



PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

7:00 PM - Thursday, September 7, 2023
Telephone/Video Conference and In-Person
Community Meeting Chambers, Los Altos City Hall
1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, CA

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m. Chair Mensinger called the meeting to order.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PRESENT: Chair Mensinger, Vice-Chair Ahi, Commissioners Roche, Beninato, Disney, and Steinle

ABSENT: Commissioner Doran

STAFF: Development Services Director Zornes, Development Services Deputy Director Williams, and City Attorney Houston.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Planning Commission Minutes

Approve the minutes of the Regular Planning Commission meeting of August 3, 2023.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Roche, seconded by Commissioner Steinle, the Commission recommended approval of the minutes of the Regular Planning Commission meeting of August 3, 2023, as written.

The motion was approved (6-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Ahi, Mensinger, Roche, Steinle, Beninato, and Disney

NOES: None

ABSENT: Doran

PUBLIC HEARING

2. Zone Text Amendments Implementing the 6th Cycle Housing Element

Consideration of Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments implementing programs identified in the adopted housing element, Program 3.B: Modify building height in mixed-use zoning districts, Program 3.C: Remove floor-to-area ratio (FAR) restriction at Rancho Shopping Center and Woodland Plaza, Program 3.F: Reduce Conditional Use Permit requirement for residential mixed-use and multi-family, Program 3.G: Amend Conditional Use Permits findings applicable

to housing Developments, Program 3.N: Modify standards in the R3 zoning districts. The proposed amendments are exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines since there would be no possibility of a significant effect on the environment. *Project Manager: Director Zornes*

Development Services Director Zornes gave a presentation.

Commissioners asked Director Zornes questions.

Chair Mensinger opened the public comment period.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Daseking, Mark Leonard, Jennifer Lance, Sonov Agrawal, Terry Couture, Merryll Effner, Russel North, Cynthia Carr, Jennifer Griffin, Emma Dawn, Vivian, Janine Valadez, Anne Paulson, and Dan Cohen provided public comment.

Chair Mensinger closed the public comment period.

Commissioner Beninato recused himself from a portion of the agenda pertaining to Housing Element: Program 3.C: Remove floor-to-area ratio (FAR) restriction at Rancho Shopping Center and Woodland Plaza since he lives within 500 feet of the Rancho Shopping Center.

Commission discussion proceeded on this portion of the item.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Steinle seconded by Commissioner Ahi, the Commission recommended approval of a portion of agenda Item #2. Zone Text Amendments Implementing the 6th Cycle Housing Element: Program 3.C: Remove floor-to-area ratio (FAR) restriction at Rancho Shopping Center and Woodland Plaza

The motion was approved (4-1) by the following vote:

AYES: Ahi, Mensinger, Roche, and Steinle,

NOES: Disney

ABSENT: Doran

RECUSED: Beninato

5 MINUTE BREAK

The meeting resumed and Commissioner Beninato rejoined the meeting.

Commission discussion proceeded on the remainder of Item #2.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Steinle, seconded by Commissioner Beninato, the Commission recommended approval of agenda item #2. Zone Text Amendments Implementing the 6th Cycle Housing Element: Program 3.B: Modify building height in mixed-use zoning districts, Program 3.F: Reduce Conditional Use Permit requirement for residential mixed-use and multi-family, Program 3.G: Amend Conditional Use Permits findings applicable to housing Developments, Program 3.N: Modify standards in the R3 zoning districts.

The motion was approved (6-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Ahi, Mensinger, Roche, Beninato, Disney, and Steinle,

NOES: None

ABSENT: Doran

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mensinger adjourned the meeting at 9:45 PM.

Stephanie Williams
Deputy Director