

**PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF  
MAY 11, 2017  
IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 12<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
202 C STREET, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101**

**CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING:**

Chairperson Stephen Haase called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Chairperson Stephen Haase adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING:**

Chairperson Stephen Haase – present  
Vice-Chairperson Sue Peerson – present  
Commissioner James Whalen – present  
Commissioner Douglas Austin – present  
Commissioner William Hofman – present  
Commissioner Granowitz – present  
Dennis Otsuji - present

Staff

Keely Halsey, City Attorney – present / arrived at 10:50 a.m.  
Corrine Neuffer, City Attorney – present / left at 10:50 a.m.  
Tait Galloway, Planning Department – present / left at 10:53 a.m.  
Brian Schoenfisch, Planning Department – present / arrived at 10:53 a.m.  
PJ FitzGerald, Development Services Department – present  
Louis Schultz, Development Services Department – present  
Carmina Trajano, Recorder – present

ITEM-1: **ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENT - ISSUES WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION NOT PREVIOUSLY HEARD:**

Leslie Gaunt commented on the reconsideration of Hillel Project.

ITEM-2: **REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE AND/OR ITEMS TO BE WITHDRAWN:**

ITEM # 9 - LEGACY INTERNATIONAL CENTER – PROJECT NO. 332401 – **CONTINUED TO JUNE 8, 2017**

ITEM-3: **REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

None.

ITEM-4: **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Accepted as presented.

ITEM-5: **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

PJ FitzGerald announced that the Agenda was slightly reformatted; added the Consent Agenda to Item No. 3 consistent with the Commission's approval of the Formal Consent Agenda last meeting. Also added some clarifying notes on the cover to make it a little bit consistent with the way City Council Agenda is formatted. Just an update, based from the feedbacks with the Commission, the speaker slips were also revised slightly to make it consistent with the Council and also implemented those today.

Tait Galloway announced that there will be a Community Orientation Workshop on May 20, 2017 at 9 a.m. in the Silver Room. This is for the new Community Planning Members, so that they can get oriented with the Council Policy 600-24 and also provides indemnification to the Planning Group Members. It is always required and it is something that is always encouraged, even the Planning Members who have taken it in the past or have taken an online training. It is an integral part of the Community Planning process and usually get good feedbacks in terms of the information that is covered.

ITEM-6: **COMMISSION COMMENT:**

Commissioner Whalen commented on policy regarding the measure of the success of the MSCP Program. He stated that we're running out of Mitigation opportunities; the City's preserved is 97% assembled and there's been a complaint that changes need to be

made to the current policy to respond to limited land acquisition opportunities. He identified the following three changes that can be made: first, you can do mitigation on public lands as long as there is a public benefit; second, you can do mitigation in or outside the jurisdiction as long as it fulfills that goal; and third, based on the discussion with some City staff members and other agencies like Caltrans, SANDAG and the County, which is to allow jurisdiction to set up an in-lieu fee program which is intended to be used for operations rather than acquisitions of land. He stated that the City can identify millions of opportunities where something needs to be done, but they don't have the money to do it. This will be used with smaller projects, not the hundred acre impacts which we won't be seeing anymore in San Diego. He just wants to inform everybody about this and also mentioned that the Wildlife Agency partners are somewhat challenged by it, but will report later.

Commissioner Haase commented that he had the opportunity to attend the Annual APA Conference in New York City for the American Planning Association last week. It is a pretty amazing place, he was looking at the transformations that has occurred with redevelopment and their commitments in public places. A really strong commitment to Vision Zero in reducing pedestrian and cyclist deaths to zero by a certain date. There's quite a few facilities for pedestrian and cyclist that really changed how you can get around the city and they have a bike sharing program. It was an amazing experience to see quite a bit what our major urban city has done on the global level.

**ITEM-7: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 16, 2017 AND MARCH 23, 2017**

COMMISSIONER AUSTIN MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 16, 2017. Commissioner Hofman seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Commissioners Haase, Hofman, Austin, Granowitz, Peerson, Otsuji and Whalen voting yea.

COMMISSIONER AUSTIN MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 23, 2017. Commissioner Hofman seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Commissioners Haase, Hofman, Austin, Granowitz, Peerson, Otsuji and Whalen voting yea.

**ITEM-8: STRAUSS 5<sup>TH</sup> AVE APTS SDP - PROJECT NO. 451832**

City Council District: 3

Plan Area: Uptown

Staff: Paul Godwin

Speaker slips in favor of the project submitted by Gordon Carrier, Vicki Piazza, Brandon Loftus, Justin Schlaefli, Andrew Kann, Don Clauson, Geoff McMillen, Diana Casey, Maya Rosas, Jordan Bernhardt and Dan Floit.



HAS THE AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT VOLUNTARY SITE VISITS ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS, INCORPORATING MATERIALS PRESENTATION GUIDELINES FOR PROJECT APPLICANTS, INCLUDING LANGUAGE REGARDING TRANSMITTAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CITY COUNCIL, SELECTION OF A DESIGNATED COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE, AND PROCEDURES FOR COMMISSION REFERRALS AND WORKSHOPS. Commissioner Austin seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Commissioners Haase, Hofman, Austin, Granowitz, Peerson, Otsuji and Whalen voting yea.

AS A SEPARATE ITEM, COMMISSIONER AUSTIN MADE THE MOTION TO REQUEST THAT STAFF CONSIDER PROVIDING COMMISSIONERS WITH AUTOMATION/TECHNOLOGICAL TOOLS TO ACCOMMODATE ONLINE INFORMATION ACCESS DURING COMMISSION MEETINGS. Commissioner Hofman seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Commissioners Haase, Hofman, Austin, Granowitz, Peerson, Otsuji and Whalen voting yea.