



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025
City Council Chambers**

Mayor Cline called the regular session to order at 7:00 p.m. with all members present.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Menlo Park 4-H members of the San Carlos Eaton Hills 4-H Club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS: None

B. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS

C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1: None

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion and second (Keith/Ohtaki) to approve the Consent Calendar with submitted amendments to the September 20 minutes (D3) passes unanimously.

D1. Authorize the Interim Public Works Director to accept the work performed by Precision Emprise, Inc. for the Sidewalk Trip Hazard Removal Project ([Staff report #11-166](#))

D2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into an Agreement with Quality Striping Inc. for the Citywide Street Striping and Signage Program for the amount of \$102,257, with authorization to exercise an option to renew the contract annually for up to three additional years up to the budgeted amount each year ([Staff report #11-167](#))

D3. Accept Council minutes for the meetings of September 13 and 20, 2011 ([Attachment](#))

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

F. REGULAR BUSINESS

F1. Review of Planning Commission recommendations on the Draft El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan (Mtg. 4) ([Staff report #11-168](#)) ([PowerPoint](#)) ([PowerPoint 2](#))
Staff presentation by Thomas Rogers, Associate Planner

Public Comments:

- Michael DiMartino spoke in support of having auto dealerships on El Camino Real.
- Anne Moser spoke regarding housing in the downtown and requested it be included in the plan.
- Deborah Miller spoke regarding the shift on development that will occur if the Specific Plan is approved.

- Lawrence Zaro spoke regarding the vacant stores on Santa Cruz Avenue as well as the parking assessments previously paid by business owners.
- Pat White spoke against the plan.
- Chuck Kinney spoke in support of the plan and the extended process. He addressed housing and parking being accommodated in Parking Plaza 2. ([Handout](#))
- Patty Boyle spoke regarding affordable housing and the density of housing downtown.
- Jo Eggers spoke in support of accessible parking and suggested other locations to consider for parking in the downtown area.
- Richard Draeger, on behalf of the Menlo Park Downtown Alliance, spoke to the parking situation in the Plan. ([Handout](#))
- John Sobrato urged the Council to approve the Specific Plan. He made suggestions regarding the height requirements and density.
- John Conway urged the Council to relax density, housing issues and permit processing.
- John Kadvary made three (3) suggestions to the Council.
- Patti Fry addressed many items contained in the document, including public benefit and housing.
- Vince Bressler spoke regarding the public benefit ad-hoc committee and the document he presented at the previous meeting.
- John Donahoe, representing Stanford University, spoke regarding the property that Stanford owns on El Camino Real. Stanford requested that the Council maintain the 45 foot height and addressed the bike trail system that is being suggested. ([Handout](#))
- Chuck Bernstein proposed alternatives for the Council to consider. ([Handout](#))
- Richard Li stated the Plan is incremental to the downtown core and requested the Council continue with adoption of the Plan.
- Adina Levin spoke regarding the possibility of adding bicycle lanes to El Camino Real and requested that El Camino Real not be increase to three lanes.
- Jeff Warmoth stated it is important to adopt the Plan to provide property owners with clarity to set expectations for development.
- Jennifer Pollock made suggestions for downtown that would include housing, retail, and restaurants for people to gather.
- David Speer requested the Council to consider the fiscal impact of the Plan and to maintain the village character.
- Jeff Pollock stated that Menlo Park has a unique opportunity.
- Bob McIntire spoke in favor of projects with density.

Recess at 9:36 p.m.

Reconvene at 9:49 p.m.

Council Members Ohtaki and Fergusson announced their conflict of interest on the ECR SW area of the Plan and left the Council Chambers at 10:39 p.m.

Council consensus (3-0-2, Fergusson & Ohtaki recused) on the following:

ECR SW

- Endorse PC recommendation

Council Member Ohtaki returned to the meeting at 11:02 p.m.

Council consensus (Fergusson recused) on the following:

ECR SE

- Require protected bicycle network between the Middle Avenue bicycle/pedestrian crossing and Cambridge
- Explore potential for requiring protected bicycle network between the Middle Avenue bicycle/pedestrian crossing and Roble
- Preliminary staff response (A1-A2) to Stanford correspondence to continue to be explored and revised as needed in Final Specific Plan
- Façade height limit may vary with setback (3-1, w/ Cohen opposed)

Council Member Fergusson returned to the meeting at 11:13 p.m.

ECR (other)

- Endorse PC recommendation re: ECR NE + NE-R height

Review and Finalization of Overall Direction

- Endorse Council Member Ohtaki suggestion for revised language on Downtown direction #4f, 4g, and 5 ([Attachment](#))
- Explore potential for extending Station Area residential parking requirements to other appropriate transit-oriented/walkable areas
- Public benefit: explore potential for a simpler public benefit process that could apply to smaller projects which wouldn't require a Development Agreement; if not feasible, explain why
- Maximum Allowable Development: provide more context/analysis around this concept and explanation of what occurs when cap is reached

F2. Consider state and federal legislative items, including decisions to support or oppose any such legislation, and items listed under Written Communication or Information Item: None

G. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: None

H. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION: None

I. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: None

J. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS: None

K. PUBLIC COMMENT #2: None

L. ADJOURNMENT: 12:20 a.m. on Wednesday, October 5, 2011.

Margaret S. Roberts, MMC
City Clerk

Minutes accepted at the Council meeting of November 1, 2011