



# City of Santa Barbara

## Planning Division

### HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION DISCUSSION / WORKSHOP MINUTES

**Wednesday, November 9, 2011**      **David Gebhard Public Meeting Room: 630 Garden Street**      **4:00 P.M.**

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**COMMISSION MEMBERS:**                      PHILIP SUDING, *Chair* - Present  
    DONALD SHARPE, *Vice-Chair* - Present  
    LOUISE BOUCHER - Present  
    MICHAEL DRURY - Absent  
    WILLIAM LA VOIE – Present until 5:31 p.m.  
    FERMINA MURRAY - Present  
    JUDY ORÍAS – Present until 4:54 p.m.  
    CRAIG SHALLANBERGER - Present

**ADVISORY MEMBER:**                      DR. MICHAEL GLASSOW - Absent

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:**                      MICHAEL SELF - Absent

**PLANNING COMMISSION LIAISON:**                      STELLA LARSON - Absent

**STAFF:**                      JAIME LIMÓN, Design Review Supervisor- Present  
    MICHAEL BERMAN, Project Planner/Environmental Analyst - Present  
    SUSAN GANTZ, Planning Technician - Absent  
    GLORIA SHAFER, Commission Secretary - Present

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### CALL TO ORDER.

The Discussion/Workshop meeting was called to order at 4:14 p.m. by Chair Suding.

### ATTENDANCE:

Members present:                      Boucher, La Voie (left at 5:31), Murray, Orías (left at 4:54), Shallanberger, Sharpe, and Suding.  
Members absent:                      Drury.  
Staff present:                      Limón, Berman and Shafer.

### DISCUSSION ITEM

#### **2559 PUESTA DEL SOL**

E-1 Zone

**(4:14)**                      Assessor's Parcel Number:      023-271-003  
    Application Number:                      MST2010-00166  
    Owner:                                      Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History  
    Agent:                                      Suzanne Elledge Planning & Permitting Services  
    Architect:                                      Schacht Aslani Architects  
    Case Planner:                                      Peter Lawson

(Proposed project consists of the Master Plan for the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History- MST2010-00166. The project components include deconstruction of the majority of the existing structures, approximately 57,700 square feet, with the exception of the designated structures of merit and proposed new development of approximately 100,000 square feet. The project has been given a Measure E allocation of 57,000 square feet and has received a dual designation as a Community Priority and Economic Development project.)

**(Conceptual level discussion workshop on Master Plan Improvements proposed for Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Purpose of this discussion is to provide a forum to exchange ideas, discuss design options and rationale for design concepts at early stage of design review.)**

Present: Suzanne Elledge, Agent, Suzanne Elledge Planning & Permitting Services  
Walter Schacht, Architect, Schacht Aslani Architects  
Dr. Karl Hutterer, Executive Director, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History  
Susette Naylor, Architect, Thompson Naylor Architects  
Susan Van Atta, Landscape Architect, Van Atta Associates  
Danny Kato, Senior Planner, City of Santa Barbara  
Peter Lawson, Associate Planner, City of Santa Barbara

Comments only, no action taken. Commission members provided the following individual comments:

Some parts of the proposal are great, while others are too contemporary.

The building and stonework are too contemporary. Would prefer to have been seen the project in sketches before the applicant had gone to so much work with the resulting linear project. Would like to see the project in smaller sections before more time, effort, and money are spent; and would also like to meet with the applicants more often. Suggested rotating the footprint 5 degrees to help open the space and provide zigs and zags.

The applicant responded that turning the structures off axis would push them closer to the woodlands.

The butterfly pavilion is appreciated. It takes a lot of creativity to make big buildings have the Santa Barbara style. The siting is hugging into the site, which is important. The existing Legacy building have a lot of push and pull, and even though it is a linear wing, it has a sense of order that is not seen in the new buildings. The spatial separation between the old and new buildings is good. Suggest determining a defining style of architecture for the central building from which all remaining architecture will be expressed.

The buildings are not Spanish architecture - make them look Spanish. The detail should be beautiful but sparing. Study the architecture of Bertram Goodhue as inspiration and look at the new airport terminal for an example how a large building is designed consistent with the EPV guidelines. No mansard roofs- it makes them appear oriental. Consider moving the auditorium toward the oak trees and relocate the courtyard into the center serving as a star gazing area. The landscape plan appears to be on track.

Option #1, blending new buildings into the existing Legacy building instead of a sharp, clear delineation is preferred. Option #2, using modern architecture makes the buildings look like it could be in any other city, it is beautiful and delineates between buildings, but it is not Santa Barbara and is not supported. The applicant needs to focus on the details. Consider rotating the new building to follow the line of the creek, small. Flat roofs and parapets are achievable and can be treated successfully; however, it is an architectural challenge. The buildings need some pitched roofs.

The applicant explained that trees would be lost if buildings were rotated, and it is preferable to have open sections of building. The applicant explained that the project must be fire resistant, type 2 noncombustible materials, and any overhangs must be tube steel.

The applicant suggested a three dimensional model might be helpful and explained that flat roofs are needed for solar orientation, and it doesn't make sense to spend funds on a building that won't serve the next 100 years.

Make the butterfly pavilion important and a celebration. Provide more volume in the pavilion. The water feature, nature and man living together, as a thread through the site is appreciated, and modulation along the Creek edge is important. Provide a source or anchor point upstream for the proposed drainage course. The landscape plan appears to be on track. There is a sense that a hybrid of option 1 and 2 is possible, however, because it is too drastic, do not proceed further in the direction of option #2. Photovoltaic don't have to be on the roof. The project should return on December 7 for additional comments.

**\*\*THE DISCUSSION/WORKSHOP WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:56 P.M. \*\***