



City of Santa Barbara Planning Division

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

January 15, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Addison Thompson, Vice Chair John P. Campanella, Jay D. Higgins, Mike Jordan, Sheila Lodge, June Pujol, and Deborah L. Schwartz.

STAFF PRESENT:

Renee Brooke, Senior Planner
N. Scott Vincent, Assistant City Attorney
Rebecca Bjork, Public Works Director
Hazel Johns, Airport Director
Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director
Pat Kelly, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer
Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
Gary Horwald, Fleet Manager
Jim Dewey, Facilities Manager
Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager
Brandon Beaudette, Administrative Analyst
Jessica Grant, Transportation Project Planner
Steve Greer, Environmental Analyst
Andrew Bermond, Airport Project Planner
Victor Garza, Parking Superintendent
Captain Joe Torres, Police Department
Julie Rodriguez, Planning Commission Secretary

II. PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

- A. Requests for continuances, withdrawals, postponements, or addition of ex-agenda items.
None.

B. Announcements and appeals.

Ms. Brooke announced that the regular Planning Commission meeting of January 22, 2015 is cancelled so that the Commission can attend a Special Work Session to be held at the Water Resources Conference Room at 619 Garden Street.

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

Chair Thompson opened the public hearing at 1:01 P.M.

Lesley Wiscomb, UCCE Master Gardeners of Santa Barbara County, invited the Commission and the public to attend "Gardening in the Drought: A Symposium" on Saturday, January 24, 2015, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:45 P.M. at the Louise Lowry Davis Center.

With no one wishing to speak, the hearing was closed at 1:03 P.M.

III. RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL:

ACTUAL TIME: 1:03 P.M.

DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2016 - 2021 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The City has prepared the Draft 2016-2021 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) identifying City capital projects that address the City's infrastructure and major equipment needs over the 6-year planning period. The CIP will be reviewed by the Finance Committee and approved by City Council. The Council will ultimately adopt an annual Operating and Capital budget for the coming fiscal year that will include the CIP projects and Streets Capital Improvement Program projects.

The CIP includes the Street Capital Program review and approval process as required by the City's Circulation Element. The streamlined process provides the Planning Commission the opportunity to review and comment on the Street Capital Program and other Draft CIP projects. The Transportation Circulation Committee and the public have provided input regarding future Streets Capital Improvement projects and related Program budget development. Other Committees, Boards and Commissions that review and advise the City Council on various program areas have reviewed the CIP projects in their purview and have provided recommendations to the City Council.

Contact: Brandon Beaudette, Administrative Analyst
Email: BBeaudette@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

Phone: 805- 897-1915

Rebecca Bjork, Public Works Director, introduced Brandon Beaudette, Administrative Analyst, who gave the Staff presentation. The following City Staff were available to answer any of the Commission's questions: Hazel Johns, Airport Director; Andrew Bermond, Airport Project Planner, Jessica Grant, Transportation Project Planner; Pat Kelly, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer; Steve Greer, Environmental Analyst; Gary Horwald, Fleet Manager; Victor Garza, Parking Superintendent; Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director;

Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; Captain Joe Torres, Police Department; and Jim Dewey, Facilities Manager.

Chair Thompson opened the public hearing at 1:22 P.M.

Lesley Wiscomb, Park and Recreation Commission Chair, reviewed the 2016-2021 CIP for Parks and Recreation and commented on how public safety and park infrastructure are a number one priority. Would like to see funding for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and for street trees called for in the Urban Forest Management Plan.

With no one else wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed at 1:25 P.M.

Commissioners Pujo and Higgins desired to learn more about available funding for the Safe Routes to School Program, especially in the vicinity of Peabody Elementary School and extended to the intersection of Alamar and State Streets, and will meet with Staff separately.

Commissioners Comments:

- Commissioners Lodge and Jordan would like to see a higher priority placed on some Parks and Recreation projects, such as Franceschi Park Renovation and the Urban Forest Management Plan Implementation, both of which have financial deficiency that would be exponentially multiplied in future years if not addressed now.
- Many Commissioners expressed concern for public safety and strongly desire to see a higher funding priority placed on the New Police Department Headquarters Building.
- Commissioners Campanella and Lodge would like to see the Airport's Hollister Drainage Improvement project completed sooner rather than later in the budget cycle.
- Commissioner Lodge would like to see the Library's Central Library Roof Terrace Renovation project moved up in the budget cycle as it does not have an associated high cost.
- Commissioner Schwartz recommended that Capital Improvement Projects categorized as 'essential' and having a lower cost be prioritized higher.
- Commissioner Campanella noted that it is up to the City Administrator to determine priorities and did not see anything in the CIP that is frivolous. The projects are needed and well thought out.
- A majority of the Commission expressed appreciation for the work done by all City departments working on the complexity of balancing community needs with financial constraints in the development of the CIP.
- Commissioner Jordan would like to see projects prioritized at both the department and City-wide levels. He found it disconcerting that this CIP report continues to lack editorial comment and does not specifically target needs that continue to erode the community's sense of being. He could not support a recommendation to City Council.

Commissioner Schwartz left the dais at 2:45 P.M. and returned at 2:49 P.M.

MOTION: Schwartz/Lodge

Assigned Resolution No. 003-15

Recommend that City Council accept the Draft Six-Year Capital Improvement Program 2016-2021, with the Commission's comments.

This motion carried by the following vote:

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

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

ACTUAL TIME: 3:52 P.M.

D. Committee and Liaison Reports

1. Staff Hearing Officer Liaison Report
 - a. Commissioner Jordan reported on the Staff Hearing Officer meeting of January 7, 2015.
2. Other Committee and Liaison Reports
 - a. Commissioner Schwartz reported on the City Water Commission meeting of January 12, 2015.
 - b. Commissioner Thompson reported on the Single Family Design Board meeting of January 12, 2015.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at 3:54 P.M.

Submitted by,



Julie Rodriguez, Planning Commission Secretary