

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF LA MIRADA**

May 19, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Lee Olsen in Council Chambers at City Hall, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Chairman Lee Olsen
Commissioner Changhai Ahn
Commissioner Scott Anderson
Commissioner John Lewis

Absent:

Vice Chairman Keith Chung

Staff:

Gabriel Bautista, City Planner
Vaniah De Rojas, Administrative Analyst II
Norma Stein, Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2016

Commissioner Lewis moved and Commissioner Anderson seconded to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2016 Planning Commission meeting.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Chairman Olsen, Commissioner Ahn, Commissioner Anderson,
Commissioner Lewis

NOES: None

ABSENT: Vice Chairman Chung

ABSTAIN: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

2. CITY OF LA MIRADA STRATEGIC PLAN 2020

Administrative Analyst II Vaniah De Rojas provided a comprehensive review, of the process undertaken to develop the La Mirada Strategic Plan 2020.

Ms. De Rojas stated that development of the plan began in 2015 at various City Council study session meetings and at their annual retreat. The City Council reviewed key elements of the 2015 Plan and proposed new elements for the 2020 Plan, including the mission statement, vision statement, guiding values, and core strategies.

Ms. De Rojas explained that after the broader policy elements were determined by the City Council, staff developed goals, objectives, and key performance indicators. Priorities were developed in consideration of community input. She also, explained that staff reviewed responses from the Community Satisfaction Survey and conducted extensive outreach efforts to receive community feedback through the "Share Your La Mirada Vision" campaign. The campaign included a community forum, work shop and community input forms that were available on the city's website and at city facilities.

Ms. De Rojas added that the City Council requested that city commissions and advisory bodies be given the opportunity to review the draft Strategic Plan and provide input prior to adoption of the final plan.

Ms. De Rojas mentioned that the plan includes 18 goals in support of the five core strategies. It also has 64 separate actions with associating key performance indicators. She also mentioned that the number of items included in the Plan is a decrease from previous plans due to focused goals and the incorporation of action items that have identifiable indicators to measure success.

Ms. De Rojas explained that following the commissions and advisory bodies' review, the Strategic Plan is schedule to return to the City Council for review at the June 2016 Study Session meeting. She added that formal adoption will occur at a subsequent City Council meeting.

Ms. De Rojas concluded by recommending the Planning Commission review and discuss the proposed Strategic Plan 2020. She also mentioned that staff is available to answer any questions and receive any suggestions or comments the commission may have.

Chairman Olsen asked the commissioners if anyone had any questions or comments.

Commissioner Lewis asked if the city has plans to provide Wi-Fi citywide.

Ms. De Rojas responded and stated that the subject has been discussed, but found not to be a priority.

Commissioner Lewis asked if a determination had been made on the revised user fees and how they compared to other cities. He also asked if the fees were being lowered because he had heard complaints about Conditional Use Permit fees being too high.

Ms. De Rojas responded and stated that the building fees are adjusted automatically every year pursuant to a CPI and that citywide fees are comparable to other cities.

City Planner Gabriel Bautista mentioned the Building Permit fees will most likely be increased and expressed that La Mirada is seeking to adjust fees so that applicants pay a greater share of the cost to provide services.

Commissioner Lewis asked how many neighborhood watch programs the city has. He also mentioned that they had a few break-ins on Tacuba Drive.

Ms. De Rojas responded and stated that she did not know the exact number, but that the city is looking into ways of increasing participation by residents.

Chairman Olsen provided additional input on neighborhood watch activities.

Commissioner Lewis also asked if the intersection improvements at La Mirada Boulevard and Imperial Highway were going to proceed anytime soon.

Mr. Bautista responded and stated that the Department of Public Works is working on improvements to the Telegraph Road and Imperial Highway intersection at this time. He also mentioned that the dedication required to make the improvements on La Mirada Boulevard was required as part of the Starbucks project..

Chairman Olsen provided additional input regarding City Council activity pertaining to intersection improvements.

Commissioner Lewis asked about the timing of the freeway expansion and if the city is marketing the I-5 corridor to businesses.

Ms. De Rojas responded and stated that she had spoken to Caltrans and that they anticipate starting in September 2016. She added that an informational meeting will be conducted in August 2016. She also mentioned that Caltrans will host a meeting for businesses located along the I-5 corridor. She also stated that the city will market the area to new businesses.

Commissioner Lewis asked if Biola University is in the Strategic Plan. He expressed concern about their increase enrollment.

Mr. Bautista responded and stated that he spoke with Biola regarding enrollment and that they indicated they were down 300 hundred students from the previous year's enrollment.

Commissioner Ahn asked if Public Safety had printed information available to the public.

Ms. De Rojas responded and stated that the city has different brochures, but not a comprehensive public safety manual.

Mr. Bautista mentioned that public safety does provide flyers with safety tips.

Chairman Olsen provided additional input regarding Sherriff Department activity in providing information.

Commission Anderson asked if lighting at city parks and county parks will be reviewed as part of the plan.

Ms. De Rojas responded and stated that only city parks are being reviewed.

Chairman Olsen provided additional input regarding information from a Community Services Commission meeting where park safety was discussed.

Commission Lewis asked if the block wall standards are part of the Strategic Plan.

Chairman Olsen clarified the question.

Mr. Bautista said that the development of block walls standards is mentioned in plan, but that the standards will not be a part of the Strategic Plan when completed. He further explained the process staff currently goes through in reviewing and approving proposed walls along major and minor arterial streets.

Chairman Olsen mentioned the city's new wall loan program prompting a brief discussion on the matter.

Commissioner Lewis asked if high speed rail was going to be coming through the City of La Mirada.

Ms. De Rojas responded and stated that high speed trains will run on the railroad tracks parallel to Stage Road. She also mentioned that the speed will reduce when in route through the city and that cities along the speed rail will receive funds to review the plans and environmental analysis to address potential impacts.

Commissioner Lewis requested confirmation that no railroad station would be coming to the City of La Mirada.

Ms. De Rojas responded and stated that stations are scheduled to be located in the cities of Norwalk, Fullerton and Anaheim. She also clarified that the funds previously mentioned are to review the plans and not to construct sounding walls.

Chairman Olsen complimented Ms. De Rojas on the plan. He suggested that there be more interaction between the City Council and commissions/advisory bodies, that the appointment process is expedited and that maintenance at the Neff Estate be reviewed.

Commissioner Lewis asked about the improvements to the Code Enforcement process mentioned in the plan.

Ms. De Rojas responded and stated that improvements will include a more systematic approach to Code Enforcement that will identify focus areas and provide for more efficient follow-ups.

There being no further comments or questions, Chairman Olsen closed discussion of the item.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public spoke.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Planner Gabriel Bautista reminded the Commissions that at next month Planning Commission meeting we will be having the reorganization of the Commission. He also provided a brief update on the status of various projects.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the Planning Commission adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held on Thursday, June 16, 2016.

Submitted:



Norma Stein, Secretary

Attest:



Lee Olsen, Chairman