

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2019
333 W. OCEAN BOULEVARD
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 5:00 PM**

Richard Lewis, Chair
Mark Christoffels, Vice Chair
Erick Verduzco-Vega, Commissioner



Ron Cruz, Commissioner
Josh LaFarga, Commissioner
Andy Perez, Commissioner
Jane Templin, Commissioner

FINAL AGENDA AND MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Also present: Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager; Alexis Oropeza, Current Planning Officer; Amy Webber, Deputy City Attorney; Patricia Diefenderfer, Advance Planning Officer; Jennifer Ly, Planner; Alejandro Plascencia, Planner; Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, Planner; Alison Spindler, Planner; Pluchette Slusher, Clerk Typist; Dionne Bearden, Planning Bureau Secretary.

Commissioners Mark Christoffels, Ron Cruz, Josh LaFarga, Andy Perez, Jane
Present: Templin, Richard Lewis and Erick Verduzco-Vega

FLAG SALUTE

Vice Chair Christoffels lead the flag salute.

MINUTES

[19-034PL](#)

Recommendation to receive and file the Planning Commission minutes of May 2, 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Templin, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mark Christoffels, Josh LaFarga, Andy Perez, Jane Templin, Richard Lewis and Erick Verduzco-Vega

Absent: 1 - Ron Cruz

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, presented the Director's Report.

SWEARING OF WITNESSES

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the evidence you shall give in this Planning Commission Meeting shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. [19-035PL](#) Recommendation to accept Categorical Exemption CE19-061 and approve a Conditional Use Permit (CUP19-008) for adult-use cannabis distribution, in conjunction with manufacturing and cultivation, within an existing 10,780 square-foot building located at 3850 E. Gilman St. in the Business Center (PD-7) District. (District 5)

Jennifer Ly, Planner, presented the staff report.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Jennifer Ly, Planner, spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Templin, seconded by Commissioner Verduzco-Vega, to approve recommendation.
The motion carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 7 - Mark Christoffels, Ron Cruz, Josh LaFarga, Andy Perez, Jane Templin, Richard Lewis and Erick Verduzco-Vega

2. [19-036PL](#) Deny the appeal (APL 19-003) and uphold the decision of the Cultural Heritage Commission to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the construction of a first-story and second-story addition to an existing

single-story residence located at 635 Loma Avenue in the Belmont Heights Historic District (District 3) Or;
Grant the appeal (APL19-003), overturn the decision of the Cultural Heritage Commission and uphold the original staff recommendation to deny the Certificate of Appropriateness requesting to construct a first-story and second-story addition to an existing single-story residence located at 635 Loma Avenue in the Belmont Heights Historic District. (District 3)

Alexis Oropeza, Current Planning Officer, introduced Alejandro Plascencia, Planner, who provided the staff report.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Peter Devereaux provided public comment.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Dianne Sundstrom, Belmont Heights Historic District, spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Nigel Brownnett, applicant spoke.

Jeff Jeannette, architect, spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Jeff Jeannette, architect, spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Alejandro Plascencia, Planner, spoke.

Sarah Locke, LB Heritage, provided public comment.

Karen Highberger provided public comment.

Bette McKinney provided public comment.

Kathleen Brady provided public comment.

Elizabeth Lamb provided public comment.

Lynne L. provided public comment.

Lee Fukui provided public comment.

Vice Chair Christoffels spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Vice Chair Christoffels spoke.

Alejandro Plascencia, Planner, spoke.

Vice Chair Christoffels spoke.

Commissioner Cruz spoke.

Alejandro Plascencia, Planner, spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Commissioner Cruz and Alejandro Plascencia, Planner.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Commissioner Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Amy Webber, Deputy City Attorney, spoke.

Commissioner Templin spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Commissioner Templin spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Commissioner Templin and Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Commissioner LaFarga spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Commissioner LaFarga spoke.

Commissioner Cruz spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaFarga, seconded by Commissioner Perez, to approve recommendation to deny the appeal. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Josh LaFarga, Andy Perez, Jane Templin and Richard Lewis

No: 3 - Mark Christoffels, Ron Cruz and Erick Verduzco-Vega

STUDY SESSION

3. [19-037PL](#) Conduct a study session regarding the Uptown Planning Land Use and Neighborhood Strategy (UPLAN).

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, introduced Alison Spindler, Planner, who presented the study session.

Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, Planner, spoke.

Commissioner Templin spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, Planner, spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, Planner, spoke.

Vice Chair Christoffels spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Vice Chair Christoffels and Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager.

Nicholle Wright, consultant, spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Chair Lewis and Nicholle Wright, consultant.

Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, Planner, spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Alejandro Sanchez-Lopez, Planner, spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

Commissioner Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Christopher Koontz, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Chair Lewis spoke.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Members of the public are invited to address the Planning Commission on items of interest to the public within the Commission's jurisdiction. Each speaker will be limited to three minutes unless that time is extended by the Chair.

No public comments.

COMMENTS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION

No comments from the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:57 p.m., Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting.

NEXT MEETING: June 6, 2019 - 5:00 p.m. - SPECIAL MEETING LOCATION: RECREATION
PARK SOCIAL HALL, 4900 E. 7TH STREET, LONG BEACH, CA , 90804

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NOTE:

If written language translation of the Commission agenda and minutes for non-English speaking persons is desired, please make your request by phone to the Office of the City Clerk at (562) 570-6101, 72 business hours prior to the Commission meeting.

Kung nais ang pagsasalin ng nakasulat na wika ng agenda ng Komisyon at ang minutes para sa mga taong hindi nagsasalita ng Ingles, mangyaring isagawa ang iyong hiling sa pamamagitan ng telepono sa Opisina ng Clerk ng Lungsod sa (562) 570-6101, 72 oras ng negosyo bago ang pagpupulong ng Commission.

Si desea obtener la traducción escrita en otro idioma de la agenda y actas de la comisión para personas que no hablan inglés, haga su solicitud por teléfono a la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal al (562) 570-6101, 72 horas hábiles antes de la reunión de la comisión.

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