



City of Santa Barbara Planning Division

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

September 19, 2013

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Mike Jordan, Vice Chair Deborah L. Schwartz, Commissioners Bruce Bartlett, John P. Campanella, Sheila Lodge, June Pujo, and Addison Thompson.

STAFF PRESENT:

Bettie Weiss, City Planner
Renee Brooke, Senior Planner
Susan Reardon, Senior Planner
Elizabeth Limón, Project Planner
Barbara Shelton, Project Planner / Environmental Analyst
N. Scott Vincent, Assistant City Attorney
Kathleen Goo, Commission Secretary

II. PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

Action on the review of the following Draft Minutes and Resolutions:

A. Draft Minutes of September 5, 2013

Commissioners Pujo and Schwartz made several suggested changes to the Sept. 5th Draft Minutes and the letter to Caltrans which the Commission acknowledged.

Public comment letter and emails from Commissioner Swartz, Sharon O'Brian, and Thorn Roberson were acknowledged.

N. Scott Vincent, Assistant City Attorney, suggested approval and ratification of a revised Sept. 5, 2013 draft minutes be continued to the October 3, 2013.

MOTION: Schwartz/Thompson

Continue approval and ratification of the September 5, 2013 minutes to the October 3, 2013 hearing.

This motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

- B.** Requests for continuances, withdrawals, postponements, or addition of ex-agenda items.

There were no requests.

- C.** Announcements and appeals.

Ms. Brooke made the following announcements:

1. The Planning Commission's 90th Celebration will be held on October 3, 2013.
2. The Citizen's Planning Academy classes will be held on seven consecutive Tuesdays from October 8th through November 19th, 2013.

- D.** Comments from members of the public pertaining to items not on this agenda.

Chair Jordan opened the public hearing at 1:19 P.M. and, with no one wishing to speak, closed the hearing.

Bettie Weiss, City Planner, clarified staff's direction to the Commission regarding the two agenda items before the Commission, their scope and differences, and what is expected of the Commission for each item.

IV. RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL:

ACTUAL TIME: 3:59 P.M.

**2013 GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT - SAFETY ELEMENT UPDATE -
RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL**

The 2013 Safety Element provides a comprehensive update to the Seismic Safety/Safety Element of the General Plan. The element includes updated information and maps describing natural- and human-caused hazards in the City including geologic, seismic, fire, flooding and hazardous materials hazards. The element describes current and future City actions being taken to reduce hazard-related risk and to respond to emergency situations through updated goals, policies and implementation actions.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing to make recommendations to City Council for approval.

Case Planner: Elizabeth Limón, Project Planner, joined by Bettie Weiss, City Planner, Barbara Shelton, Environmental Analyst and Steve Rodriguez of Rodriguez Consulting, Inc.

Elizabeth Limón, Project Planner, gave the Staff presentation and the need for a comprehensive update of the original General Plan Seismic Safety and Safety Element initially adopted in 1979. Ms. Limón clarified specific elements of the new 2013 Safety Element goals focusing on public safety, community resilience, and hazard risk reduction. Initially, the Local Coastal Program (LCP) Amendment process included a draft hazards section. Early informal review by Coastal staff revealed extensive policy comments. Some of the comments were incorporated into the Proposed Safety Element. However, many of the responses were beyond the current scope of work.. Ms. Weiss informed the Commission that applications have been submitted to develop a comprehensive LCP update.

Ms. Limón also reviewed previous comments received from Historic Landmarks Commissioner Judy Orías, Planning Commissioner Sheila Lodge, and emails and letters of concern from Allied Neighborhood Association via Joe Rution, Cathie McCammon, Co-President of the La Mesa Neighborhood Assoc. (LMNA), Norbert Dall (Dall & Associates), and Paula Westbury. Staff reported that, in response to comments, a compilation of General Plan goals, policies and strategies from all elements will be prepared as a handout for the public.

Chair Jordan opened the public hearing at 4:52 P.M, and with no one else wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION: Pujo/Schwartz

Assigned Resolution No. 012-13

Recommend to City Council that the Safety Element Update be adopted, as outlined in the Staff Report dated September 12, 2013, with the suggested amended comments:

1. Adding text on Page 45 of the Proposed Safety Element regarding helicopter activity or aircraft activity so that this is identified as a potential hazard, especially with regard to Cottage Hospital and potentially other locations, pertaining to mixing land uses with aircraft uses.
2. Adding text on page 56 (S6.2) to include rescue operations as part of Waterfront and Harbor Patrol Operations.

This motion carried by the following vote: 7/0

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Chair Jordan announced the ten calendar day appeal period.