

**APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2002**

1 **ROLL CALL**

2

3 Time: The meeting was called to order at 7:01

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5 Location: North Berkeley Senior Center.

6

7 Commissioners Present: Bronstein, Curl, Howerton, Olsen, Pollack, Tabb, Wozniak, Wrenn.

8 Commissioners Absent: Wengraf.

9 Staff Present: Barrett, Grimes, Homrighausen, Napolitan.

10

11 **ORDER OF AGENDA**

12

13 Commissioner Curl asked that action item 12 be moved up to action item 10.

14

15 Commissioner Bronstein asked that items 13 and 15 be placed at the end of the action item
16 agenda.

17

18 **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

19

20 John English stated that he was pleased with the number of improvements that had been made to
21 the General Plan, however he stated there are still errors that need to be corrected.

22

23 **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

24

25 Chair Bronstein stated that she will be attending the Telegraph Area Association's roundtable
26 discussion on September 12, 2002.

27

28 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

29

30 Commissioner Curl reported on the West Berkeley Project Area Committee meeting to discuss
31 the transit hub that is being planned on University St. underneath the overpass at the Amtrak
32 station. Commissioner Curl stated that he would continue to act as the Planning Commission
33 liaison for this project and the commission agreed.

34

35 **PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

36

37 Planning Director Barrett reported on the following items:

38

39 City Council changes that were make to Berkeley Muncipal code concerning code enforcement.

40 Eastshore State Park Plan and EIR

41 Lawsuits against the City

42 Marina Plan – on hold

43 Revised format of public notices for the Zoning Adjustment Board

44 Referrals from the City Council

45 Tentative date of October 29, 2002 for City Council discussion on the Planning Department

46

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47 **FUTURE AGENDAS**

48

49 The commission discussed C-2 zoning and the need for clarification regarding density bonuses,
50 which will begin at the September 25th meeting.

51

52 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

53

54 Commission Wozniak asked that the minutes from the July 10th and the 24th meeting be held
55 over until the September 25th meeting. Chair Bronstein added comments to the minutes of July
56 10th.

57

58 **GENERAL PLAN**

59

60 Commissioner Wrenn stated that it should be a top priority to finish the General Plan as soon as
61 possible. However, there were also concerns that though many of the needed changes are minor
62 grammar mistakes, without comparing the current version to the original, the intentions of this
63 document could be changed. It was suggested that a meeting be set up between staff from the
64 Planning Department and the General Plan sub-committee to discuss final editing.

65

66 M/S/C to have the Planning Department Staff and the General Plan sub-committee of the
67 Planning Commission meet to make changes to the General Plan and bring the updated version
68 to the October 9th Planning Commission meeting. (Wrenn/Olsen). Ayes: Bronstein, Curl,
69 Howerton, Olsen, Pollack, Tabb, Wozniak, Wrenn. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent:
70 Wengraf.

71

72 The commission discussed the review process for consideration of future amendments to the
73 General Plan.

74

75 M/S/C to publish the General Plan expeditiously and conduct a meeting one year after the
76 publication of the General Plan to discuss its implementation (Wozniak/Pollack). Ayes:
77 Bronstein, Curl, Howerton, Olsen, Pollack, Tabb, Wozniak, Wrenn. Noes: None. Abstentions:
78 None. Absent: Wengraf.

79

80 **GENERAL PLAN HOUSING ELEMENT**

81

82 Planning Director Barrett recapped her meeting with the State of California regarding the
83 Housing Element and stated that some issues appear to be minor. It was suggested that the
84 Planning Department staff make the minor changes but that the commission be involved in
85 making and reviewing any major changes.

86

87 M/S/C to have the Planning Department Staff and the General Plan sub-committee of the
88 Planning Commission meet to discuss additions and changes to the Housing Element based on
89 input from the State of California and bring the revised item back to the Planning Commission as
90 soon as possible. (Wrenn/Olsen). Ayes: Bronstein, Curl, Howerton, Olsen, Pollack, Tabb,
91 Wozniak, Wrenn. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Wengraf.

92

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93 **PLANNING COMMISSION FALL WORK PROGRAM**

94

95 The commission reviewed completed projects and those projects that should take priority on the
96 work schedule for the upcoming year.

97

98 M/S/C to establish C-2 Zoning, the General Plan, the Southside Plan, MULI regulations, and
99 outstanding issues on density bonuses as the top priorities for both the Planning Commission and
100 the Planning Department Staff, with ZORS amendments as staff time permits. (Wrenn/Olsen).
101 Ayes: Bronstein, Curl, Howerton, Olsen, Pollack, Tabb, Wozniak, Wrenn. Noes: None.
102 Abstentions: None. Absent: Wengraf.

103

104 **AGENDA PROCESS AND AGENDA PREPARATION**

105

106 The commission discussed the option of implementing a regular meeting between the Planning
107 Director and the Chair of the Planning Commission to prepare the agenda, or other forms of
108 communication as appropriate.

109

110 M/S/not voted on to have the Planning Director and the Chair of the Planning Commission meet
111 regularly to discuss agenda and work program items. (Pollack/Wozniak).

112

113 Substitute Motion/S/C to have the Planning Director and the Chair of the Planning Commission
114 have regular communication to discuss agenda and work program items. (Wrenn/Olsen). Ayes:
115 Bronstein, Curl, Howerton, Olsen, Pollack, Tabb, Wrenn. Noes: None. Abstentions: Wozniak.
116 Absent: Wengraf.

117

118 **COUNCIL REFERRAL ON PRIORITY PROCESSING OF LOW-INCOME HOUSING**
119 **PROJECTS**

120

121 Commissioner Wrenn suggested creating a joint entity between the Planning Commission, the
122 Housing Advisory Committee, and the Zoning Adjustments Board to work on the priority
123 processing of low-income housing projects.

124

125 M/S/C to create a joint entity with representatives from the Planning Commission, Housing
126 Advisory Committee, and Zoning Adjustments Board to develop a strategy for carrying out the
127 Priority Processing of Low-Income Housing Projects. (Wrenn/Curl). Ayes: Bronstein, Curl,
128 Howerton, Olsen, Pollack, Tabb, Wozniak, Wrenn. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent:
129 Wengraf.

130

131 **OUTLINE OF SCHEDULE FOR REPORT PREPARATION FOR THE CITY COUNCIL**
132 **DENSITY REFERRAL**

133

134 The commission discussed the feasibility of coming to any conclusions regarding density issues
135 at the September 25th meeting. Due to the high priority of this topic, the commission decided
136 that it would be the first item on the action agenda for the next meeting.

137

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138 M/S/C to move information item 14 to the action agenda. (Curl/Wozniak). Ayes: Bronstein,
139 Curl, Howerton, Olsen, Pollack, Tabb, Wozniak, Wrenn. Noes: None. Abstentions: None.
140 Absent: Wengraf.

141 **DENSITY STANDARDS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

142
143 Dave Blake from the Zoning Adjustments Board stated his concern regarding density bonuses in
144 Berkeley and discussed the State of California's Housing and Community Development's
145 guidelines for issuing these bonuses.

146
147 **ADJOURNMENT**

148
149 Meeting was adjourned at 09:58.
150