

**APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
MARCH 12, 2003**

1 **ROLL CALL**

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3 Time: The meeting was called to order at 7:05.

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5 Location: North Berkeley Senior Center.

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7 Commissioners Present: Bronstein, Curl, Pollack, Poschman, Stoloff, Tabb, Wengraf,
8 Wiggins, Allemby.

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10 Commissioners Absent: None.

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12 Staff Present: Barrett, Crane, Grimes, Homrighausen

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14 **ORDER OF AGENDA**

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16 Item 11, Ashby BART Station Housing Feasibility, was removed from the agenda.
17 A communication, the Berkeley Cultural Needs Assessment and Findings with
18 Recommendations for the Berkeley Cultural Plan, was moved from Communications to
19 follow item 12.

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21 **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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23 Councilmember Dona Spring addressed issues of parking in the Downtown and the
24 connection between the proposed Nexus Study and the City's ability to fund activities to
25 reduce automobile dependence.

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27 Jack Appleyard expressed concerns related to development at and around the Ashby
28 BART station and the North Berkeley BART station.

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30 **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

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32 No Report.

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34 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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36 No Reports.

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38 **PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

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40 Planning Director Barrett reported on the following items:

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42 The City has applied for a housing grant from the State of California for cities that
43 produce more than 112% of their projected housing need. If awarded to Berkeley, funds
44 will be used to finish improvements to James Kinney Park.
45 Inquiries regarding the history of the General Plan process.
46 U.C. will hold an informational meeting on the Long Range development Plan March 13
47 at the North Berkeley Senior Center.

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FUTURE AGENDAS

Consideration of UC's next submittal regarding the Southside Plan is tentatively scheduled May 14, 2003.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nomination of Commissioner Bronstein for Commission Chair. (Poschman) Ayes: Bronstein, Curl, Pollack, Poschman, Stoloff, Tabb, Wengraf, Wiggins, Allemby. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None.
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Nomination of Commissioner Poschman for Commission Vice-Chair. (Curl) Ayes: Bronstein, Curl, Pollack, Poschman, Wengraf, Wiggins. Noes: None. Abstentions: Stoloff, Tabb. Absent: None.

2ND UNITS

The Commission discussed AB 1866, requiring ministerial approval of secondary living units. Focused on parking and whether or not an owner occupancy requirement should be considered. General sense was that one parking space per unit was reasonable, and an owner occupancy requirement would unnecessarily restrict potential secondary units. Staff asked to follow up with additional information for discussion at the March 26, 2003 meeting.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT BUDGET AND PRIORITIES

In response to budget constraints, the Planning Commission indicated the Department will have to focus on legally mandated activities, and do fewer things well rather than many things poorly. In discussing department priorities, the Commission wanted additional information on work program activities.

Regarding the Commission's activities, the top five priorities were the C-2 zoning amendments, MU-LI amendments, 2nd Unit ordinance, Southside Plan, and UC LRDP review. Lowest priorities were: comment on Council Rules of Procedure, Planning Department Budget, and possible removal of prohibition of carry-out foods on upper University Ave.

Regarding a fee increase proposal, the Commission commented fee increases could contribute to reduced applications and thus, reduced fee collection. The Commission scheduled additional fee discussion March 26, 2003.

BERKELEY CULTURAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND FINDINGS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE BERKELEY CULTURAL PLAN

It was noted that the Cultural Needs Assessment includes topics with land use policy and regulation ramifications.

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95 **TRANSPORTATION NEXUS STUDY**

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97 Ms. Crane discussed the need for the transportation nexus study and next steps in its
98 consideration. The Commission indicated questions and concerns that should be taken
99 into account with the study.

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101 **ADJOURNMENT**

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103 Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 P.M.