

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2017
333 W. OCEAN BOULEVARD
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 5:00 PM**

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



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

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

FINISHED AGENDA AND DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

At 5:03 p.m., Chair Verduzco-Vega called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Mark Christoffels, Josh LaFarga, Andy Perez, Jane Templin,

Present: Richard Lewis and Erick Verduzco-Vega

Commissioners Ron Cruz

Absent:

Also present: Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services; Linda Tatum, Planning Bureau Manager; Carrie Tai, Current Planning Officer; Christopher Koontz, Advance Planning Officer; Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney; Fern Nueno, Planner; Alison Spindler, Planner; Heidi Eidson, Bureau Secretary.

FLAG SALUTE

Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services, led the flag salute.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There was no Director's Report given.

John Fort, Fire Department, spoke.

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

17-092PL Recommendation to recommend that the City Council confirm the proposed Land Use Element and Urban Design Element Place Type and Heights Maps and direct staff to update the Program Environmental Impact Report. (Citywide) (Application No. 1701-01)

Carrie Tai, Current Planning Officer, introduced Alison Spindler, Planner, who discussed the public outreach process.

Christopher Koontz, Advance Planning Officer, discussed the Land Use Element.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Sharene Senigel, President of VIP Records, provided public comment.

Bruce DeMille, President of Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association, provided public comment.

Steve Stanley, Governmental Relations Committee - Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association, provided public comment.

Ramen Vassith provided public comment.

Dr. Pellegrini provided public comment.

Karen Racide provided public comment.

Annie Greenfeld, representing Magnolia Industrial Group, provided public comment.

Belinda Watson provided public comment.

Louise Ivers provided public comment.

Dr. Linda Scholl provided public comment.

Roberta Bonafacio provided public comment.

Gerard Wright, Policy Manager of LA County Business Federation, provided public comment.

Anne Profit provided public comment.

Lisa Harris provided public comment.

Benjamin Efraim, Parkview Village, provided public comment.

Ellen Cheney, Parkview Village, provided public comment.

Jim Ault provided public comment.

Abby Weeks provided public comment.

Adam Carillo, President of Long Beach Commercial Real Estate Council, provided public comment.

Dana Bergman provided public comment.

Megan Kerr provided public comment.

Andrew Kerr provided public comment.

Mike LaQuatra provided public comment.

Lynette Ferenczy provided public comment.

Candace Meade provided public comment.

Susanne Lundy provided public comment.

Alan Tolkoff provided public comment.

Paul Williams provided public comment.

Olivia Mather provided public comment.

Jason Hunter provided public comment.

Steve Brooks provided public comment.

Tom Stout provided public comment.

David Betterton provided public comment.

John Cante provided public comment.

Anne Thompson provided public comment.

Peggy Elesly provided public comment.

John Schultz provided public comment.

Chris Alcols provided public comment.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Diana Lejins provided public comment.

Joe Mello provided public comment.

Nick Rose, Assistant Director of Council of Neighborhood Organizations,
provided public comment.

Dr. Lydia Holly provided public comment.

Thomas Brown provided public comment.

Joan Greenwood provided public comment.

Yvonne Reece provided public comment.

Dan Reece provided public comment.

David O'Neil provided public comment.

Maria O'Neil provided public comment.

Anne Cantrell provided public comment.

Corliss Lee provided public comment.

Joe Sopo provided public comment.

Linda Sopo provided public comment.

Carrie Sharpe provided public comment.

Diana Ramirez provided public comment.

Rich Steins provided public comment.

Linda Del Mar provided public comment.

Elizabeth Moore provided public comment.

Dr. Michelle Stueber provided public comment.

Janet West provided public comment.

Larry Triesch provided public comment.

Helena Segelhorst provided public comment.

Cheryl Jacobs provided public comment.

Delora Hunt provided public comment.

Mariella Saldago provided public comment.

Melinda Cotton provided public comment.

Gordana Kajer provided public comment.

Bruce Balance provided public comment.

Rex Hurley provided public comment.

Art Burnette provided public comment.

Anna Christensen provided public comment.

Rick Ivey, Los Cerritos Neighborhood Association, provided public comment.

Andrea Rice provided public comment.

Dan Freelow provided public comment.

Susie Garrison provided public comment.

Frank Roderick provided public comment.

Mike Clemson provided public comment.

Jason provided public comment.

Russell Dilly provided public comment.

Mike Hazelwood provided public comment.

Marcos Lopez provided public comment.

John Applequist provided public comment.

Christine Applequist provided public comment.

Laura Greco, LB TAPS, provided public comment.

Lisa Venoni provided public comment.

Tom Lafortune provided public comment.

Genevieve Douglas-Beckham provided public comment.

Shirley Broussard provided public comment.

Larry Goodhue provided public comment.

Crystal West provided public comment.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Linda Tatum, Planning Bureau Manager, spoke.

Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney, spoke.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Michael Mais responded to a query from Vice Chair Lewis.

Christopher Koontz responded to queries from Vice Chair Lewis.

Commissioner LaFarga spoke.

Linda Tatum and Michael Mais responded to a query from Commissioner LaFarga.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Carrie Tai responded to queries from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Vice Chair Lewis and Christopher Koontz.

Commissioner Templin spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Commissioner Templin.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Amy Bodek, Director of Development Services, spoke.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Vice Chair Lewis and Christopher Koontz.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Commissioner Christoffels spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Commissioner Christoffels and Christopher Koontz.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Michael Mais responded to queries from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Commissioner Perez spoke.

Christopher Koontz spoke.

Commissioner Perez responded to a query from Christopher Koontz.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Commissioner Perez responded to a query from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Michael Mais spoke.

Chair Verduzco-Vega responded to a query from Michael Mais.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Vice Chair Lewis and Christopher Koontz.

Commissioner LaFarga spoke.

Commissioner LaFarga responded to a query from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to queries from Chair Verduzco-Vega and Commissioner LaFarga.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Commissioner Perez spoke.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Christopher Koontz spoke.

Commissioner LaFarga and Commissioner Perez responded to a query from Christopher Koontz.

Christopher Koontz spoke.

Commissioner LaFarga spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Commissioner LaFarga.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Vice Chair Lewis.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Commissioner LaFarga responded to a query from Vice Chair Lewis.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Vice Chair Lewis.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Commissioner LaFarga responded to a query from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Vice Chair Lewis.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Commissioner Templin spoke.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Christopher Koontz spoke.

Commissioner Templin spoke.

Commissioner Christoffels spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Commissioner Christoffels and Christopher Koontz.

Commissioner Perez spoke.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Commissioner Perez responded to a query from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Christopher Koontz spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to queries from Vice Chair Lewis.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Commissioner Perez spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Chair Verduzco-Vega and Christopher Koontz.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to queries from Vice Chair Lewis.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

A dialogue ensued between Chair Verduzco-Vega and Christopher Koontz.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to queries from Vice Chair Lewis.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Commissioner Christoffels spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Commissioner Christoffels.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Vice Chair Lewis.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a comment made by Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Christopher Koontz responded to a query from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Christopher Koontz spoke.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

A motion was made by Chair Verduzco-Vega, seconded by Vice Chair Lewis, to approve the recommendation with an amendment to include changes to Council Districts 2, 4, 5 and 6. For Council District 2 - reduce the height to a consistent three stories Low between Walnut and St. Louis along 7th Street. For Council District 4 - change the designation from Mixed Use to Community Commercial at the Sears site at Stearns and Bellflower, maintaining the three-story height; reduce the height at the Traffic Circle to four stories except for the existing buildings that currently exceed that height; designate as Community Commercial on properties immediately adjacent to the Traffic Circle; maintain Mixed Use designation on properties further away from the center of the Traffic Circle; and create policy language that requires there be no net loss in total retail space. For Council District 5 - eliminate the Mixed Use designation and create a designation of Community Commercial at two stories for the Lowes/K-Mart site at Bellflower and Spring. For Council District 6 - reduce height to four stories around the Midtown Specific Plan border, Pine Avenue, and Earl Avenue from Burnett Street to Willow; reduce height and PlaceType bound by Earl, Pacific Avenue (alley), 25th Street, and Midtown border to Founding and Contemporary Neighborhood; reduce height to four stories for the area east of the Midtown Specific Plan border including Pasadena Avenue and Linden Avenue from Nevada to south of the green space before Vernon Street; reduce height from four stories to three stories on Pacific Avenue from 25th Street to 28th Street; change PlaceType on Pacific Avenue from 25th Street to 28th Street to Neighborhood Serving Center or Corridor Low Density; and reduce the height along Pacific Avenue between 20th Street and 25th Street from four stories to three stories with a transition from 20th Street to 19th Street from five stories to four stories, and maintain the existing five stories just south of 19th Street at the intersection of Pacific Coast Highway. 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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Delora Hunt provided public comment.

Linda Tatum, Planning Bureau Manager, responded to a query from Delora Hunt.

Delora Hunt spoke.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Delora Hunt spoke.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

Crystal West provided public comment.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

COMMENTS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Michael Mais, Assistant City Attorney, responded to queries from Chair Verduzco-Vega.

Vice Chair Lewis spoke.

Chair Verduzco-Vega spoke.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:37 p.m., Chair Verduzco-Vega adjourned the meeting.

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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.

បើមានការចង់បានឲ្យមានការបកប្រែឯកសារស្តីពីរបៀបរៀបរៀង: នឹងកំណត់ហេតុឲ្យអ្នកដែលមិនចេះនិយាយអង់គ្លេស សូមមេត្តាធ្វើសំណើអ្នកតាមទូរស័ព្ទដោយហៅការិយាល័យស្មៀនក្រុងតាមរយៈលេខ (562) 570-6101 (72 ម៉ោងធ្វើការមុននឹងចាប់ផ្តើមបើកកិច្ចប្រជុំគណៈកម្មការធម្មនុញ្ញ)។