

From: [Pat Marriott](#)
To: [Public Comment - PC](#); [Public Comment - HC](#)
Cc: [City Council](#)
Subject: 3rd PUBLIC COMMENT Planning/Historic Commission meeting ITEM #3 FEBRUARY 6, 2025
Date: Sunday, February 2, 2025 5:23:38 PM

Commissioners:

I know design approvals are now at the administrative or planning commission level. Council no longer has design review function. I think that change was made to satisfy the HCD and get approval for the Housing Element Update.

However, it doesn't make sense to apply that process to public projects on public land, which is vastly different from a developer seeking approval for a private development on private property.

This means the planning commission would be able to approve a new police station or anything else on civic center property.

At the November 28, 2023 council meeting, Councilmembers Fligor and Lee Eng raised concerns the patio project would not come back to Council for review. Both dissented from the vote to carry the project forward. Councilmember Fligor was in favor of the plans but thought the area size could be more limited to preserve tree space while allowing for adequate library meeting space. What would she say about the enlarged area of 8,265 sf? Unfortunately, we won't have a chance to hear from her, since Council won't have a vote on the new plan, which is hugely different from what they saw in 2023.

Cutting Council out of the loop is wrong. This patio proposal deserves more time, more community engagement and definitely another review from Council.

I strongly urge Council to make an exception to administrative/commission design approvals when public lands and/or public projects are at stake. This patio project is the place to start. It takes a big chunk of the civic center (not even considering the historic orchard) and sets a dangerous precedent for anyone else who wants a piece of MY property.

Thanks for listening,

Pat Marriott