

January 5, 2023

CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Reopen the public hearing for Site Plan Review (SPR22-119) and reaffirm findings and decision from the December 15, 2022 Planning Commission hearing approving the renovation of the Long Beach Police Academy consisting of interior and exterior improvements to existing buildings, replacement of existing trailers, and site improvements, including accessibility upgrades, at the existing Long Beach Police Academy at 7290 Carson Boulevard in the Park (P) Zoning District. (District 4)

APPLICANT: City of Long Beach Department of Public Works
c/o Tony Resendez
411 West Ocean Blvd, 5th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802
(Application No. 2210-36)

DISCUSSION

BACKGROUND

On December 15, 2022, the Planning Commission conditionally approved the renovation of the Long Beach Police Academy consisting of interior and exterior improvements to existing buildings, replacement of existing trailers, and site improvements, including accessibility upgrades, at the existing Long Beach Police Academy at 7290 Carson Boulevard in the Park Zoning District (Attachment A – PC Staff Report and Attachments). The proposed project would be entirely within the fenced footprint of the Police Department training facility that pre-dates the existence of El Dorado Park–East (Area III). This use serves a distinct public safety purpose as this is the location of the City of Long Beach’s only training academy for future police officers.

The meeting was held virtually pursuant to Assembly Bill 361. While all public notices referenced the appropriate website to join the virtual meeting via web or participate



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telephonically, the published agenda included a second link to watch the live video feed. However, the video feed was not available as a live broadcast from that second link.

During the meeting, verbal public comments were received by one (1) individual (Attachment B – Planning Commission Minutes – December 15, 2022). The comments verbally raised by the commenter included concerns related to the noise generated by the existing Police Academy Pistol Range, lighting and construction in the vicinity of nesting trees, and the use of solar on the remodeled academy buildings (Attachment C – Planning Commission Video – December 15, 2022).

The Planning Commission conditionally approved (6-0) the Site Plan Review request. After the hearing, staff became aware that the link to the live video feed on the agenda was incorrect.

The Development Services Department's Planning Bureau and the City Attorney's Office are requesting that the Planning Commission reopen the public hearing from the December 15, 2022 to consider any additional public comments, conclude the public hearing, and deliberate on the project in light of any new or additional information received, which may not have been previously transmitted to and/or considered by the Planning Commission.

The role of the Planning Commission is to formalize a determination that the scope of work outlined above conforms to the required findings.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings presented at the December 15, 2022 hearing, staff recommends that the Planning Commission take action to affirm the approval of the project with conditions (Attachment D – Findings and Attachment E – Conditions of Approval).

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A total of 849 notices of public hearing were mailed to a 1,000-foot radius on December 22, 2022, in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 21.21 of the Long Beach Municipal Code. No additional public comments in response to these notices were received at the time the report was prepared.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed entitlement is a design review entitlement. In accordance with the published decision by the California First District Court of Appeal, *McCorkle Eastside Neighborhood Group v. City of St. Helena*, 2018., California Environmental Quality Act review is not required for a development that is subject only to a design/site plan review

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process. In assessing the replacement of the existing buildings, staff considered technical reports related to 1) traffic; 2) air quality, 3) greenhouse gases; 4) biological resources; 5) site reconnaissance (Refer to Attachment A). Findings for site compatibility considered potential environmental effects of the project and conditions of approval were recommended to ensure no adverse effects on the surrounding areas.

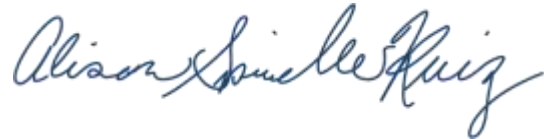
Respectfully submitted,



MARYANNE CRONIN
PROJECT PLANNER



ALEXIS OROPEZA
CURRENT PLANNING OFFICER



ALISON SPINDLER-RUIZ, AICP
PLANNING MANAGER



CHRISTOPHER KOONTZ, AICP
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

CK:ASR:AO:mc

Attachments: Attachment A – PC Staff Report 12/5/22 and Attachments
Attachment B – Planning Commission Minutes – December 15, 2022
Attachment C – Planning Commission Video – December 15, 2022
Attachment D – Findings
Attachment E – Conditions of Approval