

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Matthew Fertal From: Keith G. Jones
Dept: City Manager Dept: Public Works
Subject: UPDATE THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL PRIORITY LIST Date: September 23, 2008

OBJECTIVE

To bring forth the recommendations from the May 6, 2008 and September 2, 2008 Traffic Commission meetings to update the Traffic Signal Priority List.

BACKGROUND

At the May 6, 2008 Traffic Commission meeting, the Commission voted 4 to 1 to add the intersection of West Street and Wilken Way/Daniel Avenue to the Traffic Signal Priority List. At the September 2, 2008 Traffic Commission meeting, the Commission also voted 4 to 1 to remove the intersection of Lampson Avenue and Gilbert Street from the Traffic Signal Priority List.

DISCUSSION

In order for an intersection to qualify for installation of a traffic signal system and subsequently be placed on the Traffic Signal Priority List, at least one of eight warrants must be satisfied as stipulated in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The intersection of West Street and Wilken Way/Daniel Avenue satisfied three warrants.

The intersection of Lampson Avenue and Gilbert Street also satisfied three warrants and was placed on the Traffic Signal Priority List in June of 1996. While staff recommended maintaining the intersection on the list since motorists are experiencing heavy delay and the intersection is operating at a Level of Service (LOS) F, the Traffic Commission factored in public input, including the Central Garden Grove Neighborhood Association, and voted to remove the intersection from the list. Concerns expressed included the likely removal of trees, acquisition of right-of-way and the potential for increased speeds.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact since nothing is proposed to be constructed at this time. The proposed recommendation merely modifies the current Traffic Signal Priority List.

UPDATE THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL PRIORITY LIST

September 23, 2008

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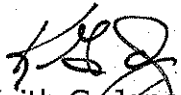
COMMUNITY VISION IMPLEMENTATION

This project is consistent with the community vision for maintaining and improving the transportation system as well as the safe and efficient flow of traffic.

RECOMMENDATION

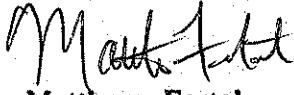
It is recommended that the City Council:

- Approve the recommendations of the Traffic Commission to update the Traffic Signal Priority List to include the intersection of West Street & Wilken Way/Daniel Avenue and to remove the intersection of Lampson Avenue and Gilbert Street


Keith G. Jones
Public Works Director

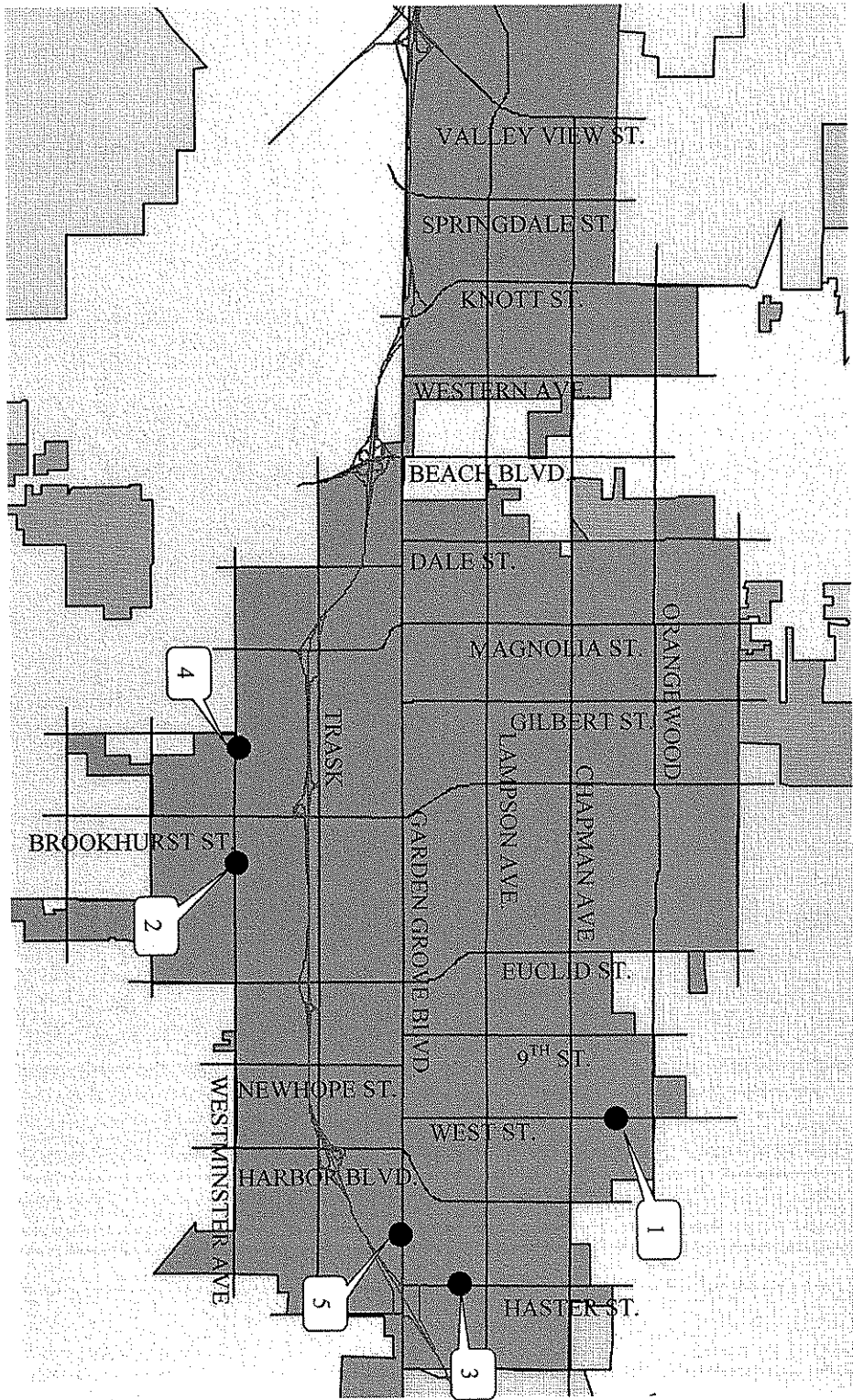

By: Dan Candelaria, P.E., T.E.
City Traffic Engineer

Approved for Agenda Listing


Matthew Fertal
City Manager

Attachments:

1. Vicinity Map
2. Traffic Signal Priority List
3. September 2, 2008 Traffic Commission Excerpt
4. May 6, 2008 Traffic Commission Excerpt



SIGNAL PRIORITY LOCATION MAP

TRAFFIC SIGNAL PRIORITY LIST

1. West Street and Wilken Way/Daniel Avenue (36 pts.)
2. Westminster Avenue and Dawson/Hope Street (29 pts.)
3. Haster Street and Allard Avenue (25 pts.)
4. Westminster Avenue and Erin Street (20 pts.)
5. Garden Grove Boulevard and Partridge Street (19 pts.)

Garden Grove Traffic Commission

**MINUTE EXCERPT
September 2, 2008**

**Traffic Signal Study
Lampson Avenue/Gilbert Street**

The staff report was introduced by Tony Aquino to determine if the intersection of Lampson Avenue and Gilbert Street should remain on the Traffic Signal Priority list.

Robin Marcario, 9721 Lampson Avenue, addressed the Commission. Ms. Marcario thanked Chair Ashland for coming to the yearly meeting of the Central Garden Grove Neighborhood Association meeting. Mrs. Marcario is in favoring of removing this intersection from the Traffic Signal Priority List.

Commissioner Cabral is in favor of removing this intersection from the list.

Commissioner Feather inquired if there would be a cost involved in the construction of this traffic signal.

Mr. Candelaria responded that typically a new traffic signal is approximately \$250,000.00. However, this signal is not going to design or construction at this time. This public hearing is only to determine if this intersection should remain on the Signal Priority list or not.

Commissioner Ashland inquired if there would be another public hearing at the Traffic Commission to determine if the signal should be constructed.

Mr. Candelaria explained to the Commission that once the Priority Signal list is approved by this Commission staff then proceeds on to have the list approved by City Council. Council must approve any changes made to the Signal Priority list. When staff takes a signal to the design and construction phase it first must go to Council for approval as well.

Commissioner Alejandro inquired if there were any signal now being considered for design and construction.

Staff referred the Commission to the Signal Priority list. Number one on the list would be the first to be designed and constructed should funding become available.

Commissioner Ashland asked if the list must have six signals on it.

Staff explained the procedure by which intersections are put on the list. There is no set number the list must have; it depends on the requests from the public and whether or not each requested intersection meets the criteria for being put on the list.

Commissioner Alejandro asked for clarification of the point system, i.e. if an intersection gets 45 points after the study is complete and the warrants are met where on the list would it be located?

Staff commented that this would then become number one on the list because it would have the highest point value and therefore the highest priority of being constructed.

Commissioner Alejandro inquired if there was funding available for number one on the list at this time.

Staff responded that the grant was denied for number one on the list and there is no funding available at this time for design and construction of the traffic signal at West Street and Wilken Way.

Commissioner Lindsay voiced his concern that should the City come into one and a half million dollars earmarked to build traffic signals all six signals currently on the list would be constructed without the Traffic Commission for approval of construction.

Staff responded once the Traffic Commission approves the list, City Council would approve it next and the signals would be built based on this approved list and the approval for construction would not come back through the Traffic Commission for its' approval again.

Commissioner Lindsay moved, seconded by Commissioner Cabral to strike the intersection of Lampson Avenue and Gilbert Street from the Signal Priority List.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners: Ashland, Lindsay, Feather and Cabral
NOES: Commissioner Alejandro
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Garden Grove Traffic Commission

**MINUTE EXCERPT
May 6, 2008**

**TRAFFIC SIGNAL
PRIORITY LIST UPDATE**

The staff report was introduced to update the City's Traffic Signal Priority List.

Chair Ashland is against approving this list because he would like to have item number six, Lampson /Gilbert, removed from the list.

It was motioned by Commissioner Feather to accept staff's recommendation to update the City's Traffic Signal Priority List.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners: Feather, Alejandro, Lindsay, Cabral
NOES: Chair Ashland
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: