



MINUTES

CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK PLANNING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 20, 2014
6:30 p.m.

Chairperson Herrera called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Present: Commissioner Eddie Benitez, Vice Chair Juan Anaya, and Chairperson Laura Herrera; Absent: Commissioner Eddie Carvajal and Commissioner Veronica Lopez (Chairperson Herrera declared the absence of Commissioners Carvajal and Lopez excused). Also present: Planning Manager Albert Fontanez, Planning Intern Rodrigo Pelayo, City Attorney Lloyd Pilchen, and Recording Secretary Genny Ochoa.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Vice Chair Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Benitez, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on July 2, 2014, as presented. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioner Benitez, Vice Chair Anaya, and Chairperson Herrera; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Carvajal and Commissioner Lopez.

Public Appearances

None.

Continued Public Hearings

None.

Public Hearings

A. CASE NO. 2014-04 ZC/GPA – ZONE CHANGE / GENERAL PLAN MAP AMENDMENT: A resolution recommending to the City Council the adoption of an ordinance amending the Zoning Map designation from R-H (High-Density Residential) to PF (Public Facilities); and, the adoption of a resolution amending the General Plan Land Use Map designation from High-Density Residential to Schools for properties located at 3232 Saturn Avenue, commonly known as South Region Elementary School No. 5.

Planning Manager Albert Fontanez reviewed staff's report and stated that the request for the zone change and General Plan amendment was on behalf of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Mr. Fontanez added that although the subject school, now known as Lucille Roybal-Allard Elementary School, was developed and in operation since 2012, LAUSD and the City wished to rezone the property to make it consistent with the City's zoning requirements.

Mr. Fontanez reviewed the existing and proposed General Plan and Zoning Maps and stated that the proposed amendments would not have a significant impact to the public's welfare, and further, recommended that the Planning Commission approve Case No. 2014-04 ZC/GPA.

Chairperson Herrera declared the public hearing open and called for anyone wishing to speak for or against Case No. 2014-04 ZC/GPA. Hearing no one, Chairperson Herrera declared the public hearing closed.

Motion by Commissioner Benitez, seconded by Vice Chair Anaya, to APPROVE CASE NO. 2014-04 ZC/GPA, recommending to the City Council amendments to the City of Huntington Park General Plan Land Use and Zoning Maps in connection with properties located at 3232 Saturn Avenue. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioner Benitez, Vice Chair Anaya, and Chairperson Herrera; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Carvajal and Commissioner Lopez.

B. CASE NO. 2014-05 ZC/GPA – ZONE CHANGE / GENERAL PLAN MAP AMENDMENT: A resolution recommending to the City Council the adoption of an ordinance amending the Zoning Map designation from MPD (Manufacturing Planned Development) and OS (Open Space) to PF (Public Facilities); and, the adoption of a resolution amending the General Plan Land Use Map Designation from Manufacturing Planned Development and Open Space to Schools for properties located at 6361 Cottage Street, commonly known as South Region High School No. 7.

Planning Manager Albert Fontanez reviewed staff's report and stated that, as in the previous case, the request for the zone change and General Plan amendment was on behalf of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Mr. Fontanez added that, similarly, the subject school, known as Linda Marquez High School, was developed and in operation since 2012, and added that the rezoning of the properties would make them consistent with the City's zoning standards.

After reviewing the existing and proposed General Plan and Zoning Maps, Mr. Fontanez stated that staff had concluded that the proposed amendments were in conformance with the Municipal Code and General Plan and that staff recommended approval of Case No. 2014-05 ZC/GPA.

Chairperson Herrera declared the public hearing open and called for anyone wishing to speak for or against Case No. 2014-05 ZC/GPA. With no one coming forward, Chairperson Herrera declared the public hearing closed.

Motion by Commissioner Benitez, seconded by Vice Chair Anaya, to APPROVE CASE NO. 2014-05 ZC/GPA, recommending to the City Council amendments to the City of Huntington Park General Plan Land Use and Zoning Maps in connection with properties located at 6361 Cottage Street Saturn Avenue. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioner Benitez, Vice Chair Anaya, and Chairperson Herrera; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Carvajal and Commissioner Lopez.

New Business

None.

Information Items

Planning Manager Fontanez introduced Lloyd Pilchen of the newly contracted City Attorney law firm, Olivarez Madruga, and stated that Mr. Lloyd would be counsel for Planning Commission and Planning Division matters. The Commissioners welcomed Mr. Pilchen, who stated that he looked forward to working with the Commissioners and City staff.

Staff Comments

Planning Manager Fontanez reported back regarding a request by Chairperson Herrera for staff to look into the streetlights at the intersection of Salt Lake Avenue and Florence Avenue. Mr. Fontanez stated that the Public Works Superintendent informed him that the streetlights were purposely dimmed for traffic control purposes. Mr. Fontanez added that he would confirm if the left turn signal light was functioning properly and would report back to the Commission.

Planning Commission Comments

Commissioner Benitez asked if there was an update regarding the railroad track conditions at the Florence/Salt Lake Avenue railroad crossing. Mr. Fontanez stated that staff had not received a response from the railroad company to date; however, staff would continue its efforts in making contact with the railroad company's safety authorities.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairperson Herrera declared the meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Laura Herrera, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Albert G. Fontanez, Secretary