

Becky Blair, Chair
Alan Fox, Vice Chair



Charles Durnin, Commissioner
Leslie Gentile, Commissioner
Phil Saumur, Commissioner
Melani Smith, Commissioner
Donita Van Horik, Commissioner

FINISHED AGENDA AND MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER (5:02 PM)

[see media](#)

At 5:02 p.m., Chair Blair called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL (5:02 PM)

[see media](#)

Boardmembers Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Phillip Joseph Saumur, Melani

Present: Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

Boardmembers Leslie Fernald Gentile

Absent:

Also present: Amy J. Bodek, Director of Development Services; Derek Burnham, Planning Administrator; Jill Griffiths, Planning Officer; Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney; Ira Brown, Planner; Steve Gerhardt, Planner; Heidi Eidson, Bureau Secretary.

FLAG SALUTE (5:03 PM)

[see media](#)

Commissioner Van Horik led the flag salute.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (5:03 PM)

[see media](#)

There was no Director's Report given.

SWEARING OF WITNESSES (5:04 PM)

[see media](#)

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 (5:05 PM)

[see media](#)

[see media](#)

1. [11-076PL](#) Recommendation to find the proposed vacation of the east half of the east-west alley in the block south of 7th Street and west of Quincy Avenue in conformance with the adopted goals and policies of the City's General Plan. (District 3) (Application No. 120111)

Derek Burnham, Planning Administrator, introduced Ira Brown, Project Planner, who presented the staff report.

Michael Dillon, applicant, spoke.

Diane Copeland, owner, spoke.

Jon Duston provided public comment.

Michael Dillon and Diane Copeland responded to a query from Commissioner Saumur.

Ira Brown and Derek Burnham responded to a query from Commissioner Smith.

A motion was made by Commissioner Van Horik, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to approve the recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Phillip Joseph Saumur, Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Melani Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

Absent: 1 - Leslie Fernald Gentile

[see media](#)

2. [11-066PL](#) Recommendation to:
 - 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;
 - 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)

Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services, introduced the item.

Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney, spoke.

Amy Bodek spoke.

Michael Mais responded to queries from Chair Blair.

Michael Mais spoke.

Michael Mais responded to a query from Commissioner Fox.

Commissioner Fox spoke.

Michael Mais responded to a query from Commissioner Fox.

A dialogue ensued between Commissioner Fox and Derek Burnham, Planning Administrator.

Michael Mais responded to a query from Commissioner Fox.

Michael Mais responded to queries from Commissioner Saumur.

Steve Gerhardt, Project Planner, spoke.

Commissioner Smith spoke.

Commissioner Durnin spoke.

Commissioner Van Horik spoke.

Commissioner Saumur spoke.

Michael Mais responded to a query from Chair Blair.

Michael Mais responded to a query from Commissioner Van Horik.

[see media](#)

2. [11-067PL](#)

Recommendation to 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. (Districts 1, 2, and 6) (1)

Commissioner Smith spoke.

Commissioner Fox spoke.

Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services, responded to a query from Commissioner Fox.

Commissioner Smith spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Van Horik, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to approve the recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Phillip Joseph Saumur, Charles Durnin, Melani Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

No: 1 - Alan L. Fox

Absent: 1 - Leslie Fernald Gentile

[see media](#)

2. [11-068PL](#)

Recommendation to 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. (Districts 1, 2, and 6) (2)

A dialogue ensued between Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney, and Chair Blair.

Chair Blair spoke.

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

Yes: 6 - Phillip Joseph Saumur, Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Melani Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

Absent: 1 - Leslie Fernald Gentile

[see media](#)

2. [11-069PL](#)

Recommendation to recommend that the City Council adopt the Downtown Plan as presented. (Districts 1, 2, and 6) (3)

A motion was made by Commissioner Van Horik, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to approve the recommendation with an amendment that the City Council consider inclusionary housing and other aspects of economic benefits to residents on a citywide basis.

Chair Durnin spoke.

A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Durnin, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to approve the recommendation as presented by staff.

Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services, and Derek Burnham, Planning Administrator, responded to a query from Commissioner Smith.

Derek Burnham responded to comments from Commissioner Smith.

Commissioner Smith spoke.

Commissioner Saumur spoke.

Amy Bodek responded to a comment made by Commissioner Saumur.

Commissioner Fox spoke.

Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney, responded to a query from Susanne Brown of Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.

Chair Blair spoke.

An additional recommendation to be presented to the City Council with the Downtown Plan was discussed as follows:

Amy Bodek spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Van Horik, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to recommend City Council consider funding a citywide inclusionary housing study.

Commissioner Smith spoke.

Michael Mais spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Commissioner Smith and Michael Mais.

Commissioner Van Horik accepted a friendly amendment to her motion by Commissioner Smith to recommend City Council consider funding a citywide community benefits study to include inclusionary housing, commercial linkage fees and local hiring practices. Commissioner Saumur seconded the motion.

Susanne Browne, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, provided public comment.

Gary Shelton provided public comment.

Zahirah Mann, Legal Aid foundation of Los Angeles, provided public comment.

Amy Bodek responded to a query from Chair Blair.

Allison Bost provided public comment.

Estelle Delvaya provided public comment.

Francis Emily Dawson Harris provided public comment.

Chair Blair spoke.

Cindy Soto provided public comment.

America Aceves, Housing Long Beach, provided public comment.

Chair Blair swore in late arriving members of the public wishing to speak.

Larry Goodhue provided public comment.

Tom Crow, representing St. Luke's Episcopal Church and CSULB School of Social Work, provided public comment.

Michael Mais spoke.

Adrian Martinez, Natural Resource Defense Council, provided public comment.

Don Darnauer, representing the Downtown Residential Council, provided public comment.

Commissioner Van Horik spoke.

Commissioner Fox spoke.

Michael Mais responded to a query from Chair Blair.

Susanne Browne, Zahirah Mann and Adrian Martinez responded to a query from Commissioner Fox.

Amy Bodek responded to queries from Commissioner Durnin.

Commissioner Smith spoke.

Commissioner Fox spoke.

Chair Blair spoke.

The motion to recommend City Council consider funding a citywide community benefits study to include inclusionary housing, commercial linkage fees and local hiring practices passed by a vote of 4 to 2 with Commissioners Fox, Van Horik, Smith and Saumur voting for and Commissioners Blair and Durnin voting against.

A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Durnin, seconded by Commissioner Saumur, to approve the recommendation as presented by staff. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Phillip Joseph Saumur, Alan L. Fox, Charles Durnin, Melani Smith, Donita Van Horik and Becky Blair

Absent: 1 - Leslie Fernald Gentile

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (7:05 PM)

Susanne Browne, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, provided public comment.

Bob Ladd, ASLA, provided public comment.

Larry Goodhue provided public comment.

Larry Goodhue responded to a query from Commissioner Durnin.

Amy Bodek responded to comments from Larry Goodhue.

Larry Goodhue responded to a query from Commissioner Durnin.

Francis Emily Dawson Harris provided public comment.

COMMENTS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION (7:18 PM)

[see media](#)

Chair Blair spoke.

ADJOURNMENT (7:18 PM)

At 7:18 p.m., Chair Blair adjourned the meeting.

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