

SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2009

The regular meetings of the San Gabriel City Council and the San Gabriel Redevelopment Agency convened on August 18, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor/Chair Costanzo, Vice Mayor/Vice Chair Huang, Council/Agencymembers De La Torre, Gutierrez, Sawkins, City Manager/Executive Director Paules, City Attorney/General Counsel Kress, and Deputy City Clerk/Agency Secretary Castruita present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance

ATTENDANCE

Attendance

RECESS AGENCY MEETING

Recess Agency Meeting

Agencymember Gutierrez moved to recess; seconded by Agencymember Sawkins. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

PRESENTATION

Presentation: 2009 Los Pobladores – Walk to LA in memory of T. Willard Hunter

Proclamation – Dedication of the 2009 “Los Pobladores – Walk to Los Angeles” in memory of T. Willard Hunter, Originator of the Annual Event.

Administrative Services Manager Smith presented the City Council with a photo montage of T. Willard Hunter. Mayor Costanzo presented the nephew of T. Willard Hunter with the proclamation.

PUBLIC HEARING: ADOPTION OF 2009 CONFORMANCE SELF-CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION 09-18 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Public Hearing: Adoption of 2009 Conformance Self-Certification Resolution 09-18 Congestion Management Program Approved.

Pursuant to the requirements contained in the Traffic Congestion and Spending Act of 1990, the City must monitor and report on the status of its congestion management program each year. The Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) Board changed the process in 2004, which temporarily freezes the credit balances for all cities. As part of the 2003 Short Range Transportation Plan, LACMTA staff is conducting a feasibility study relating to implementing a congestion management fee. A preliminary draft of the feasibility study has been reviewed by staff and comments have been submitted to the LACMTA.

Recommended Action: After holding the public hearing, that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 09-18 and direct staff to submit the resolution and report to the LACMTA.

City Engineer Mattern presented the City Council with the staff report.

Councilmember Sawkins moved to open the public hearing; seconded by Vice Mayor Huang. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

Councilmember Gutierrez moved to close the public hearing; seconded by Vice Mayor Huang. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

There was no one in the audience who wished to address the City Council at this time.

There were no City Council questions at this time.

Vice Mayor Huang moved to approve the recommended action; seconded by Councilmember Sawkins and passed by a vote on the board of five yes.

PUBLIC HEARING: CONTINUED APPEAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION MISSION 261 VILLAGE, 257-261 S. MISSION DRIVE (APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS, STREET VACATION, AND EASEMENT ENCROACHMENT – CASE NO. PL-07-143)

Public Hearing: Continued Appeal of Planning Commission Decision Mission 261 Village, 257-261 S. Mission Dr. (Approval of Environmental Documents, Street Vacation, and Easement Encroachment – Case NO. PL-07-143) to be continued to Tuesday, September 15, 2009.

The Mission Village project proposes to demolish one-story restaurant and park-and-ride facilities located at 257-261 South Mission Drive. Under the developer's original proposal, these would be replaced with a mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented facility encompassing a 54-room boutique hotel, 14,000 square feet of restaurant space, 3,500 square feet of retail space, public art, preserved historic features, outdoor dining, and 30 residential condominiums over subterranean parking.

Appeal: On March 23, 2009 the Neighborhood Association of San Gabriel (NASG) appealed the Planning Commission's decisions to approve the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (FSEIR), variance, conditional use permit, tentative tract map, and related entitlements. The Council was asked to consider these appeals, and to act on separate actions requiring Council consideration, including street vacation, easement encroachments, and certification of the FSEIR for those actions under the Council's authority.

Revised Design: On April 21, 2009, the Council considered the appeal and directed staff to facilitate meetings with the Neighborhood Association of San Gabriel and the developer. The negotiations resulted in a revised design.

Recommended Action:

1. Open the continued public hearing, taking public testimony regarding the revised project;
2. Confirm the developer's willingness to consider funding the additional environmental impact analysis necessary to evaluate impacts associated with the revised proposal, in addition to the outstanding balance owed.
 - a. If the developer agrees to proceed under this scenario, then continue the public hearing to a date certain so that the staff and consultants may perform that analysis for the continued hearing;
 - b. If the developer does not agree to proceed with the necessary analysis, then the Council should confer with its legal advisors concerning the best manner in which to proceed.
3. If the Council instead determines that it wishes to deny the project, then it should close the public hearing and direct staff to prepare the necessary resolutions.

Deputy City Manager Preston introduced Associate Planner Song who presented the City Council with the staff report.

Councilmember Sawkins moved to re-open the continued public hearing; seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

Alex Chang, project architect, presented the revised design proposal.

Public Speakers For:

Harvey Ng, Developer
Anna Armstrong and Richard Walker, Landscape Architects
Roger Yuen, Attorney for Developer

Public Speakers Opposed:

Senya Lubisich
Frank Schifani
Scott Bowles
John Harrington
Ellie Andrews
June Lai
Pete E. Escobedo
Rod Williams
Sister Sharon Dempsey
Luanne Lynch
Tino Martinez
Terry Kerger
Ernie Perez Salaz
Ruben Rucker
Eric Kirchhoff
Annette Condo
Isela Bowles

Councilmember Sawkins moved to suspend the public hearing for the purpose of Council discussion; seconded by Councilmember De La Torre. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

Councilmember Sawkins moved to consider the project as presented subject to an environmental review; seconded by Mayor Costanzo and failed by a vote on the board of four no and one yes by Councilmember Sawkins.

Councilmember Gutierrez moved to entertain a new project that is developed in the spirit of the Mission District Specific Plan; seconded by Vice Mayor Huang and passed by a vote on the board of five yes.

Mayor Costanzo moved to reopen and continue the public hearing to Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.; seconded by Vice Mayor Huang. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

PUBLIC COMMENT: PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.3, THIS IS THE TIME PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON ITEMS OF INTEREST THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA WITHIN THE SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL

Public Comment

Alan and Tracy Hoffman asked the City Council to amend the code to allow metal roofing.

Warren Cross, roof contractor, asked the City Council to amend the code to allow metal roofing.

Councilmember Sawkins moved to close public comment; seconded by Councilmember De La Torre. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

CASH CONTRACT NO.09-06 – RETRO-REFLECTIVE OVERHEAD MAST ARM AND POLE MOUNTED STREET NAME SIGNS

CC 09-06 – Retro-Reflective Overhead Mast Arm and Pole Mounted Street Name Signs Approved.

The Public Works Division will be replacing the mast arm street signs and the pole mounted street name signs with new retro-reflective signs. The City has a total of 34 signalized intersections which currently have illuminated signs which require regular maintenance due to burned out lamps and falling panels. The new signs are strictly reflective and do not require such maintenance. The new pole mounted street name signs will also be retro-reflective to replace the aging and faded signs for easier identification of street names and locations.

Recommended Action: That the City Council find United Traffic bid to be non-responsive due to not meeting the minimum required sheeting, and authorize the issuance of a purchase order to Zumar Industries Inc. for the supply and delivery for the Overhead Mast Arm and Pole Mounted Street Name signs in the amount of \$174,029.00 to be funded from Capital Improvement Program account #1-08-09.

Street Supervisor Lopez presented the City Council with the staff report.

Councilmember Sawkins moved to approve the recommended action; seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez and passed by a vote on the board of five yes.

CONSENT CALENDAR: ALL ITEMS LISTED UNDER THE CONSENT CALENDAR ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE AND ENACTED IN ONE MOTION UNLESS A MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OR AUDIENCE REQUESTS SEPARATE DISCUSSION

A. MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 21, 2009

Consent Calendar

Minutes Approved

The minutes are a record of the official actions taken at the last Council meeting.

Recommended Action: Approval

B. MATERIAL DEMANDS: 79926 – 80069 INCLUSIVE \$2,878,962.55

Material Demands Approved

This is the presentation of the “Register of Demands and Warrants” for the payment of City expenditures.

Recommended Action: Approval

C. 2009-2010 FISCAL YEAR RETIREMENT TAX RATE

2009-2010 Fiscal Year Retirement Tax Rate Approved

The City’s retirement costs are funded by a special property tax levy that was authorized by the voters in a 1948 election. Each year, the City sets a tax rate that will generate sufficient revenues to meet the retirement obligations.

Recommended Action: That the City Council adopt the Resolutions fixing the amount of property taxes to be generated for the City’s employee retirement cost for the 2009-10 fiscal year and setting the tax rate at 14 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

D. ADOPTION OF YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PLAN FOR THE VINCENT LUGO PARK RENOVATION PROJECT

Adoption of Youth Employment Plan for the Vincent Lugo Park Renovation Project Approved

In 2006, the City of San Gabriel applied for two (2) grants from Los Angeles County for the Vincent Lugo Park Renovation Project. The grants were approved and the County allocated funds totaling \$250,000 to the City. One grant in the amount of \$100,000 was funded through Fifth Supervisorial District Excess funds. The second was allocated as part of the 2006 Competitive Trails Grant Program. The grants were funded through the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. As a requirement of the grants, the City must adopt a Youth Employment Plan.

Recommended Action: That the City Council adopt the Youth Employment Plan for the Vincent Lugo Park Renovation Project.

E. “LOS POBLADORES – WALK TO LOS ANGELES” – MISSION ROAD/MISSION DRIVE AND JUNIPERO SERRA STREET CLOSURES

Los Pobladores – Walk to LA Street Closures Approved

Each year over the Labor Day Weekend since 1981, the cities of San Gabriel and Los Angeles have participated in the reenactment of the 1781 walk of

Los Pobladores (the settlers) nine-mile trek from San Gabriel Mission to found the town of Los Angeles. The cities along the route (San Gabriel, Alhambra and Los Angeles) close Mission Road to ensure the safety of the walkers. In 2008, approximately 500 walkers participated in reenacting the walk of Los Angeles' founding.

Recommended Action: That the City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 09-27 temporarily closing Junipero Serra/Mission Road and Mission Drive/Ramona in front of San Gabriel Mission and Plaza Park to Alhambra city limits on Saturday, September 5, 2009 at approximately 6:00 a.m.
2. By previously adopted Proclamation, dedicate the 2009 Los Pobladores – Walk to Los Angeles in memory of T. Willard Hunter, originator of the event.

F. REQUEST SUBMITTED FROM SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER FOR PERMISSION TO PLACE STREET BANNER

San Gabriel Valley Medical Center Street Banner Request Approved

The San Gabriel Valley Medical Center would like to encourage the participation of the community at their hospital's blood donation drives taking place at the San Gabriel Valley Medical Center on various dates with the first drive taking place on October 2, 2009 and requests a street banner to be displayed at the discretion of the City Council.

Recommended Action: That the Council approve street banner request.

Councilmember Gutierrez moved to approve the consent calendar as presented; seconded by Vice Mayor Huang and passed by a vote on the board of five yes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

Council Comments and Conference/Meeting Reports

Each Council Member addressed the Council and public on matters of general information and/or concern. Also, the Council gave reports on meetings they had attended.

ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING AND RECONVENE AGENCY MEETING

Adjourn Council Meeting and Reconvene Agency Meeting

Vice Mayor Huang moved to adjourn the Council meeting in memory of T. Willard Hunter and reconvene as indicated above; seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING:

Agency Meeting

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 21, 2009

Minutes Approved

Agencymember Sawkins moved to approve the subject minutes; seconded by Agencymember De La Torre. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

There was no one in the audience who wished to address the Agency at this time.

Agencymember Sawkins moved to close public comment; seconded by Agencymember De La Torre. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

C. ADJOURN AGENCY MEETING

Adjourn Agency Meeting

At 11:51p.m., Agencymember Sawkins moved to adjourn; seconded by Vice Chair Huang. There being no objections, it was so ordered.

SAN GABRIEL REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL

Nina Castruita, Agency Secretary

Nina Castruita, Deputy City Clerk

Juli Costanzo, Chair

Juli Costanzo, Mayor