



City of Santa Barbara Planning Division

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

August 8, 2013

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 1:07 P.M.

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Mike Jordan, Vice Chair Deborah L. Schwartz, Commissioners Bruce Bartlett, John P. Campanella, Sheila Lodge, June Pujo, and Addison Thompson.

STAFF PRESENT:

Renee Brooke, Senior Planner
N. Scott Vincent, Assistant City Attorney
Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director
Andrew Bermond, AICP, Project Planner
Matt Fore, Environmental Services Manager
Daniel Gullett, Associate Planner
Julie Rodriguez, Planning Commission Secretary

II. PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

A. Planning Commission Secretary Julie Rodriguez acknowledged receipt of individual public comment letters from Tom Jacobs and Pat Kennedy commenting on the Draft Minutes of July 11, 2013 and provided introductory comments before the Commission took action on the review of the following Draft Minutes and Resolutions:

1. Draft Minutes of July 11, 2013
2. Draft Minutes of July 18, 2013

MOTION: Lodge/Schwartz

Approve the minutes of July 11, 2013 as corrected.

This motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 Noes: 0 Abstain: 1 (Campanella). Absent: 0

MOTION: Thompson/Pujo

Approve the minutes of July 18, 2013.

This motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 3 (Bartlett, Jordan, Lodge) Absent: 0

- B. Requests for continuances, withdrawals, postponements, or addition of ex-agenda items.

None.

- C. Announcements and appeals.

Ms. Brooke announced that the Planning Commission meetings of August 15 and 22, 2013 will be cancelled. The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be on September 5, 2013.

- D. Comments from members of the public pertaining to items not on this agenda.

Chair Jordan opened the public hearing at 1:20 P.M. and, with no one wishing to speak, closed the public comment.

III. DISCUSSION:

ACTUAL TIME: 1:21 P.M.

AIRPORT MASTER PLAN STATUS UPDATE

The Planning Commission received a status update on the ongoing development of the Santa Barbara Airport Master Plan. The Airport Master Plan will provide a framework for development to meet aviation demand for the next 10-15 years. Facility needs for safety, general aviation, and vehicle and aircraft parking are primary considerations for the Airport Master Plan Concept.

The purpose of this discussion item is to provide an update to Planning Commission and receive comments. Airport Staff and consultants will be preparing a Draft Airport Master Plan and an initial study pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) following similar presentations before City Council and the City of Goleta in September.

Case Planner: Andrew Bermond, AICP, Project Planner

Email: ABermond@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

Phone: (805) 602-6032

Andrew Bermond, AICP, Project Planner, gave the Staff presentation joined by Jim Harris, Coffman Associates; and Christine Eberhard, Communicquest.

Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director, was available to answer the Commission's questions.

The Commission was appreciative of the update and commented that the Airport Master Plan is on the right track.

Chair Jordan called for a recess at 2:34 P.M. Scott Vincent, Assistant City Attorney, left at the break and was replaced by City Attorney Steve Wiley when the meeting reconvened at 2:47 P.M.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL HEARING:

ACTUAL TIME: 2:47 P.M.

PROPOSED SINGLE-USE CARRYOUT BAG ORDINANCE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT CERTIFICATION

The proposed ordinance would prohibit stores selling food and pharmacies from providing plastic carryout bags, and would assess a 10-cent charge on recyclable paper bags provided by the stores at the point of sale, with the intent of reducing existing environmental impacts from plastic bag use. The Environmental Impact Report analyzed effects associated with air quality, biological resources, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, water, wastewater, solid waste, and storm water systems, and concluded that no significant environmental effects would result, and no measures to reduce impacts are required.

The Planning Commission received a staff presentation, conducted a public hearing, and considered certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Single-Use Carryout Bag Ordinance.

Case Planner: Daniel Gullett, Associate Planner
Email: DGullett@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

Phone: (805) 564-5470, ext. 4550

Daniel Gullett, Associate Planner, and Matt Fore, Environmental Services Manager, gave the Staff presentation joined by Joe Power, Rincon Consultants

Chair Jordan opened the public hearing at 2:59 P.M.

Penny Owens, Santa Barbara Channelkeeper expressed appreciation to the Commission for moving the Ordinance forward.

With no one else wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed at 3:01 P.M.

The Commissioners made the following comments:

1. Commissioner Pujo suggested, after reading all the comment letters, that the ordinance clarify the definition of plastic carryout bag to include natural gas byproducts as a source.
2. Commissioner Bartlett stated he could support the certification and having the ordinance move forward.
3. Commissioner Schwartz requested that Staff be consistent in use of terminology when referring to recyclable paper carryout bags. Commissioner Schwartz stated that she could support the EIR, but expected that more concrete data would be available for the EIR analysis. She stated that it was critical to gather baseline data needed to review the ordinance in two years to see if assumptions were accurate. She requested that staff monitor the impact and compliance carefully and stated that public outreach will be important to garner public awareness.

4. Commissioners Schwartz and Jordan asked that the 'could' versus 'must' language be consistent in the ordinance and the EIR addition regarding the charge of 10 cents per recyclable paper carryout bag.
5. Commissioner Lodge stated that she could support the certification but questioned the conclusions of the two solid waste generation studies used in the EIR analysis.
6. Commissioner Thompson stated that the analysis was not as objective as it could have been and cited examples. He challenged the use of the 2003 data used by California Integrated Waste Management Board Waste Study in 2007 as not being scientific or current as required by CEQA. He stated that the EIR was precise but not accurate and the data are not scientifically supportable without having a +/- degree of uncertainty associated with them.
7. Commissioner Campanella thought the ordinance will have positive impact on environment in the elimination of plastic bags and encouragement of recycled bags.
8. Commissioner Jordan suggested that the 'no project alternative' include trend of use or sale of single-use disposable plastic bags. Commissioner Thompson also commented on the exclusion in the EIR of the trend in reusable bags. Commissioner Jordan stated that he was less than satisfied with the EIR being more of an advocative document than an unbiased document.
9. Commissioners Pujo, Campanella, and Bartlett stated that they felt the EIR was thorough.

MOTION: Pujo/Lodge

Assigned Resolution No. 011-13

Certify the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) making the findings outlined in Section V. of the Staff Report, dated August 1, 2013, and that the document constitutes a complete accurate and good faith effort to disclose the project's impacts.

This motion carried by the following vote, confirmed by roll call:

Ayes: 6 Noes: 1 (Thompson) Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

V. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

ACTUAL TIME: 4:18 P.M.

E. Committee and Liaison Reports.

1. Staff Hearing Officer Liaison Report

Commissioner Lodge reported on the Staff Hearing Officer meeting held on August 7, 2013.

2. Other Committee and Liaison Reports

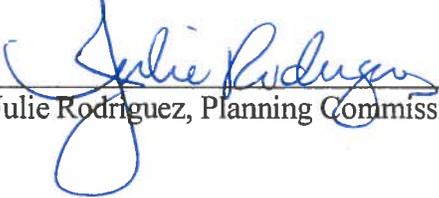
a. Commissioner Schwartz reported on the Downtown Parking Committee meeting held earlier in the day.

- b. Commissioner Schwartz also reported on attending a County of Santa Barbara Community Development Department forum.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jordan adjourned the meeting at 4:23 P.M.

Submitted by,



Julie Rodriguez, Planning Commission Secretary

