

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
April 26, 2006

1 Time: The meeting was called to order by Chair Burke at 7:05 PM.

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3 Location: North Berkeley Senior Center.

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5 **ROLL CALL**

6
7 Commissioners Present: Sheen, Samuels, Gurley, Burke, Pollack, Stoloff, DeStaebler,
8 Poschman.

9
10 Commissioners Absent: Wengraf

11
12 Staff Present: Paine, Gatzke, Rhoades, Cosin, Marks, Taecker.

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14 **ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

15 Item 10 would be taken up prior to Item 9.

16
17 **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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19 Speaker 1: Tom Kelly, a member of the Creeks Task Force, spoke about the CTF
20 recommendations and process.

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22 Speaker 2: Phil Price, a member of the Creeks Task Force, spoke about the CTF process
23 and recommendations, and levels of support. He also spoke about the inclusion of
24 culverts in the Ordinance.

25
26 Speaker 3: John Streeter, a member of the Creeks Task Force, spoke about the CTF
27 recommendations as a package that is not severable. He said that a flaw in the ordinance
28 is that creeks and culverts are conflated in the definitions and that culverts should be kept
29 in the ordinance. He also said that the issue of rebuilding after a disaster is not a creeks
30 issue.

31
32 Speaker 4: Jerry Landis spoke about regulating culverted creeks and locating them. He
33 supported the creation of a Watershed Management Plan to address both open creeks and
34 culverted creeks.

35
36 Speaker 5: Nancy Holland, a member of the Creeks Task Force, requested that the
37 Planning Commission recommend to Council that there should be no Creeks Ordinance
38 in effect without an overall watershed management program.

39
40 Speaker 6: Vonnie Gurgin, a member of Neighbors on Urban Creeks, said that a creeks
41 ordinance in the absence of a watershed management program would be a waste. She also
42 said that she felt that property owners were not sufficiently involved in the Creeks Task
43 Force process. She asked the Planning Commission to set aside the Creeks Ordinance.

44
45 **PLANNING STAFF REPORT**

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46 Planning Manager Rhoades delivered the Planning Staff Report. He reported that at the
47 April 25 meeting, City Council approved a DAPAC subcommittee with the Landmarks
48 Preservation Commission to look at historical resources in the Downtown.
49 He noted that the City Council discussed the side and rear yard parking ordinance
50 amendments and had a split vote on them (one Council member was absent). The item
51 was continued to May 16.

52
53 On Saturday April 29, there would be community discussion around options for the
54 BART Plaza. The open house would be held at the Central Public Library.

55
56 **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

57 Chair Burke noted that she and staff toured Panoramic Hill as a follow up to safety and
58 access concerns raised by the public at the Joint Public Meeting on the University's
59 SCIP. She also noted that she and three other commissioners who missed the University's
60 Open House would be touring the SCIP project area on May 18.

61
62 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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64 **Creeks Task Force**—None.

65
66 **Density Bonus Subcommittee:** Commissioner Poschman reported that the ZAB
67 subcommittee had developed recommendations that the Joint Subcommittee is
68 discussing. Commissioner Pollack requested that the Commission be educated about the
69 process and considerations in an upcoming meeting.

70
71 **Downtown BART Plaza and Transit Area Design Plan Citizens Advisory**
72 **Committee:** Commissioner Sheen noted the Open House mentioned by Planning
73 Manager Rhoades, which was to be held Saturday April 29. He encouraged all to attend.

74
75 **Downtown Area Plan Citizen Advisory Committee**—None.

76
77 **Major Residential Additions Subcommittee:** Commissioner Poschman reported that
78 the next meeting would be on Tuesday May 2.

79
80 **Southside Plan Subcommittee:** None.

81
82 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

83
84 M/S/C to approve minutes of the March 29, 2006 Special Planning Commission meeting.
85 (Poschman/Gurley) Ayes: Sheen, Samuels, Gurley, Burke, Pollack, Stoloff, DeStaebler,
86 Poschman. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Wengraf.

87
88 M/S/C to approve minutes of the April 5, 2006 regular Planning Commission meeting.
89 (Stoloff/Poschman) Ayes: Sheen, Gurley, Burke, Pollack, Stoloff, DeStaebler, Poschman.
90 Noes: None. Abstain: Samuels. Absent: Wengraf.

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92 M/S/C to approve minutes of the April 6, 2006 Special Planning Commission meeting.
93 (Stoloff/Poschman) Ayes: Sheen, Gurley, Burke, Pollack, Stoloff, DeStaebler, Poschman.
94 Noes: None. Abstain: Samuels. Absent: Wengraf.

95
96 Commissioner Samuels abstained from voting on April 5 and 6 minutes because he was
97 absent from the meetings.

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99 **UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS**

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101 The Commission reviewed the upcoming agendas and discussed allowing the discussion
102 of the TSF to continue to June 16.

103
104 **ACTION ITEMS**

105 **10. Quarterly Update on DAPAC Process and Progress:** Will Travis, Chair of the
106 Downtown Area Plan Advisory Committee (DAPAC) presented the progress of the
107 Committee thus far. Matt Taecker, Secretary to the DAPAC, discussed the process. Emily
108 Marthinsen, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor of Physical and Environmental Planning
109 at UC Berkeley, was also present to answer questions.

110
111 **9. Creeks Task Force Recommendations for Creeks Ordinance:** Vice Chair Stoloff
112 chaired the meeting during this item. Deputy Planning Director Cosin presented an
113 overview of the Creeks Task Force Final Recommendations. She noted that the City
114 Council extended the date by which a new ordinance had to be written to the first Council
115 meeting in September 2006.

116
117 The Commission discussed the recommendations.

118
119 M/ to recommend City Council consideration of the Creek Task Force recommendations,
120 with the understanding that the Planning Commission does not agree with all elements of
121 the recommendations. (Pollack)

122
123 The Commission discussed submitting items for discussion and voting to the Planning
124 Commission Secretary prior to the next meeting, at which time they had to make their
125 final recommendations to Council.

126
127 **11. FY 2007 Land Use Policy Work Plan:** Planning Manager Rhoades reviewed the
128 Staff Report on the Work Plan. The Commission discussed the potential for getting
129 additional resources.

130
131 **ADJOURNMENT**

132 **The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM**

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134 Note on Commission Meeting Reporting:
135 In June 2005, the City Council adopted a plan that requires commission secretaries to
136 submit an annual report that summarizes for each meeting a) the number of

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137 commissioners in attendance, b) the number of members of the public in attendance, c)
138 the number of speakers at Public Comment and d) the length of the meetings.

139

140 For the April 26, 2006 Planning Commission meeting, the following will be reported:

141 Commissioners in attendance: 8

142 Members of the public in attendance: 10

143 Speakers at Public Comment: 6

144 Length of the meeting: 2 hours 45 minutes