

**APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 13, 2001**

1 Time: The meeting was called to order at 7:15.

2 Location: North Berkeley Senior Center.

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4 Commissioners Present: Bronstein, Howerton, McCamant, Morris, Poschman, Tabb, Wengraf, Wrenn.

5
6 Commissioners Absent: Hicks.

7
8 Staff Present: Haney-Owens, Thomas, Cederborg.

9
10 **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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12 Noreen Smith opposed the addition of 6400 units to the General Plan Update. She also expressed concern
13 that this Planning Commission meeting was not publicized in the Berkeley Planet and asked that Berkeley
14 citizens be made aware of future meetings.

15
16 **ORDER OF AGENDA**

17
18 No change.

19
20 **CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS**

21
22 Staff Haney-Owens reported that the MULI item was remanded to the Planning Commission and will be
23 taken up at the Commission's September 12th meeting.

24
25 It was also reported that the City of Berkeley employee Eco-pass program was approved by the Council.

26
27 **FUTURE AGENDAS**

28
29 No report.

30
31 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

32
33 M/S/C to approve minutes from the May 23, 2001, meeting with noted changes (Poschman/Morris). Ayes:
34 Bronstein, Howerton, Poschman, Tabb, Wengraf, Wrenn. Noes: None. Abstentions: McCamant. Absent:
35 Hicks.

36
37 M/S/C to approve minutes from the May 30, 2001 meeting, with noted changes (Poschman/Tabb). Ayes:
38 Poschman, Tabb, Wengraf, Wrenn, Bronstein. Noes: None. Abstentions: Morris, McCamant, Howerton.
39 Absent: Hicks.

40
41 **PLANNING COMMISSION DRAFT GENERAL PLAN**

42
43 Staff Thomas reported that the Final EIR for the Draft General Plan will be published in the next few days
44 and that staff is hoping that the Commission can finish its deliberations on the Draft General Plan and Final
45 EIR on July 11th.

46
47 Staff Thomas discussed the importance of reviewing the General Plan policies related to UC before final
48 recommendations are made on the Plan.

49
50 Commissioner Wengraf brought up the concerns Ms. Smith voiced earlier in the meeting regarding how to
51 deal with items that are added to the General Plan without prior consultation with the public or the Planning
52 Commission.

53

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1 Staff Thomas replied that no substantive changes would be made to the Draft General Plan without
2 discussing them first with the Planning Commission.

3
4 Commissioner Wrenn asked that final changes be made to the Draft General Plan prior to the July 11th
5 Commission meeting.

6
7 **IMPLEMENTATION SECTION**

8
9 Commissioner Wengraf asked about the standard approach to the implementation section of a General Plan.

10
11 Staff Thomas explained that all general plans include some form of implementation plan, noting that some
12 cities provide more detail than others. The Draft General Plan proposes an annual review of the plan to
13 evaluate progress on implementation and to inform budget recommendations.

14
15 Commissioner Wengraf stated that revisiting the General Plan on an annual basis is much too burdensome
16 and that a Plan's implementation needs time in order to achieve desired results.

17
18 Staff Thomas suggested that the Plan could call for a bi-annual review to coincide with the Bi-annual
19 budget.

20
21 Commissioner Wengraf proposed that the General Plan be reviewed every two years to correspond to the
22 budget cycle.

23
24 Commissioner Wrenn stated that tracking implementation of General Plan policies at a general level rather
25 than prioritizing them should be the focus of the review, but in order for some sort of tracking to be
26 effective, it should not be too detailed.

27
28 Commissioner Bronstein added that the revision should coordinate with the budget and this process should
29 be started in early Fall before the July budget adoption.

30
31 Commissioner Poschman expressed hesitation regarding lengthening the timeline for the General Plan
32 review and maintained it should continue to be revisited every year.

33
34 Commissioner Tabb supported the biannual plan review.

35
36 M/S/C to change the General Plan review to every two years (Wengraf/McCamant). Ayes: Tabb, Wrenn,
37 Bronstein, Howerton, Morris, Wengraf, McCamant. Noes: Poschman. Abstentions: None. Absent:
38 Hicks.

39
40 Commissioner Morris suggested that an implementation matrix be made available every year and circulated
41 to each department as well as to the public.

42
43 **GENERAL COMMENTS**

44
45 Commissioner Wengraf suggested in LU-11, land use, "well maintained streets" be added. The
46 Commission agreed by consensus.

47 *Policy LU-II Pedestrian and Bicycle Friendly Neighborhoods*
48 *Ensure that neighborhoods are pedestrian and bicycle friendly with well maintained streets,*
49 *street trees, sidewalks and pathways.*

50
51
52 Commissioner Morris suggested the "Regulating Development" section be worded differently to capture
53 the policy direction in the Introduction Chapter.

54
55 Commissioner Bronstein suggested the language be changed from gerunds to action verbs.

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2 Commissioner McCamant asked to remove the last paragraph.
3
4 Commissioner Wengraf asked to change "Draft Plan" to "General Plan".
5
6 Commissioner Wengraf suggested amending the Arts Bonus Policy to limit it to housing projects. She
7 suggested that office buildings should not be eligible for a bonus in the downtown area unless the building
8 includes 50% housing above the ground floor. She asked that this item be added to the June 27th agenda.
9 She also asked that a dis cussion of the Housing Element Appendix be added to the June 27th agenda.

10
11 **ADJOURNMENT**

- 12
13 The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.