



DATE: April 18, 2013

AGENDA ITEM # 3

**TO:** Planning and Transportation Commission  
**FROM:** David Kornfield, Planning Services Manager  
**SUBJECT:** 2013 Goals and Objectives

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Review the goals and objectives for year 2013

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**BACKGROUND**

This memorandum outlines the Planning and Transportation Commission's accomplishments and goals in preparation for the upcoming joint meeting with the City Council on April 30, 2013.

In terms of accomplishments, this past year the Planning and Transportation Commission provided recommendations on 10 land use or design applications. The major projects that the Commission considered included:

- A mixed-use, retail and office building at 400 Main Street (First and Main Street);
- Design changes to the Safeway project at 160 First Street;
- Redevelopment of the Pinewood middle school campus at 327 and 357 Fremont Avenue;
- Design review for an office building for the Palo Alto Medical Facility at 715 Altos Oaks Drive;
- Design review and subdivision for a mixed-use, office and multiple-family residential building at 86 Third Street; and
- Changes to the height limits and development incentive regulations for the downtown CRS and CRS/OAD districts;

The Planning and Transportation Commission also provided recommendations on special projects that included but were not limited to: the nature of photo-simulations in development review and the City's Wayfinding Signage.

The Planning and Transportation Commission also received information reports from staff on the City's Green Building Regulations, Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, and Traffic Impact Analysis.

The main goal of the Planning and Transportation Commission is to fulfill its responsibilities per the Municipal Code (Section 2.08.060), which include:

1. Those powers and duties given it by the State Planning Act (Title 7 of Chapter 3 of the Government Code of the state, commencing with Section 65100), as amended from time to time, and such other powers as granted it by the other provisions of this Municipal Code, or as may be entrusted to it by the Council from time to time, and shall submit an annual report to the Council;
2. Act in an advisory capacity to the Council on transportation issues. Transportation issues shall include automobile circulation, pedestrian, bicycle and handicapped access, and public transportation on all public streets, roadways and paths within the city limits of the City of Los Altos;
3. Advise the Council on existing and proposed City policies related to traffic calming and traffic enforcement; and
4. Advise the Council on projects and budget priorities for traffic-related capital improvements.

In its role, the Commission applies relevant policies in the Community Design & Historic Resources Element, Land Use Element, Housing Element, Economic Development Element and Circulation Element in the City's General Plan.

## **DISCUSSION**

Much of the Planning and Transportation Commission's workload is set by its mandated response to development review applications and certain functions in accordance with State law such as periodically reviewing the City's Capital Improvement Plan. In addition to acting on planning and transportation applications, it is typically the Commission's goal to continue advising the City Council on matters relating to land use in the City including the development and implementation of the General Plan, zoning regulations and other land use regulations as well as providing recommendations on various transportation issues.

At the joint meeting, the City Council typically accepts a brief report from the Commission Chair and sets its expectations for the next year. The joint meeting also provides a good opportunity to discuss any concerns with regard to the Commission's duties and outline any recommended goals outside of those already defined.

Attachments:

None