



**City of Santa Barbara**  
**HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION**  
**& DE LA GUERRA PLAZA ADVISORY**  
**COMMITTEE JOINT WORK SESSION**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 7, 2021**

1:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

This Meeting was Conducted Electronically  
[SantaBarbaraCA.gov](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

**HLC COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Anthony Grumbine, *Chair*  
Steve Hausz, *Vice Chair*  
Dennis Doordan  
Michael Drury  
Wendy Edmunds  
Ed Lenvik  
Bill Mahan  
Justin Manuel  
Robert Ooley

**DLG PLAZA COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Kristen Sneddon, *Chair*  
Lesley Wiscomb, *Vice Chair*  
Michael Drury  
Sam Edelman  
Steve Hausz  
Meagan Harmon  
Beebe Longstreet  
Anne Petersen  
Roger Perry  
Barrett Reed

**ADVISORY MEMBER:** Dr. Michael Glassow

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:** Kristen Sneddon

**PLANNING COMMISSION LIAISON:** Sheila Lodge

**STAFF:**

Tava Ostrenger, Assistant City Attorney  
Irma Unzueta, Design Review Supervisor  
Nicole Hernandez, Architectural Historian  
Ted Hamilton, Assistant Planner  
Mary Ternovskaya, Commission Secretary

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The Full Commission meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Vice Chair Hausz.

Staff present: Unzueta; Hernandez; Timmy Bolton, Associate Planner; Tony Ruggieri, City TV Production Supervisor; Hamilton; and Ternovskaya

**I. GENERAL BUSINESS**

a. Roll Call

HLC Commissioners present: Grumbine (at 1:05 p.m.), Hausz, Doordan, Drury, Lenvik, Mahan, Ooley (until 2:00 p.m.), and Manuel

HLC Commissioners absent: Edmunds and Manuel

Plaza DLG Commissioners present: Sneddon, Wiscomb, Drury, Hausz, Harmon, Longstreet, Petersen, and Perry

Plaza DLG Commissioners absent: Reed and Edelman

b. Public Comment:

The following individual spoke:

1. Anna Evers

## II. (1:00 PM) CONTINUED ITEM: CONCEPT REVIEW

### 20 E DE LA GUERRA ST (PLAZA DE LA GUERRA)

Assessor's Parcel Number: 037-092-037  
Zone: C-G/P-R  
Application Number: PLN2019-00576  
Owner: City of Santa Barbara  
Applicant: Brad Hess, Public Works Department

(The Plaza De La Guerra Revitalization Project involves raising the entire Plaza, as well as De La Guerra Street between Anacapa Street and State Street, to be level with the existing sidewalk. Proposed improvements include new landscaping, splash pad, restrooms, kiosk, arcade, stage, art nodes, lighting, and trash/ recycling. The [2011 Historic Structures/Sites Report](#) accepted by the HLC found that Plaza De La Guerra is eligible for listing as a City of Santa Barbara Landmark, eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, and eligible for listing as a significant Cultural Landscape in the National Register of Historic Places. Surrounding Plaza De La Guerra are City Hall and the California Pepper Tree, The News Press Building, Casa De La Guerra, and El Paseo, all designated City Landmarks; and the La Placita Building a.k.a. McKay-Bothin Building that is a designated Structure of Merit.)

**No final appealable action will be taken at this hearing. The goal of the joint meeting is to discuss and reach consensus on general design direction regarding each topic listed in the [HLC Staff Report](#) dated May 7, 2021. Project was last reviewed on February 17, 2021.**

Actual time: 1:16 p.m.

Present: Kathleen Kennedy, Project Planner, City of Santa Barbara; Brad Hess, Applicant, City of Santa Barbara; Sara Iza, Senior Planner, City of Santa Barbara; Lief McKay, Landscape Architect, RRM Design Group; Debbie Rudd, Planner, RRM Design Group; Detlev Peikert, Architect, RRM Design Group

Public comment opened at 1:48 p.m.,

The following individual(s) spoke:

1. Robin Elander
2. John Chaffee
3. Mary Williams
4. Edith Caldwell
5. Dennis Whelan

Written correspondence from Sullivan Israel, Francesca Galt, Susan Chamberlin, Lanny Ebenstein was acknowledged.

Public comment closed at 2:00 p.m.

## **Discussion held.**

### Commission comments:

1. Arcade.
  - Omit the arches from the arcade.
  - Consider providing a pergola or similar structure to the Lobero Theater's pergola as a possible inspiration.
  - Some Commissioners suggest looking at pushing back the arcade, so it is aligned with City Hall rather than coming in front of City Hall, if reasonably possible.
2. Interactive Water Feature.
  - Try moving the interactive water feature towards the center, perhaps making it centered on the adobe wall.
  - There is a consensus that the interactive water feature is acceptable as long as the feature disappears and becomes a paving pattern when not in use.
  - Consider providing a fountain portion of the water feature that is sculptural, can be turned off, and meets environmental health standards.
3. Public Restrooms.
  - Applicant shall try working with the building owners next to the proposed restroom to determine if there is a solution with moving the restroom to other side of Plaza.
  - The Commission also understands that the restroom location has been considered and the applicant has tried to fit it into an ideal location and understands the constraints.
4. Underground Trash Enclosures.
  - As long as the trash enclosures look like El Pueblo Viejo trash dispensers when closed, the Commission finds them acceptable with respect to aesthetics and location.
5. Surface Materials.
  - The general palette proposed is acceptable and looks good, and the applicant is to be commended.
  - The Commission requests the applicant study the Street in Spain in El Paseo and have the paving pattern run across in a more direct way. The Street in Spain's materials are already extended, but the Street in Spain in particular needs to be accentuated.
  - The general paving pattern as shown needs to be turned on a 45-degree angle.
  - The Commission looks forward to seeing a more fleshed out paving pattern.
6. ADA.
  - The Commission assumes disability accessibility is provided throughout the site and finds it acceptable.
  - The Commission understands that historic paving materials may not meet ADA requirements and suggests using a similar material that does meet ADA requirements.
7. Lighting.

- The lighting is to be revised and to be discussed in greater detail at the next hearing.
- The Commission looks forward to the slightly revised layout of the Plaza.

8. Utilities.

- The Commission understands there will be a plan set with utilities drawn out.

9. Storm Water Management.

- The Commission understands the constraints of the project's Storm Water Management.

10. Planting.

- The Commission in general accepts the informal layout of the trees as proposed, with the knowledge that the applicant will study shifting the interactive water feature's location.
- Some Commissioners would like the trees located further out into the plaza; pushed a little more into alignment with the other trees.
- There are some concerns with the aboveground planters not conveying a historical design and concerns about their use. There is a general understanding of the desire for color and artwork to be part of it, as well as providing large planter bed areas and seating to soften the project.

11. Artwork.

- The Commission understands that there will be a future discussion on artwork.
- The Commission favors not having strong vertical art pieces, but rather keeping the art to flat pieces or keeping artwork to interactive areas.

12. Kiosk.

- The Commission is holding off commenting on the kiosk, understanding that there will be a future discussion regarding the kiosk, its location, and plumbing.

**\* MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:58 P.M. \***