

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2012, BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M. AT LOS ALTOS CITY
HALL, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD, LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA**

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Vice Chair MOISON, Commissioners BAER, BODNER, CHIANG, JUNAID, and
McTIGHE
ABSENT: Chair BRESSACK
STAFF: Assistant City Manager WALGREN

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no public comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Planning and Transportation Commission Minutes

Recommendation to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2012 special study session and the September 6, 2012 regular meeting.

MOTION to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2012 special study session and September 6, 2012 regular meeting as written. THE MOTION PASSED BY A 5/0/1 VOTE, WITH COMMISSIONER MOISON ABSTAINING.

PUBLIC HEARING

2. Downtown Zoning Amendments

Recommend to City Council approval of ordinances that would:

- A. Amend the public benefit findings in section 14.24.180 – Commercial Retail Sales Districts;
- B. Amend the height measurement definition for commercial and multiple-family structures contained in section 14.66.230 Height Limitations – Measurement; and
- C. Adopt a definition in chapter 14.02 – Definitions of what a building “parapet” is.

Assistant City Manager WALGREN presented the staff report. After discussion regarding the height measurement definition it was supported unanimously. The parapet definition was also supported unanimously. A motion was then made to approve the public benefit findings as presented. Based on language concerns, this motion failed 3-3 with Commissioners BODNER, CHIANG and McTIGHE opposed to the following underlined language in section B: “For the purposes of this chapter, such exceptions may include, but are not limited to, setbacks, height of

structure, height of the first floor, on-site parking, and other zoning regulations. ‘Height of structure’ shall only apply to minor building height exceptions that support the project’s architectural integrity.’

Following this failed motion, a new motion passed 5-1 to recommend approval of the ordinance amendments, but to remove the word minor from the building height text of the findings. Commissioner BAER voted against the motion noting that he disagreed with removing the word because the significant “word” (i.e. minor) was debated at the Downtown Committee meeting.

The Commission then voted 6-0 to recommend that the Downtown Design Plan be amended to note the desire to include public art in downtown projects.

COMMISSION REPORTS AND DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner McTIGHE reported on the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair MOISON adjourned the meeting at 9:15 P.M.

James Walgren, AICP
Assistant City Manager