
Continued review of a request for a Development Agreement and an associated Ordinance Amendment related to Transfer of Existing Development Rights. The Planning Commission reviewed this item on January 7, 2016 and continued it with direction to the applicant to incorporate changes and address Planning Commission comments.

On August 15, 1995, City Council adopted Ordinance 4920, which included a Development Agreement (DA) and associated conditions of approval for development of the Chase Palm Park expansion, the Waterfront Hotel (433 East Cabrillo Boulevard), and a youth hostel. The DA allowed the Chase Palm Park expansion project to commence immediately and provided the property owner, American Tradition, 12 years to construct the hotel and hostel. In 2007, the City issued building permits for both the 150-room Waterfront Hotel and associated parking lot, and the youth hostel. While the hostel (12 E. Montecito St.) has since been completed, the hotel project has stalled. In order to maintain the existing development rights for the approved hotel and establish the potential and associated process for a revised project, a new DA is being considered. As such, the proposed DA includes the following major components:

- Establishment of a new ten-year term for the DA.
- Acknowledgment of the approved status of the 150-room hotel project, including parking lot, which could continue to be constructed without further discretionary review.
- A provision that all current Building and Public Works permits for the approved hotel project would expire upon the effective date of the DA, and new ministerial permits (consistent with current codes) for the approved project must be issued within five years of the effective date of the DA.
- A provision that if the approved 150-room hotel project is abandoned and a revised hotel project is pursued at any time during the term of the DA, the project would be subject to policies, ordinances, resolutions, codes, rules, regulations and official policies governing development of the site(s) in effect as of the effective date of the DA.
- If a revised hotel project is approved during the term of the DA and it results in less than the currently approved 150 hotel rooms, the Applicant has the ability to propose the transfer of excess rooms or square footage to another parcel, consistent with applicable City ordinance provisions and processes for doing so.
Note: A Development Agreement and Ordinance Amendment require City Council approval at a subsequent public hearing to be scheduled. The purpose of this February 4th hearing is for the Planning Commission to consider the request and environmental document prepared for the project and provide a recommendation to City Council on the following:

1. A Development Agreement to allow an additional ten (10) years to construct the approved 150-room hotel and parking lot or a revised project within this time period (Council Resolution 89-120); and

2. A Zoning Ordinance Amendment (SBMC Chapter 28.95 - Transfer of Existing Development Rights) to defer to the Waterfront Hotel Development Agreement for provisions allowing the applicant to propose the transfer of excess (approved but undeveloped) hotel rooms from the Waterfront Hotel site.

An Addendum to the 1993 Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15164 to address minor changes to the project and EIR analysis. The Planning Commission will consider the Addendum together with the previously certified Final EIR, and consider a recommendation to City Council regarding the adequacy of the environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15090.

You are invited to attend this hearing. Written comments are welcome and will be entered into the public record. Written information should be submitted prior to the meeting at the Planning Division Office, 630 Garden St; by mail attention Planning Commission Secretary, P.O. Box 1990, Santa Barbara, CA 93102-1990; or by email at PCSecretary@SantaBarbaraCA.gov, and received no later than 4:30 P.M. on the Monday before the Planning Commission hearing. Please submit 12 copies of any written materials over 2 pages. Written comments are accepted at and up to the time of the hearing; however, the Planning Commission may not have time to consider materials submitted after the Monday deadline.

This may be the only notification you will receive for this application. The scope of this project may be modified under further review. If you have any questions, wish to review the plans, or wish to be placed on a mailing list for future agendas for this item, please contact Allison De Busk, Project Planner at (805) 564-5470, extension 4552, or by email at ADebusk@SantaBarbaraCA.gov. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and every other Friday. Please check our website under City Calendar to verify closure dates.

The Planning Commission will be making a recommendation on this application to the City Council. However, if the Planning Commission recommends denial of the Development Agreement, then that action is appealable by the Applicant to the City Council. The appeal, accompanied by the appropriate filing fee per application, must be filed in the City Clerk's Office within ten calendar days of the Planning Commission decision.

If you challenge the permit approval or environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at this or subsequent public hearings on the project, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission or City Council at, or prior to their public hearings.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: If you need auxiliary aids or services or staff assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administrator’s Office at (805) 564-5305. If possible, notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will usually enable the City to make reasonable arrangements. Specialized services, such as sign language interpretation or documents in Braille, may require additional lead time to arrange.

*NOTE:* On Thursday, January 28, 2016, an Agenda with all items to be heard on Thursday, February 4, 2016, will be available at 630 Garden Street and online at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/PC. Please note that online Staff Reports may not include some exhibits. Agenda items are subject to change. It is recommended that applicants and interested parties plan to arrive for the meeting at 1:00 p.m. However, for longer agendas, all parties are encouraged to monitor Channel 18 and when the item prior to the application of interest begins come to the Commission hearing. Continuances will not be granted unless there are exceptional circumstances.

*Meetings can be viewed live on City TV-18, or on your computer at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/CityTV. A rebroadcast schedule can be found at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/CityTVProgramGuide.