FINIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
February 6, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Location: 1947 Center Street, Lower-level Multipurpose Room, Berkeley, CA

1. ROLL CALL:
Commissioners Present: Benjamin Beach, Benjamin Fong, Robb William Kapla, Mary Kay Lacey, Steve Martinot, Christine Schildt, Brad Wiblin, Rob Wrenn, Jeff Vincent.

Staff Present: Secretary Alene Pearson and Nilu Karimzadegan

2. ORDER OF AGENDA: No Change.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS: 0 speakers.

4. PLANNING STAFF REPORT:

Staff provided updates on the following items:

- Guidance and deadlines for Communications to be included in the Agenda packet and/or distributed at meetings are listed on the Agenda.
- Zoning Ordinance amendments that support small businesses will come to effect on February 27, 2019.
- Density Bonus Ordinance was continued to the February 19, 2019 City Council meeting. Staff will provide the final City Council report in the next Planning Commission Agenda packet.

Information Items:


Communication:

- Email from Liam Will Re: Student Housing
- Email from Pablo Chong Herrera Re: Student Housing
- Email from Alexander Wilfert Re: Student Housing
- Email from Alene Pearson Re: Materials Requested at January 16, 2019 Planning Commission

Late Communications (Received after the Packet deadline):
Email from Andrew Fox, Re: Please reduce parking requirements
Email from Ariella Granett, Re: REDUCE PARKING REQUIREMENTS IN ALL R-DISTRICTS and near TRANSIT
Email from Betsy Thagard, Re: PLEASE Reduce/Eliminate Parking Requirements in all R Districts
Email from Chris Schildt, Re: New research on upzoning and housing supply, prices
Article “Upzoning Chicago: Impacts of a Zoning Reform on Property Values and Housing Construction”.
Email from Jonathan Corn, Re: Eliminate parking mandate
Email from Matthew Lewis, Re: REDUCE PARKING REQUIREMENTS IN ALL R-DISTRICTS and near TRANSIT
Email from Nat Kane, Re: REDUCE PARKING REQUIREMENTS IN ALL R-DISTRICTS and near TRANSIT
Email from Elizabeth Thagard, Andrew Forkas, Mayi Cleabe (illegible), Jen Lan, Mark Trones, Topher Brennan, Griffin Burgess, Sofia Zander, Re: REDUCE PARKING REQUIREMENTS IN ALL R-DISTRICTS and near TRANSIT
Email from Rob Wrenn, Re: Item 10, Green Affordable Housing Referral
Email from Sarah Abdeshahian, Re: In Support of Eliminating the City’s Parking Mandates
Email from Teresa Clark, Re: REDUCE PARKING REQUIREMENTS IN ALL R-DISTRICTS and near TRANSIT
Email from Zack Carter, Re: In Support of Eliminating the City’s Parking Mandates.
Email from Jane Scantlebury, member of South Berkeley Now, Re: REDUCE PARKING REQUIREMENTS IN ALL R-DISTRICTS and near TRANSIT
Email from Nuha Khalfy, Re: In Support of Eliminating the City’s Parking Mandates
Email from ASUC, Re: In Support of Green Affordable Housing Package Referral
Letter Re: SB 1227
Letter from East Bay for Everyone
Email from Cate Leger, Re: Berkeley Energy Commission Fossil Free Berkeley Report
Email from Kyndall Dowell, Re: In Support of Eliminating the City’s Parking Mandates
Email from Laura Stevens, Re: REDUCE PARKING REQUIREMENTS IN ALL R-DISTRICTS and near TRANSIT
Email from Johnny Nguyen, Re: In Support of Eliminating the City’s Parking Mandates
Email from Joshua Holman, Re: In Support of Eliminating the City’s Parking Mandates
Email from Phyllis Orrick, Re: Please act to reduce or eliminate parking requirements
Email from Kylie Murdock, Re: In Support of Eliminating the City’s Parking Mandates
Email from Ariana De La Fuente, Re: In Support of Eliminating the City’s Parking Mandates
Email from Erick Ponce-Furlas, Re: Eliminating Parking Requirements
Late Communications (Received and distributed at the meeting):

- Legal Planet article: "Yellow Light for YIMBYS: Upzoning can Increase Housing Prices".
- Email from Peter Waller, Re: Green Housing Measure, Parking Reductions

5. CHAIR REPORT. No Report.

6. COMMITTEE REPORT: None.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion/Second/Carried (Vincent / Kapla) to approve the Draft Planning Commission Meeting Minutes from January 16, 2019 with two minor edits to Item 10 and one spelling error. Ayes: Benjamin Beach, Benjamin Fong, Robb William Kapla, Mary Kay Lacey, Steve Martinot, Christine Schildt, Rob Wrenn, Jeff Vincent. Noes: None. Abstain: Brad Wiblin. Absent: None. (8-0-1-0)

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND OTHER PLANNING-RELATED EVENTS:

- Presentation to PC in March from UC Berkeley graduate student on case studies for local community preference housing programs.
- Presentation to PC in March on a City of Berkeley fee feasibility study, as it relates to Adeline Corridor
- Presentation in April/May on City of Berkeley's equity work and trainings.

AGENDA ITEMS

9. Action: Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Motion/Second/Carried (Schildt/Wrenn) to elect Christine Schildt for Chair and to nominate Robb William Kapla as Vice Chair. Ayes: Benjamin Beach, Benjamin Fong, Robb William Kapla, Mary Kay Lacey, Steve Martinot, Christine Schildt, Brad Wiblin, Rob Wrenn, Jeff Vincent. Noes: None. Abstain Absent: None. (9-0-0-0)

10. Discussion: Green Affordable Housing Package Referral

Staff presented the Green Affordable Housing Package Referral policies to the Planning Commission with a focus on Policy 1 -- exchanging required off-street parking for new development with affordable units and/or funding for affordable housing. The Commission discussed five Referral actions under Policy 1 and asked staff to return with 1) a summary of the City's current parking requirements, 2) an analysis of best practices from other cities, 3) research on parking maximums, distances surrounding Berkeley's major transportation hubs and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) measures, and 4) suggested phasing that includes research, community outreach, analysis and recommendations.

Public Comments: 19 speakers.
11. Action: Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Feedback

The Commission discussed Chair Schildt’s comments on the 2019 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan draft.

Motion/Second/Carried (Schildt / Kapla ) to approve LHMP feedback that will be shared with Berkeley’s Office of Emergency Services. Ayes: Benjamin Beach, Benjamin Fong, Robb William Kapla, Mary Kay Lacey, Steve Martinot, Christine Schildt, Brad Wiblin, Rob Wrenn, Jeff Vincent. Noes: None. Abstain Absent: None. (9-0-0-0)

Public Comments: 0 speakers

12. Action: Student Housing Letter from Planning Commission

The Commission reviewed and made editorial changes to the Letter from the Planning Commission to the UC regarding Student Housing. The Chair will decide the method of sharing Planning Commission’s communication.

Motion/Second/Carried (Wrenn/Vincent) to incorporate edits discussed and finalize communication from the Planning Commission regarding Student housing. Ayes: Benjamin Beach, Benjamin Fong, Robb William Kapla, Mary Kay Lacey, Steve Martinot, Christine Schildt, Brad Wiblin, Rob Wrenn, Jeff Vincent. Noes: None. Abstain Absent: None. (9-0-0-0)

Public Comments: 0 Comments

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 pm
Commissioners in attendance: 9 of 9
Members in the public in attendance: 25
Public Speakers: 19 speakers
Length of the meeting: 3 hours and 3 minutes

APPROVED:

3/14/19

Alene Pearson
Secretary of the Planning Commission