



PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

7:00 PM - Thursday, October 19, 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 7:05 p.m. Chair Mensinger called the meeting to order.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

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

ABSENT: Chair Mensinger

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 September 7, 2023.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Steinle, seconded by Commissioner Disney, 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, Doran, Roche, Steinle, Beninato, and Disney

NOES: None

ABSENT: Mensinger

SPECIAL ITEM

2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Beninato, the Commission voted to elect Commissioner Steinle as the new Chair. There was no second to the motion and Chair Steinle accepted the vote.

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

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

NOES: None.
ABSENT: Mensinger

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Ahi the Commission voted to elect Commissioner Beninato as the new Vice-Chair.

The motion was approved (6-0) by the following vote:
AYES: Ahi, Beninato, Disney, Doran, Roche and Steinle
NOES: None
ABSENT: Mensinger

Chair Steinle took over the virtual gavel for the rest of the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

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

Consideration of Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments implementing programs identified in the adopted housing element, Program 1.A: Rezone for RHNA Shortfall; Program 1.B: Facilitate Higher Density Housing in the Commercial Thoroughfare (CT) District; Program 1.C: Allow Housing in the Office Administrative (OA) District; Program 1.E: Update the Loyola Corners Specific Plan; Program 1.F: Rezone Village Court Parcel; Program 1.G: Rezone Housing Sites from Previous Housing Elements; Program 3.I: Allow Residential Care Facilities Consistent with State law; Program 3.J: Explicitly Allow Manufactured Homes Consistent with State law; 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 Steinle opened the public comment period.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nels DeLander, Nancy Martin, Tom Ferry, Debbie Skelton, Peter Mills, Teresa Morris, and Ann Paulson provided public comment.

Chair Steinle closed the public comment period.

Commission discussion proceeded on this portion of the item.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Doran seconded by Commissioner Roche, the Commission recommended approval of a portion of agenda Item #3. Zone Text Amendments Implementing the 6th Cycle Housing Element: Program 1.A: Rezone for RHNA Shortfall; Program 1.B: Facilitate Higher Density Housing in the Commercial Thoroughfare (CT) District; Program 1.C: Allow Housing in the Office Administrative (OA) District; Program 1.G: Rezone Housing Sites from Previous Housing Elements; Program 3.I: Allow Residential Care Facilities Consistent with State law; Program 3.J: Explicitly Allow Manufactured Homes Consistent with State law; 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.

The motion was approved (5-1) by the following vote:

AYES: Ahi, Doran, Roche, and Steinle, Beninato

NOES: Disney

ABSENT: Mensinger

5 MINUTE BREAK

The meeting resumed.

Commission discussion proceeded on the remainder of Item #3.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Roche, seconded by Commissioner Doran, the Commission recommended approval of agenda item #3. Zone Text Amendments Implementing the 6th Cycle Housing Element: Program 1.E: Update the Loyola Corners Specific Plan. 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.

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

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: Mensinger

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Doran, seconded by Commissioner Roche, the Commission recommended approval of agenda item #3. Zone Text Amendments Implementing the 6th Cycle Housing Element: 1.F: Rezone Village Court Parcel. 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.

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

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: Mensinger

DISCUSSION

4. Commissioner Handbook Overview

Presentation from Deputy Director Williams.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Steinle adjourned the meeting at 10:13 PM.