



MINUTES
PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING – 4:30 P.M.
Wednesday, September 9, 2020
Virtual Meeting

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
Present: Commissioners Coher, Coppess, Lyon, Miller, Nanney, Wendler, Vice-Chair Olivas, and Chair Williams
Excused Absent: Commissioner Barar
Staff: David Reyes, Jennifer Paige, David Sanchez, Martin Potter, Lesley Cheung, Laura Cornejo, Conrad Viana
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. **August 12, 2020** - Commissioner Coppess moved approval of the August 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Wendler. Minutes approved 8-0.
3. **NEW ITEM**
 - A. **Update to CEQA Transportation Performance Thresholds of Significance**
Discussion and recommendation regarding potential changes to the City's

Public Comment:
 - Ken Perry
 - Kristin Harrison
 - Erika Foy
Motion:
Chair Williams moved that the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council that at this point in time there is need for more information and a bigger picture analysis of the bike network transit access and actual usage; an evaluation of other methodology options from comparable cities; the impact on development of increasing the threshold to from 15% below the baseline to 20% below the baseline; review of mitigations and the ability for those mitigations to reduce neighborhood impacts; and how Level of Service analysis interacts with the environmental analysis. Seconded by Commissioner Lyon. Motion approved 8-0.
4. **PUBLIC HEARING**
 - A. **Zoning Code Amendment: Single-Family Residential Development Standards:**
The proposed project consists of Zoning Code amendments responding to community concerns regarding single-family residential development perceived to be out of scale or character with existing neighborhoods. The amendments would revise existing development standards related to single-family dwellings within the RS-1, RS-2, RS-4, and RS-6 zones. It is recommended that the Planning Commission recommend that the City Council:
 - 1) Find that the proposed Zoning Code Amendment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15305 (Class 5, Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations) and Section 15308 (Class 8, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment);

- 2) Approve the Findings for the Zoning Code Amendment; and
- 3) Approve the proposed Zoning Code Amendment to the RS-1, RS-2, RS-4, and RS-6 single-family residential zones

Public Comment:

- Julianna Delgado
- Mary Fitzpatrick
- Michael Gottlieb
- Mic Hansen
- Kristin Harrison
- Nina Chomsky

Motion:

Chair Williams moved that the Planning Commission support the staff recommendation and apply the 35% discretionary review threshold to landmark districts with Historic Preservation Commission review, add story poles, enforcement methods, better notification and descriptions to the neighbors, provide renderings of proposed projects, and bring back proposed design guidelines to address architectural compatibility. Seconded by Commissioner Lyon. Motion approved 8-0.

B. Proposed Amendment to the Historic Preservation Ordinance

It is recommended that the Planning Commission continue this item to the September 23, 2020 Planning Commission meeting.

5. REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT (RHNA) DISCUSSION

Update of the City's RHNA and possible recommendation to the City Council regarding potential appeal of the City's allocated dwelling units.

Public Comment:

- Kristin Harrison
- Andrew Salimian – Pasadena Heritage
- Joe Valenzuela

Motion:

Commissioner Coppess moved that the Planning Commission urge the city of Pasadena to take appropriate steps to object to and file appeal to the allocation of RHNA numbers; to take all action to prevent increases in those numbers; and, if there is a method to do it, to object to the state allocation of 1.3 million allocated to SCAG. We will also continue our active support of affordable housing and continue our efforts that we have been very proactively following for the past 20 years. Seconded by Commissioner Nanney. Motion approved 7-1.

6. COMMENTS AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- **Design Commission** – N/A
- **Board of Zoning Appeals** – N/A

7. COMMENTS AND REPORTS FROM COMMISSION

- None

8. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:00 p.m.

David Sanchez, Principal Planner

Tess Varsh, Recording Secretary