent and ongoing advocacy efforts related to traffic safety and mobility and provide feedback as appropriate. (Staff Contact: Jason Haber, Policy & Leadership City Manager; Melanie Burkholder, City Council Member).

**Staff's Recommendation:** Receive the presentation and provide feedback.

**CITY TRAFFIC ENGINEER COMMENTS:**

**COMMISSION COMMENTARY AND REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS:** *This portion of the agenda is for the Commission Members to make brief announcements, brief reports of their activities and requests for future agenda items.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Continuation of the Public Comments

*This portion of the agenda is set aside for continuation of public comments, if necessary, due to exceeding the total time allotted in the first public comments section. When you are called to speak, please come forward to the podium and state your name. The remainder of the categories are for reporting purposes. In conformance with the Brown Act, no public testimony and no Commission action can occur on these items.*

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

#### **ABOUT THE TRAFFIC SAFETY & MOBILITY COMMISSION AGENDA**

Per Carlsbad Municipal Code 2.28.050 the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission is an advisory commission to the City Council directed to study all matters referred to it concerning traffic safety and pedestrian safety and to make written recommendations to the city council regarding traffic and pedestrian safety within the city.

The Ralph M. Brown Act (commonly referred to as the “Brown Act”) governs open meetings for local government bodies in the state of California. The Brown Act guarantees the public’s right to attend and participate in meetings of local legislative bodies and is contained in section 54950 et seq. of the Government Code. The Brown Act also includes requirements for the distribution of agendas for these public meetings.

#### **TRAFFIC SAFETY & MOBILITY COMMISSION PROCEDURE**

For each item on the agenda, City of Carlsbad staff will present a report to the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission. The Traffic Safety & Mobility Commissioners may then ask clarifying questions about the staff report in advance of the public outreach. The audience will then be asked for comment. The Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission is interested to hear all persons wishing to give testimony. Please file a **“Request to Speak”** form to speak on items listed on the agenda. Persons not desiring to speak but, wishing to be recorded as proponents or protesters of record, may do so by submitting their name and address to the minutes clerk. If anyone wishes to question a Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission recommendation, they may contact the Traffic Safety & Mobility Division at 1635 Faraday Avenue, between the hours of 7:30 a. m. and 5:30 a.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

Visual materials should be submitted to the Transportation Department at 1635 Faraday Avenue no later than noon the Friday before the meeting. Please label all materials with the agenda item number you are representing. All materials exhibited to the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission during the meeting (slides, maps, photos, etc.) are part of the public record and must be kept by the Traffic Safety & Mobility Division for at least 60 days after final action on the matter. Your materials will be returned upon written request.

#### **Video clips cannot be accommodated.**

The Public Comment portion of the Agenda allows community members to speak on items that are not on the agenda. If you desire to speak about an item not listed on the agenda, a **“Request to Speak”** form should be filed with the Minutes Clerk. In conformance with the Brown Act, no action can occur on items presented during Public Comment.

Any agenda related writings or documents provided to the majority of the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission after distribution of the Agenda packet will be available for public inspection at the Transportation Department located at 1635 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92008. In addition, a binder containing all agenda related writings and documents will be held by the Minutes Clerk at each Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission meeting and available for public review.

Those wishing to speak to the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission are asked to come forward, speak into the microphone, and give their name and address for the taped record. A time limit of three minutes is allotted to each speaker. Members of the public are asked to observe order at this meeting and to conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner.



# Minutes

Feb. 5, 2024, 4 p.m.

Council Chamber  
1200 Carlsbad Village Drive  
Carlsbad, CA 92008

**CALL TO ORDER:** 4 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Coelho, Fowler, Penseyres, Proulx, Newlands, and Kohl.  
Absent: Proulx, Garcia.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chair Coelho led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of Regular Meeting held on Dec. 4, 2023

Motion by Commissioner Newlands, seconded by Commissioner Kohl, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Dec. 4, 2023, as presented. Motion carried, 5/0/2 (Proulx, Garcia – Absent).

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Jim Powers spoke about the new restriping on El Camino Real and Tamarack Avenue and the issues with drivers traveling west on Tamarack Avenue who need to turn left into Amberwood Court usually have to stop before making their turn, causing a backup of cars on Tamarack Avenue and into the bike lane, he requested to know what plans are in place to address this and the time frame. He further talked about new signage that has been placed going eastbound on Tamarack Avenue that notifies drivers of the right turn lane and explained that this sign causes drivers who are turning onto El Camino Real to enter the right turn lane too early, blocking the entrance of Amberwood Court.*

*Commissioner Garcia joined the meeting at 4:05 p.m.*

*Steve Linke discussed modifications he has identified in private development Traffic Impact Analysis reports, which have led to inaccurate findings and conclusions.*

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Motion by Vice-Chair Fowler, seconded by Commissioner Newlands to approve Consent Item No. 1. Motion carried, 6/0/1 (Proulx – Absent).

1. **2023 SLURRY SEAL PROJECT, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 6001-23SS** - Support staff's recommendation to the City Council to approve the plans for the 2023 Slurry Seal Project, Capital Improvement Project No. 6001-23SS, as a part of the Pavement Management Program. (Staff Contact: Eric Zielke, Public Works Department).

*Kenneth Chin-Purcell spoke about the striped crosswalk across The Crossings Drive at the Legoland bicycle path. He further explained that the plans currently show no visual indication or street marking on the roadway for motorists to know that this is an intersection for both pedestrians and cyclists that are entering into and exiting from the bike path and he recommended putting a crosswalk or other markings at this intersection.*

*Steve Linke presented and reviewed a PowerPoint presentation regarding lane narrowing (on file in the Office of the City Clerk).*

*Steve Linke spoke about his concerns regarding lane narrowing, specifically the lanes that have been narrowed down to 10-foot-wide on higher speed, higher volume, multi-lane arterial streets and presented selected excerpts in support of his claims from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Green Book, the Caltrans Highway Design Manual, and staff reports.*

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

2. POLICE REPORT REGARDING TRAFFIC & MOBILITY-RELATED MATTERS DURING THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2023, INCLUDING NOTABLE NEWS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2024 - Receive a presentation from a representative of the City of Carlsbad's Police Department that will provide an overview of traffic and mobility-related police matters during the month of November and December 2023, including notable news for the month of January 2024. (Staff Contact: Lieutenant Alonso DeVelasco, Police Department).

**Staff's Recommendation:** Receive the presentation.

Lieutenant Alonso DeVelasco presented the report and reviewed a PowerPoint presentation (on file in the Office of the City Clerk).

The Commission received the PowerPoint presentation by Lieutenant DeVelasco.

*Steve Linke presented and reviewed a PowerPoint presentation regarding lane narrowing and enforcement (on file in the Office of the City Clerk).*

*Steve Linke spoke about city staffs' suggestion that lane narrowing to less than 11 feet wide will increase safety. He further explained that there have been multiple instances where he has witnessed vehicles driving outside of their lane to keep a distance from the curb and added that narrowed streets with a 35 mile per hour speed limit or higher will lead to more lane encroachments and increase danger to both drivers and bicyclists.*

In response to Commissioner Newlands' inquiry whether it would be valuable to capture what collisions were due to high speed versus unsafe speed, Lieutenant DeVelasco explained that when officers are issuing a violation as unsafe, they must clarify in their report why they believed that the conditions were unsafe to be travelling at that speed.

In response to Commissioner Penseyres' inquiry as to whether Lieutenant DeVelasco could report a year's worth of data as opposed to monthly, Chair Coelho explained that they will be discussing the possibility of reporting the data on a quarterly basis.

In response to Vice-Chair Fowler's inquiry regarding the scale of hit and run collisions that get resolved, Lieutenant DeVelasco explained that it can be difficult to report on how frequently they identify hit and run drivers because investigations can take days or weeks.

In response to Commissioner Newlands' inquiry whether the Police Department writes tickets for lane encroachment, Lieutenant DeVelasco explained that lane encroachment is primarily enforced during DUI stops, however, the Police Department hopes to further address and enforce maintaining a lane with the new lane designs.

3. COMPLETE STREETS BEST PRACTICES: NEW BIKEWAY TREATMENTS AND ROADWAY WIDTHS – Receive an informational presentation on Complete Streets Best Practices including an overview of recent bike lane design treatments and roadway travel lane widths. (Staff Contact: Nathan Schmidt and Tom Frank, Public Works Department).

**Staff's Recommendation:** Receive the presentation.

Transportation Planning & Mobility Manager Nathan Schmidt and Transportation Director/City Engineer Tom Frank presented the report and reviewed a PowerPoint presentation (on file in the Office of the City Clerk).

The Commission received the presentation by Transportation Planning & Mobility Manager Schmidt and Transportation Director/City Engineer Frank.

*Steve Linke presented and reviewed a PowerPoint presentation regarding lane narrowing (on file in the Office of the City Clerk).*

*Steve Linke spoke about the John Hopkins study referenced by staff and explained that the findings are consistent with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Green Book, however 10-foot lanes are only appropriate on low-volume streets with speeds of 35 miles per hour or less, are not truck or bus routes, and do not have raised medians. He requested that staff show their data that supports the use of 10-foot lanes on arterial streets of 55 miles per hour.*

In response to Steve Linke's inquiry regarding how 10- or 10.5-foot-wide lanes are consistent with the Caltrans Highway Design Manual, Topic 308, City Traffic Engineer Kim explained that the Highway Design Manual is intended for state highways, not local roads. He pointed out that Topic 301 gives lane width recommendations for state highways but directs local agency consideration of lane widths to Topic 308, which specifically allows local jurisdictions to define lane widths based on locally adopted standards with the exception of freeway ramps and interchanges and also defers to AASHTO for additional guidance on lane widths on local roads.

In response to Steve Linke's inquiry regarding how 10- or 10.5-foot-wide lanes on 35 to 55 mile per hour arterial streets are consistent with the AASHTO Green Book standard, City Traffic Engineer Kim explained that AASHTO's governing document for roadway design is called A Policy of Geometric Design of Highways and Streets. In Section 7.3.3.1, it states that "lane widths on through-travel lanes may vary from 10 to 12 ft." The use of the word "may" denotes a recommendation or suggestion, not a standard or requirement. This section further highlights the local agency's "local practice and experience regarding lane width" as a determining factor. He further added that staff concludes that the use of 10'-10.5' lanes is considered justified, appropriate and fully compliant with engineering standards and practices as contained in the

Caltrans Highway Design Manual and the Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

In response to Commissioner Newlands' inquiry regarding whether data will be released, Transportation Director/City Engineer Frank explained that they currently have collected before-speeds and volumes and will perform after-studies and report on the performance of the East-West Corridors when it is available.

In response to Commissioner Penseyres' inquiry regarding debris found in wide buffer lanes and if the buffer lanes cleaned during street sweeping, Transportation Director/City Engineer Frank responded that he would notify Streets Maintenance.

Commissioner Kohl commented that education may be needed to refresh drivers on how to safely drive in and around bike lanes and bicyclists.

Commissioner Penseyres further commented that education for both drivers and bicyclists would be more helpful.

**CITY TRAFFIC ENGINEER COMMENTS:**

Transportation Director/City Engineer Tom Frank spoke about SANDAG and explained that they are currently in the process of updating the Regional Plan.

**COMMISSION COMMENTARY AND REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Coelho adjourned the Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission Regular Meeting on Feb. 5, 2024, at 5:45 p.m.

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Eliane Paiva  
Secretary





# Staff Report

**Meeting Date:** March 4, 2024

**To:** Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission

**Staff Contact:** Alonso DeVelasco, Police Lieutenant  
Alonso.develasco@carlsbadca.gov, 442-339-5578

**Subject:** Police Report Regarding Traffic & Mobility-Related Matters During the Month of January 2024, including Notable News for the Month of February 2024

## Recommended Action

Receive a presentation from a representative of the City of Carlsbad's Police Department that will provide an overview of traffic and mobility-related police matters during the month of January 2024, including notable news for the month of February 2024.

## Fiscal Analysis

This action has no fiscal impact.

## Environmental Evaluation

In keeping with California Public Resources Code Section 21065, this action does not constitute a "project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act in that it has no potential to cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. Therefore, it does not require environmental review.

## Public Notification and Outreach

This item was noticed in keeping with the Ralph M. Brown Act and it was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours before the scheduled meeting date.

## Exhibits

None.



# Staff Report

**Meeting Date:** March 4, 2024

**To:** Traffic Safety & Mobility Commission

**Staff Contact:** Jason Haber, Intergovernmental Affairs Director, 442-339-2958  
Melody Burkholder, City Council Member, 442-637-2853

**Subject:** City Council Legislative Subcommittee Update

## Recommended Action

Receive a presentation regarding the Intergovernmental Affairs Program of the City of Carlsbad and the city's recent and ongoing advocacy efforts related to traffic safety and mobility and provide feedback as appropriate.

## Executive Summary/Discussion

The City of Carlsbad City Council Legislative Subcommittee works in coordination with the city's Intergovernmental Affairs Director, City Manager's Office, City Attorney's Office, city departments, legislative consultants and the Carlsbad community to:

1. Receive information and advise the City Council on intergovernmental and legislative matters affecting the city;
2. Continuously monitor state and federal proposed legislation, and
  - a. Review proposed legislation for consistency with the city's Legislative Platform;
  - b. Make recommendations to the City Council to identify high priority bills; and
  - c. Make recommendations to the City Council to adopt advocacy positions on high priority bills not addressed by the Legislative Platform;
3. Proactively seek to identify local and regional legislative needs and recommend bill sponsorship opportunities to the City Council; and
4. Engage and inform the Carlsbad community (residents, businesses, stakeholder groups) and other governmental agencies on intergovernmental and legislative matters affecting the city.

City Council and Legislative Subcommittee Member Melanie Burkholder and Intergovernmental Affairs Director Jason Haber will provide an update on the city's recent and ongoing advocacy efforts related to traffic safety and mobility.

## Fiscal Analysis

This is an informational report, and no funding is being requested.

## Public Notification and Outreach

This item was noticed in keeping with the Ralph M. Brown Act and it was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours before the scheduled meeting date.

## Exhibits

None.