

ACTION MINUTES GENERAL PLAN UPDATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 15, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. Renaissance Plaza; Fair Oaks Community Room 649 N. Fair Oaks Avenue, Second Floor #203

www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 p.m.

I. Roll Call

Present: Berlinda Brown, Emily Stork, Edwina Travis-Chin, Julianna Delgado, Michelle White, Louisa Nelson, Marsha Rood, Steve Marcussen, Jill Fosselman, Marilyn Dee Buchanan (left at, Noel Toro, David Azcaraga (12)

Absent: Dante Hall, Richard Janisch, Michael Hurley, Gordon Hamilton, Paul Little, Carolyn Naber, Peter Knell, John Pappalardo (8)

Staff: Scott Reimers, Vicrim Chima, Mark Yamarone, Jenny Cristales

II. Public Comment

Ruth Christensen commented on the congestion and traffic impacts of development on South Marengo Avenue south of Del Mar Avenue.

III. Action Item

General Plan Land Use and Mobility Element Update

The Committee nominated Julianna Delgado to act as chair for the meeting. Noel Toro moved that the General Plan presentation be made before the Northwest Commission. Woodie Tescher commented on the general plan process. The Committee's task was to authorize that the substance of the policies and the development levels be the subject for environmental review in the CEQA document. Legally, no approval can be granted until the environmental review is completed. There is a substantial time for additional comment on impacts. This motion became a recommendation and the Committee agreed with it unanimously.

Staff provided a presentation of the contents of the General Plan Update.

Public Comment:

- John Hut, a property owner, recommended a change from Low Density Mixed Use to Medium Density Mixed Use surrounding the Neighborhood Village at North Fair Oaks and Orange Grove. He recommended extending the Medium Density Mixed Use designation two blocks east along Orange Grove to Marengo Avenue.
- Bob Oltman, resident and property owner, spoke on the topic of Transit-Oriented Development; specifically a parking restriction or cap. He referred to a lowering of the parking ratio from 3 to 2.25 for some commercial development. He encouraged a study of all the TOD areas as part of the EIR process.
- Greg Gunther stated support for the development levels presented by staff as a bare minimum. He encouraged even greater capacity in the development levels.
- Jonathon Edewards shared his views on traffic concerns and the aesthetic impacts of new construction. He promoted the creation of a walkable urban environment with compact densities. Further, he stated specific plans should promote form-based codes, implement major and minor public infrastructure, and then connect these improvements to single-family neighborhoods with transit options.
- John Pipia suggested a relaxation of parking limits at TOD's and that the TOD issue of reduced parking requirements be kept at the forefront of the general plan discussion.
- Dr. Benson voiced his support of the Northwest Commission reviewing the plan. He believed that this action would augment African American input in the process.
- Jill Shook supported the plans strong emphasis on the implementation of mixed-use development; flexibility within the development caps; and support of affordable housing. Ms. Shook spoke about the letter submitted by Greater Pasadena Affordable Housing Group, which included recommended changes to the guiding principles.
- Erlinda Romo spoke for the need to keep development levels flexible. She stated that the amount of development in the pipeline was significant, and would already consume much of the additional development capacity that has been defined in the plan.
- Steve Mulheim supported development levels as opposed to caps. He supported development levels as a starting point, and would certainly support higher levels of development.

The public comment was closed by acting chair Delgado.

Committee Action:

A. The New Policy Topic Areas

Motion: Approve staff's recommendation regarding the New Policy Topics Areas (Attachment A.1) with the following changes:

- 1. Include a policy supportive of the use of a form based zoning code to achieve contextual design. This policy would be the basis for an implementation measure,
- 2. Include sets of policies for each of the City's transit villages and neighborhood villages that would set a urban form and parking standards that reflect the unique aspects of each village,
- 3. Include policies supportive of the acquisition and conversion of open spaces, and
- 4. Include a policy supporting the need for a jobs-housing balance.

AND the following comments:

- 1. When the term sustainability is used, it should be inclusive of the environment, economics, and social equity,
- 2. The policies in the Land Use and Mobility Elements are not limited to the topics proposed in the attachment, and
- 3. Changes made to housing policies in the Land Use Element, should not preclude further discussion on additional housing policy improvements when the Housing Element is updated.

Moved: Recommendation and comments crafted collectively by the Committee and the motion was presented by Chair Delgado.

Seconded: Noel Toro

Yes: Berlinda Brown, Emily Stork, Marilyn Dee Buchanan, Edwina Travis-Chin, Julianna Delgado, Michelle White, Louisa Nelson, Marsha Rood, Steve Marcussen, Jill Fosselman, Noel Toro, David Azcaraga

No: None

Abstain: None

(Marilyn Dee Buchanan left the meeting)

B. The Mobility Supporting Initiatives Goals and Objectives

Motion: Approve staff's recommendation regarding the Mobility Supporting Initiatives Goals and Objectives (Attachment A.2) with the following changes:

- 1. Include a policy supporting inter-agency design review of Cal-Trans and MTA projects at transit stations;
- 2. Include policies that respond to the impacts of parking minimums or maximums in transitoriented districts;
- 3. Include policies that foster transit linkages between neighborhood villages and transit villages;
- 4. Include policies to improve the frequency, range, and level of service for ARTS buses; and
- 5. Include policies stating that Pasadena will meet or exceed Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards and be a leader in this sustainable practice.

Moved: Recommendation and comments crafted collectively by the Committee and the motion was presented by Chair Delgado.

Seconded: Michelle White

Yes: Berlinda Brown, Emily Stork, Edwina Travis-Chin, Julianna Delgado, Michelle White, Louisa Nelson, Marsha Rood, Steve Marcussen, Jill Fosselman, Noel Toro, David Azcaraga

No: None

Abstain: None

C. <u>Updated Mobility Element Objectives</u>

Motion: Approve staff's recommendation regarding the Updated Mobility Element Objectives (Attachment A.3) with the following change:

1. Modify the Revised Mobility Objective to read, "Guidelines for greater equity, community health, and safety" instead of "Guidelines for greater community health and safety."

Moved: Recommendation and comments crafted collectively by the Committee and the motion was presented by Chair Delgado.

Seconded: Steve Marcussen

Yes: Berlinda Brown, Emily Stork, Edwina Travis-Chin, Julianna Delgado, Michelle White, Louisa Nelson, Marsha Rood, Steve Marcussen, Jill Fosselman, Noel Toro, David Azcaraga

No: None

Abstain: None

D. <u>Updated Land Use Element Outline</u>

Motion: Approve staff's recommendation regarding the Land Use Element Policy Outline (Attachment A.4) with the following changes:

- 1. Include each aspect of sustainability the environment, the economy, and social equity within the outline and
- 2. Include educational policies in the global policy list.

AND the following direction and understanding:

- 1. Provide users of the document a way of seeing the relationship of each policy with an associated Guiding Principle (for example, through a matrix or through some interactive web-based feature) and
- 2. The Committee's motion reflects solely its satisfaction with the format of the Land Use Element Policy Outline and not its content, which the Committee has not reviewed.

Moved: Recommendation and comments crafted collectively by the Committee and the motion was presented by Chair Delgado.

Seconded: Emily Stork

Yes: Berlinda Brown, Emily Stork, Edwina Travis-Chin, Julianna Delgado, Michelle White, Louisa Nelson, Marsha Rood, Steve Marcussen, Jill Fosselman, Noel Toro, David Azcaraga

No: None

Abstain: None

E. Changes to the Guiding Principles

Motion: Approve staff's recommendation regarding the changes to the guiding principles (Attachment A.5) with the following changes:

- 1. The second guiding principle will read, "Pasadena's historic resources will be preserved, and new development will be in harmony with and enhance Pasadena's historic character and environment."
- 2. The fourth guiding principle will read, "Pasadena will be a sustainable community socially equitable, economically prosperous, and environmentally protected. Safe, well-designed, accessible and human-scale residential and commercial areas will be provided where people of all ages can live, work, and play including neighborhood parks, urban and natural open spaces and the equitable distribution of public and private recreation facilities. Human services will be coordinated and made accessible to those who need them. New public open space will be acquired."
- 3. Remove the word "promoted" from Guiding Principle #5.
- 4. The eighth guiding principle will match the Planning Commission's recommendation of, "Pasadena supports public education and is committed to community planning that furthers a diverse educational system responsive to the broad needs of our community."
- 5. Move the seventh guiding principle (Community Participation) to the top of the list, making it the first Guiding Principle.

Moved: Recommendation and comments crafted collectively by the Committee and the motion was presented by Chair Delgado

Seconded: Edwina Travis-Chin

Yes: Berlinda Brown, Emily Stork, Edwina Travis-Chin, Julianna Delgado, Michelle White, Louisa Nelson, Marsh Rood, Steve Marcussen, Jill Fosselman, Noel Toro, David Azcaraga

No: None

Abstain: None

IV. ADJOURNMENT – The remaining topic areas will be discussed at a December 6 meeting of the General Plan Update Advisory Committee.

Victim Chima

Recording Secretary