

# Housing and Planning Commissions



## SPECIAL JOINT MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** 10/4/2021

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom

### A. Call To Order

Planning Commission Chair Doran called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

### B. Roll Call

**Present:** Planning Commission: Andrew Barnes (arrived 7:30 p.m.), Chris DeCardy, Michael Doran, Cynthia Harris, Camille Gonzalez Kennedy (exited at 11:17 p.m.), Henry Riggs (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), Michele Tate Housing Commission: Lauren Bigelow, Karen Grove, Rachel Horst, Heather Leitch, Nevada Merriman, John Pimentel (arrived at 7:00 p.m., exited 7:15 p.m., arrived 7:20 p.m.)

**Absent:** Chelsea Nguyen

**Staff:** Assistant Community Development Director Deanna Chow, Acting Housing Manager Mike Noce, Senior Planner Calvin Chan, Assistant Planner Chris Turner

### C. Regular Business

C1. and C2. are associated items with a single staff report

C1. Consideration of a Resolution of the Planning Commission Authorizing Teleconference Meetings in Compliance with AB 361 ([Staff Report #21-047-PC](#))

**PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION:** Motion and second (DeCardy/ Tate), to approve the item as recommended in the staff report, passed 6-0 (Commissioner Barnes absent).

C2. Consideration of a Resolution of the Housing Commission Authorizing Teleconference Meetings in Compliance with AB 361 ([Staff Report #21-047-PC](#))

**HOUSING COMMISSION ACTION:** Motion and second (Merriman/ Bigelow), to approve the item as recommended in the staff report, passed 5-0 (Commissioner Pimentel and Nguyen absent).

C3. Housing Element Update/City of Menlo Park: The Planning Commission and Housing Commission will review and discuss land use and site strategy options to meet the City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) as part of the state-mandated Housing Element, and make a recommendation to the City Council on a preferred land use strategy to be further evaluated as part of the Housing Element Update process. The City's fair share of housing is approximately 3,000 new housing units, ranging at all income levels, for the planning period 2023-2031 ([Staff Report #21-048-PC](#)) (Presentation)

**PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION:** Motion and second (Riggs/ Doran), to forward a recommendation to the City Council that a majority of the Planning Commission is supportive of providing additional opportunities for housing and a variety of innovative suggestions were made, however, there are reservations about the packaging of the land use scenarios and the Planning Commission is unable to conclude a majority of support for any particular or combination of land use scenarios (i.e., Option A, B, or

C) to meet the City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation for the Sixth Cycle Housing Element Update, passed 6-0 (Commissioner Kennedy absent).

**HOUSING COMMISSION ACTION:** Motion and second (Pimentel/ Grove), to forward a recommendation to the City Council for proceeding with the land use scenario of Option C (Mixed Use Development Focused in Downtown/El Camino Real), with a modification for using the higher number of net new units in Sharon Heights (i.e., 588 units in Option A); encouraging the consideration of City-owned properties, excluding City parks/green spaces, for additional housing; and encouraging the consideration of engagement opportunities with developers to explore redevelopment of City-owned downtown parking lots (e.g., competition, Request for Proposals), passed 6-0 (Commissioner Nguyen absent).

#### **D. Adjournment**

Chair Doran adjourned the meeting at 11:54 p.m.

Mike Noce, Acting Housing Manager, Community Development