

CITY OF ESCONDIDO

ACTION MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ESCONDIDO PLANNING COMMISSION
VIDEO/VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

October 27, 2020

The meeting of the Escondido Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Weiler, in the City Council Chambers, 201 North Broadway, Escondido, California:

Commissioners present: Stan Weiler, Chair; Joe Garcia, Vice-Chair, Katharine Barba, Commissioner; Dao Doan, Commissioner; Rick Paul, Commissioner; Ingrid Rainey, Commissioner; and Nathan Serrato, Commissioner.

Commissioners absent: None.

Introduction of the new Planning Commissioner, Nathan Serrato.

Staff present: Mike Strong, Director of Community Development; Kurt Whitman, Senior Deputy City Attorney; Owen Tunnell, Assistant City Engineer; and Kirsten Peraino, Minutes Clerk.

MINUTES:

Moved by Commissioner Paul and seconded by Commissioner Barba to approve the Action Minutes of the October 13, 2020 Planning Commission meeting with the changes as discussed by Chair Weiler and Commissioners Rainey and Paul. Motion carried 5-0-2; Garcia and Serrato abstained.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: Received.

FUTURE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE – PHG 18-0009:

REQUEST: The Climate Action Plan Update (“CAP Update”) consists of a comprehensive update to the 2013 CAP. The CAP update serves as a roadmap for the City to reduce citywide greenhouse gas emissions (“GHG emissions”) and builds on the 2013 CAP by updating the GHG emissions inventory with a new baseline year and forecasting emissions, consistent with state legislation and executive orders that are aimed at reducing Statewide GHG emissions. This includes AB 32, which established a target of reducing Statewide GHG levels to 1990 levels by 2020; SB 32, which established a mid-term target of reducing Statewide GHG levels to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030; and Executive Order S-3-05, which recommends a longer-term statewide GHG reduction goal of reducing emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. By establishing consistency with state legislation, the CAP Update seeks to streamline future development approvals within the City. The City has also developed a Climate Action Plan Consistency Review Checklist, in conjunction with the CAP Update, to provide a streamlined review process for proposed new development projects that are subject to discretionary review and trigger environmental review pursuant to CEQA. The CAP Update also provides a range of adaptation strategies and measures as an additional component to climate action planning. The City recognizes the importance of building resilience in the community to future climate change—related impacts through climate adaptation. Through “adaptation planning” the City is undertaking a process of identifying climate risks and opportunities, assessing the options to manage these risks and opportunities, and implementing actions to sustain and even improve the community’s quality of life. The Planning Commission will be asked to review and consider the project and provide a recommendation to the City Council. The proposal also includes the adoption of the environmental determination prepared for the project.

PROPERTY SIZE AND LOCATION: Citywide

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: A Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration ("IS/MND") was issued for a 30-day public review, beginning on July 1, 2020, and ending July 31, 2020, in conformance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"). The IS/MND incorporates mitigation measures that will avoid or mitigate impacts related to cultural/tribal cultural resources to a less than significant level.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval to City Council

PUBLIC SPEAKERS (SUBMITTED WRITTEN COMMENTS):

Aisha Wallace-Palomares, submitted comments in favor of the CAP.

Richard Halsey, submitted comments in favor of the CAP.

Mathew Vasilakis, submitted comments in favor of the CAP.

David Robertson, submitted comments in favor of the CAP.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION

The Commissioners discussed many aspects of the Climate Action Plan.

COMMISSION ACTION:

A public hearing was held, after which Chair Weiler closed the public hearing. After some discussion on the matter, a motion to postpone the agenda item was brought and approved 7-0. Pursuant to the approved motion, the discussion of this matter will continue at the next Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for November 10, 2020, at which time Director Strong will provide recommendations on the two letters of Written Communication that were received by the Commissioners on October 27, 2020.

CURRENT BUSINESS: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Announcement that this was Kirsten Peraino's last meeting.

Welcome to the new Planning Commissioner Nathan Serrato.

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Weiler adjourned the meeting at 10:18 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, in the City Council Chambers via video conference, 201 North Broadway Escondido, California.



Mike Strong, Secretary to the
Escondido Planning Commission



Joanne Tasher, Minutes Clerk