



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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Long Beach, CA 90802

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December 1, 2011

CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Adopt a Resolution with Findings of Fact, a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program certifying a Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR);
2. Recommend that the City Council approve a General Plan Amendment to designate all property within the Downtown Plan project area to Land Use Designation (LUD) #7, Mixed Uses; and;
3. Recommend that the City Council adopt the Downtown Plan as presented. (Districts 1, 2, and 6)

APPLICANT: City of Long Beach
c/o Amy J. Bodek, Director of Development Services
333 W. Ocean Blvd, 4th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802
(Downtown Plan)

DISCUSSION

This item was continued from the November 10, 2011 Planning Commission meeting because the Final Program Environmental Impact Report for the Downtown Plan (FPEIR) was missing an attachment, which precluded the Commission from taking any action. At that meeting, the Planning Commission took public testimony, closed the public hearing, and continued the item to December 1, 2011, for its deliberations.

The Final Program EIR has been revised to include the David Rosen Associates (DRA) study, beginning on page RTC-196 (Exhibit A). In addition, the FPEIR has been revised to correct non-substantive cross-references and other similar typographic errors. The additional of the DRA study and the correction of non-substantive references does not constitute new information and, therefore, does not require additional circulation of the Response to Comments.

The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) matrix has also been updated to include an additional mitigation measure that was originally responded to in the Response to Comments and included in the Errata. This mitigation measure was requested by the

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Long Beach Unified School District related to shade and shadow. The addition of this mitigation measure to the MMRP does not constitute new information and does not require additional circulation of the Response to Comments. The mitigation measure can be found on page MMRP-3 as AES-3. The complete FPEIR document has now been provided for the Planning Commission's review and consideration.

An updated Resolution certifying the Final Program EIR and adopting the Findings of Fact, Statement of Overriding Considerations and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program are attached (Exhibit B).

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

As required by the Long Beach Municipal Code, a public hearing notice was published in the Long Beach Press-Telegram on November 17, 2011, and posted in three prominent public locations within the Downtown area.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends the Planning Commission take the following actions:

1. Adopt a Resolution with Findings of Fact, a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program certifying a Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR);
2. Recommend that the City Council approve a General Plan Amendment to designate all property within the Downtown Plan project area to Land Use Designation (LUD) #7, Mixed Uses; and;
3. Recommend that the City Council adopt the Downtown Plan as presented.

Respectfully submitted,



DEREK BURNHAM
PLANNING ADMINISTRATOR



AMY J. BODEK, AICP
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

AJB:DB:sg
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Attachments: Exhibit A –Final Environmental Impact Report Response to Comments Document (EIR 04-08, SCH#2009071006), Revised November 18, 2011
Exhibit B – Resolution and Findings, Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
Exhibit C – Planning Commission Staff Report, November 10, 2011