



Planning Commission

AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION and REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

* Please note, this meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. *

July 25, 2007
6:00 PM

North Berkeley Senior Center
1901 Hearst Avenue

SPECIAL MEETING

Public Workshop: Climate Protection and Berkeley's Built Environment

(Report attached: Climate Action in the City of Berkeley, A Framework Report for Community Review and Engagement)

6:00 Introduction and Goals of the Workshop: Berkeley's Role in Protecting the Climate
Timothy Burroughs, City of Berkeley's Climate Action Coordinator, will introduce the workshop goals and discuss Berkeley's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, vehicle trip characteristics, and how to influence Berkeley's GHG emissions levels with a Climate Action Plan.

6:20 Fighting Global Warming through Land Use

Stephanie Reyes, Senior Policy Advocate, Greenbelt Alliance, will communicate the important relationship between our land use decisions and our GHGs.

6:40 Opportunities for Creating a Sustainable Berkeley

Timothy Burroughs COB Climate Action Coordinator and Matt Taecker, COB Principal Planner, AICP, will discuss existing sustainable land use efforts/opportunities in the General Plan, in the DAPAC process, and in other local planning efforts.

7:00 Facilitated Q&A and community input

This is an opportunity for Commissioners and the public to voice their ideas/concerns regarding Berkeley's land use patterns and climate protection efforts, facilitated by Timothy Burroughs.

Presenters will also be available for questions/comments at this time. Public and Commissioner comments will be recorded for inclusion in ongoing analysis for Berkeley's Climate Action Plan.

7:25 Final Remarks from Commissioners

7:45 Adjourn Workshop and 15 minute break before regular Planning Commission meeting

**REGULAR MEETING
8:00 PM**

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. *Roll Call*
2. *Order of Agenda*
3. *Public Comment Period:* Speakers are customarily allotted up to three minutes each. Speakers are encouraged to submit more extensive comments in writing. To ensure adequate time for action items on the Agenda, the Planning Commission may limit the number of public speakers during the public comment period.
4. *Planning Staff Report:* Report on upcoming planning issues and recent Council actions. In addition to the items below, additional matters may be reported to the Commission at the meeting.
5. *Chairperson's Report:* Report by Commission Chair.
6. *Committee Reports:* Reports by Commission committees or liaisons. In addition to the items below, additional matters may be reported to the Commission at the meeting.
 - a. Downtown Area Plan Advisory Committee (DAPAC)
7. *Approval of Minutes:* Draft minutes of June 27 and approved minutes of May 23.
8. *Future Planning Commission Agenda Items and Other Planning-Related Events*
 - Transit Subcommittee of the Transportation Commission BRT Community Workshop, Tuesday, July 24, 2007, Stone Hall, Trinity Church, 2362 Bancroft Way, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS: *Matters for discussion and possible action.*

9. **Public Hearing: Zoning Ordinance, General Plan, and West Berkeley Plan Amendments and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration to allow Automobile Sales in West Berkeley for business retention.** *Recommendation: Open the public hearing, take comments, and continue hearing to September 5, 2007. (This item is expected to begin no earlier than 8:00p.m.) (Memorandum attached.)*
10. **Public Hearing: Tract Map, 2000 Hearst Street.** *Conversion to 21 commercial condominiums of an existing four-story office building in the R-2A zoning district. (Memorandum to be delivered.)*
11. **Transportation Commission Comments on the Southside Plan Preferred Alternative.** *Recommendation: Reaffirm action taken by Planning Commission on April 25 regarding planned improvements and selection of preferred transportation alternative for the purposes of continuing work on the draft EIR for the Southside Plan. (Memorandum attached.)*

INFORMATION ITEMS: *Action may be taken on any information report at this meeting if any Commissioner requests its placement on the agenda as an action item.*

12. **City of Berkeley Application for Priority Development Area Designation**
13. **Call for Nominations: FOCUS Priority Conservation Areas**
14. **Transportation Department staff comments on Draft EIS/EIR for AC Transit East Bay Bus Rapid Transit in Alameda County**

15. **Berkeley commission comments on Draft EIS/EIR for AC Transit East Bay Bus Rapid Transit in Alameda County**
16. **UC Berkeley comments on Draft EIS/EIR for AC Transit East Bay Bus Rapid Transit in Alameda County**
17. **Memorandum from Phil Kamlarz, City Manager, regarding Development Permit Process Improvements, June 28, 2007** (*Note: Commissioners may request a copy of "Permits 101: Navigating the Permit Process"*)
18. **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Project Environmental Review Update, July 5, 2007**
19. **Flyer for Public Listening Session on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission**

COMMUNICATIONS: In compliance with Brown Act regulations, no action may be taken on these items. However, discussion may occur at this meeting upon a Commissioner request. Normally, communications received by the end of the day on the Wednesday one week before the Planning Commission meeting will be transmitted with the staff report packet to the commissioners. Communications received later will be sent to the Commission separately, either by handing out at the meeting or including in the next available Planning Commission packet.

- Letter on Bus Rapid Transit from George Oram, received June 26, 2007.
- Materials from Sharon Hudson on Bus Rapid Transit, received June 27, 2007.
- Letter on Bus Rapid Transit from Mark McLeod, President of the Downtown Berkeley Association, July 2, 2007.

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Please refrain from wearing scented products to public meetings.

Written material may be viewed in advance of the meeting at the Planning and Development Department, 2118 Milvia Street, Third Floor, during working hours or at the Main Branch Library, Shattuck/Kittredge Streets, during regular library hours at the Reference Desk.

Accommodations Provided Upon Request. To request meeting materials in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter, assistive-listening device, real-time captioning or other accommodation for the meeting, call 981-7480 (voice) or 981-7474 (TDD). Providing at least five working days' notice will help to ensure availability at the meeting.

Note: If you object to a project or to any City action or procedure relating to the project application, any lawsuit which you may later file may be limited to those issues raised by you or someone else in the public hearing on the project, or in written communication delivered at or prior to the public hearing. The time limit within which to commence any lawsuit or legal challenge related to these applications is governed by Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, unless a shorter limitations period is specified by any other provision. Under Section 1094.6, any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City must be filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which such decision becomes final. Any lawsuit or legal challenge, which is not filed within that 90-day period, will be barred.