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THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

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CITY OF MENLO PARK PLANNING COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS MONDAY, MAY 3, 2010 CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA

Reported by: MARK I. BRICKMAN, CSR RPR License No. 5527

Emerick And Finch, Certified Shorthand Reporters Planning Commission Meeting

Jack O'Malley - Chairman Vincent Bressler - Vice Chair 4 Henry Riggs Katie Ferrick 5 John Kadvany Melody Pagee Kirsten Keith 6 7 8 CITY STAFF Deanna Chow, Senior Planner Justin Murphy, Development Services Manager Megan Fisher, Associate Planner William McClure, Esq., City Attorney 9 10 11 12 ---000---13 14 15 BE IT REMEMBERED that, pursuant to Notice of 16 the Meeting, and on May 3, 2010, at the City Council 17 Chambers, Menlo Park, California, before me, MARK I. 18 BRICKMAN, CSR No. 5527, State of California, there 19 commenced a Planning Commission meeting under the 20 provisions of the City of Menlo Park. 21 ---000---22 23 24 25

ATTENDEES

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| | | Page 3 |
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| 1 | AGENDA | |
| 2 | | Page |
| 3 | Call to Order - 7:04 PM | 4 |
| 4 | Roll Call | 4 |
| 5 | A. Public Comments | 4 |
| 6 | B. Consent Calendar | 5 |
| 7 | C. Public Hearing | |
| 8 | 1. Re Bohannon Development Company 101-155 | |
| 9 | Constitution Drive and 100-190 Independence Drive | |
| 10 | (Menlo Gateway Project) | |
| 11 | Staff Report - Justin Murphy | 11 |
| 12 | Commission Comments: | 126 |
| 13 | Adjournment | 192 |
| 14 | | |
| 15 | | |
| 16 | | |
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| | Page 4 | |
| 1 | CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Good evening. | |
| 2 | Welcome. I'm Jack O'Malley, Chair of the Planning | |
| 3 | Commission and I'm calling this meeting to order. To $\ensuremath{m} \ensuremath{y}$ | |
| 4 | right is Katie Ferrick, followed by Kirsten Keith, Henry | |
| 5 | Riggs. | |
| 6 | To my left is Vince Bressler and John | |
| 7 | Kadvany, and I'm expecting Melody Pagee to be here | |
| 8 | tonight, but she's not here at the moment. | |
| 9 | With staff, we have Justin Murphy and I | |
| 10 | think is that Megan there? I can't see, Megan Fisher | |
| 11 | and Deanna Chow is here somewhere roaming around the | |
| 12 | room. | |
| 13 | MR. McCLURE: There she is. | |
| 14 | CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: She's there, as | |
| 15 | well, okay, and Bill McClure, our City Attorney. | |
| 16 | Welcome. We're at the Public Comments | |
| 17 | portion of the meeting. Under Public Comments, the | |
| 18 | public may address the Commission on a Consent Calendar | |
| 19 | item for any subject not listed on the agenda within the | |
| 20 | jurisdiction of the Commission. | |
| 21 | When you do so, please state your name, | |
| 22 | city or political jurisdiction in which you live for the | |
| 23 | record. | |
| 24 | The Commission cannot respond to non- | |
| 25 | agendized items other than to receive testimony and/or | |

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from the March 22nd, 2010 Planning Commission meeting,

and the third item's approval of transcripts from the

April 19th, 2010 Planning Commission meeting.

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And I see that Melody Pagee is here.

The -- I think we can -- can I have

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1 COMMISSIONER KEITH: I appreciate that. as well. If we're going to say, you know, there's a misstatement, then there needs to be something to say 3 what the accuracy is. 4 5 It's just not accurate. We had this 6 discussion already last time. I don't want to, you know, 7 heat a dead horse COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Well, through the 8 9 Chair, I'm willing to suggest wording. I've done meeting 10 minutes for twenty or thirty years, and typically when 11 late information comes in, what I do is in parentheses 12 put the phrase subsequent to the meeting such and such 13 was verified. 14 So the parentheses and the phrase 15 "subsequent to the meeting" would identify that this is 16 clarifying information, not a report of words that were 17 said at that time. 18 I don't know what staff's position would 19 be on that. 20 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Sounds reasonable 21 22 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Right. I guess it. could say: "Subsequent to the meeting, it was learned 23 24 that the City's Park and Recreation Commission had not 25 approved its use unanimously."

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Page 6
     consensus on items two and three at this stage?
 1
 2
     Consensus?
 3
                    All right. And do you want to discuss
 4
     number one right now?
                    COMMISSIONER KEITH: Certainly. Just --
 5
 6
     I looked at the change, the proposed change to the
 7
     minutes, and just in the last part where it says: "Do
     not object to the use of turf," I'd like to have either
 9
     did not comment or they did not object or support.
10
     because there was no discussion.
                    So it shouldn't be just that they did not
11
12
     object.
13
                    I propose that we say that they did not
     comment or they did not object or support.
14
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY:
15
                                            Do we have any --
16
     any objections to that change?
17
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS: I would just like to
18
     verify with staff that although we are correcting to
19
     verified events at the Commission, there's the issue of
     what was said or was not said in the document that
20
21
     purports to say what was said.
22
                    We had a similar issue at another recent
23
     meeting where something was misstated, but we
     acknowledged that the report had to correctly reflect the
24
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misstatement.

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800-331-9029 Page 8 MS. CHOW: If I may just clarify, I did a 1 con -- a follow-up conversation with attorney with media regarding these changes in the minutes, and these words 3 that were provided to you this evening on February 22nd 4 minutes do reflect his -- his conversation or his 5 6 recollection of the meeting. And so he did specifically say he 8 wanted -- did not object to the use of the turf because 9 they did not necessarily support it in the proactive, but 10 they had the opportunity to object and no one did, and so 11 he felt that accurately reflected the Commission's input. COMMISSIONER KEITH: I guess -- I mean, 12 13 on that, it's nice if you recollect something, but that's 14 not what was on the tape. So I kind of prefer what Henry 15 just said. "Subsequent to the meeting, it was learned that the City's Park and Rec Commission had not approved 16 17 its use unanimously." 18 MS. CHOW: And I don't think Mr. Nino 19 would feel comfortable with that statement. 20 COMMISSIONER KEITH: I just don't think 21 that this is not accurate, either. 22 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Then I -- I'm going to suggest that we go back to basics and table this 23 till the next meeting and have some more discussions on 24 25 it.

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- is scheduled to make a recommendation to the City Council
- on all the items listed above at tonight's meeting. The 2
- City Council will be the final decision-making body on 3
- the proposed project. 4

1

- 5 We are going to change procedure. I don't
- 6 know if everybody in the audience has a copy of this.
- We're going to start out with introductory remarks from
- staff and then have the applicant presentation to provide 8
- 9 updates, and then we'll have the Public Comment after
- 10 that limited to -- too new information since the April
- 11 19th meeting, and then we'll have Commission's questions
- 12 of staff and then Commission questions of the applicant
- 13 team, and then Commission discussion and comments
- 14 considering all comments provided to date, including
- 15 written and speaker comments provided at the April 19th
- 16 meeting
- 17 And then we'll go with recommendations or
- 18 lack thereof on main policy issues, and if we do
- 19 recommend, then we'll go possibly with recommendation to
- 20 various applications listed on attachment A with one
- 21 motion or multiple motions.
- 22 So with that, I turn the meeting over to
- 23 staff.
- 24 MR. MURPHY: Yes. Thank you. Good
- 25 evening, Chair O'Malley and the Planning Commission. I

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that were received this evening?

2 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I didn't see them.

3 I haven't a copy. I was not even aware that there were

4 some changes to it.

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5 May I see it for a second?

6 Okay. Everybody have a copy of that?

COMMISSIONER KEITH: Yes. 7

8 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Any problems? I

guess they approved having read it, but I was the only 9

one who hadn't read it. 10

11 All right

12 MS. CHOW: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: The agenda item 13

14 D-1 regarding the Menlo Gateway project is continued from

the Planning Commission meeting of April 19th, 2010. A 15

16 Development Proposal involves applications for a General

17 Plan Amendment, Zoning Ordinance Amendment, Rezoning,

18 Development Agreement with Conditional Development

Permit, Tentative Parcel Maps, Heritage Tree Removal 19

Permits, Below -- Below Market Rate Agreement and 20

21 Environmental Review by Bohannon Development Company for

22 property -- for property located at 101 to 155

Constitution Drive and 100 to 190 Independence Drive. The individual applications are described 24

more particularly on the agenda. The Planning Commission 25

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just would like to provide a few introductory remarks. 1

Tonight is the second of two meetings on 2

the Menlo Gateway project. On April 19th, the Planning 3

Commission held a Public Hearing. The Commission closed 4

5 the Public Hearing after receiving comments from

6 seventeen people.

7 The staff memorandu -- memorandum prepared

8 for tonight's meeting supplements the April 19th staff

9 report with clarifications regarding the construction pro

10 forma, updates regarding the project architecture and the

11 Conditional Development Permit.

12 The Conditional Development Permit is

13 included as attachment B and C to the memorandum.

14 Attachment B is a clean copy. Attachment C is a red-line

15 copy showing the changes.

16 Since the printing of the memo last

17 Thursday, staff has received twelve pieces of

18 correspondence. Hard copies have been provided to the

19 Commission this evening and additional copies are

20 available at the back table.

21 Seven other pieces of correspondence are

22 related to the proposed tree removals associated with the

23

24 If the Commission has questions about any

25 of the items raised in correspondence, staff would be

1

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Hold off for a

Page 14

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Page 13
     happy to field questions at the appropriate time this
     evening.
 3
                    The purpose of tonight's meeting is for
    the Planning Commission to formulate its final
    recommendation for the City Council on the proposed
 5
 6
     project, the environmental review and the requested
     applications. The City Council is scheduled to hold a
 7
     Public Hearing on May 25th, 2010.
 9
                    To assist the Commission in formulating
10
     its recommendations, staff in consultation with the Chair
     prepared recommended meeting procedure as outlined by the
11
12
     Chair just now.
13
                    As the first step this evening, the
14
     Commission should confirm that the recommended
15
     proceeding -- meeting procedure is acceptable and make
16
     any refinements as necessary before proceeding with the
17
     rest of the meeting.
18
                    The procedure is included in the
19
     memorandum and on the additional handout provided
20
     tonight.
21
                    That concludes my introductory remarks,
22
     and I'd be happy to address questions regarding the
23
     procedure now; otherwise, other questions should come
24
    later as outlined in the recommended procedure.
25
                    Thank you.
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2 second. 3 Do we have approval among the Commission to proceed with this -- the meeting procedures just 5 defined? Anybody have a problem with that? 6 I believe the last time we -- we did this. 7 it worked quite well. 8 Now would the applicant come forward, 9 please. 10 MR. BOHANNON: Good evening. I'm David Bohannon, On behalf of Bohannon Development Company, I 11 want to thank the Planning Commissioners for your thoughtful deliberations on this important project for 1.3 14 Menlo Park, and thank you for your time and input at your last meeting on April 19th. 15 16 We hope that this Commission feels we've 17 responded to your concerns in a meaningful way. 18 Tonight, Tom Gilman of DES Architects will 19 make a brief presentation of some studies we've done for the hotel and for the Commission's feedback on those 21 studies. 22 We will continue to refine these designs 23 and -- as we move forward with the project. 24 Also here with us is Andrea Traber from 25 KIMA and Mike Mowry of Kimley Horn. Andrea is our

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| 1 | sustainable and LEED consultant and energy, as well. |
| 2 | Mike is our traffic consultant. |
| 3 | Also Joanne Breon of Breon Associates, an |
| 4 | urban economist with the project team. |
| 5 | Thank you again for your time and your |
| 6 | effort, and we ask that you recommend approval to the |
| 7 | City Council. |
| 8 | And with that, I'll bring Tom up. |
| 9 | CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Thank you. |
| 10 | MR. GILMAN: Thank you, David. |
| 11 | After we had been here last time, we had |
| 12 | heard some of the comments from the Commission, and |
| 13 | particularly with respect to the hotel design and brought |
| 14 | up the images here of that hotel, the portico share on |
| 15 | the right and the elevation from the freeway, from 101 |
| 16 | from the left, which is the major major exposure |
| 17 | that that you see from the freeway and essentially the |
| 18 | primary the primary exposure of the building. |
| 19 | What we decided to take a look at was |
| 20 | maybe looking at how to maybe adjust the form a bit as |
| 21 | opposed to simply changing materials and trying to make |
| 22 | it look slicker or fancier or whatever, but more doodads |
| 23 | on it. |
| 24 | We decided to take a look at the form of |
| 25 | the building itself. I think we've got a couple of the |
| | |

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800-331-9029 Page 16 1 sketches here that we -- we wanted to show you a little bit of the process that we -- okay. Here we go. 2 3 So we first started looking at -- this is the main little floor plan vignette here, the little --4 5 the main bar kind of shape of the tower portion of the building. We looked at well, what if we had kind of 8 a concave surface on that freeway side of the building, 9 maybe a little jog and -- and some adjustments at one end 10 of the building, this idea of trying to maybe get a whole different kind of quality or feel to the building by 12 doing that. 13 As you can see in here, we were starting 14 to look at what if a piece of the building kind of poked out a bit and kind of looked like a separate element. One of the things that I think that we've 16 17 been struggling with on this building is it's a 18 relatively long building, and being a hotel, it has 19 relative regularity in terms of room after room. 20 And so -- so I think that's one of the things that we're sort of struggling with, and so looking 21 22 at can we express a portion of those a little bit 23 differently. 24 Then if we go to this next study, we have 25 looked at well, maybe one of the things to do the start

Page 17

- to look at -- what if we start to look at this as maybe
- 2 two elements and really break the building in half so
- 3 that essentially it's -- visually it might have the
- 4 appearance of being about half as long as it is with two
- 5 major features in this case that might be sort of pulled
- 6 out, and this was still somewhat of a symmetrical kind of
- 7 look to the building.
- 8 Then we -- we decided to take it a little
- 9 bit further, and if you look at this plan up above, we
- 10 thought well, what if we had a couple of sail-like kind
- 11 of elements that had that same concave kind of shape
- 12 above that, then we might actually jog the building so
- 13 that we're not adding square footage.
- 14 We're retaining the same size building,
- 15 but by jogging the building, we're also -- even from the
- 17 of the building.
- 18 And so then on this freeway side, that
- 19 perhaps as that concave surface extends along, where it
- 20 would appear that the depth is getting longer that it
- 21 $\,$ maybe needs more suites or maybe there's balcony kind of
- 22 elements that would occur to provide some perforation and
- 23 so on.
- 24 So we started looking at this idea of
- 25 having this kind of duplicate sail-like elements that

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- 1 would be relatively glassy, a little bit more high
- 2 performance glass, a little bit more reflective so they
- 3 would have -- and maybe in sort of a pale green-bluish
- 4 kind of range.
- 5 So a little -- a little greener than the
- 6 character, color of the office buildings, but a very
- 7 light kind of quality.
 - And then lightly move it off the ends with
- 9 these balcony elements that might expose themself out the
- 10 end of the sail, as well, where these the two elements
- 11 break.

15

- 12 So then I think the final slide here, we
- 13 have this kind of taking that idea a little bit further.
- 14 I apologize for the lighting in here.
 - But this idea of having, you know, this
- 16 concave reflective kind of surface. We would still have
- 17 these dark bands here we're seeing in shade the -- the
- 18 passive sun shades that are again helping to cut down
- 19 on -- from a passive perspective some heat gain on this
- $20\,$ $\,$ surface, even though this has a little more activity and
- 21 a little more slickness to it and high performance
- 22 quality, and then again, we see sort of these
- $23\,$ $\,$ perforations that might occur at the ends of these sail-
- $24\,$ $\,$ like elements that would be the balcony pieces that would
- 25 come through, and that may be where the suites are

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- occurring inside.
- 2 The end view, the elevation is important
- 3 from the northbound traffic on 101 expressed with the end
- 4 suite element having some sun shades again, relatively
- 5 glassy and then have a portion of that, we have service 6 elevators, kind of housekeeping and some of those kind of
- 7 utilitarian elements that are able to provide a more
- 8 solid kind of balance, then, to that end wall.
- 9 So again giving us a little bit more
 - interest and that symmetrical kind of quality to that end
- 11 surface, as well, so -- you know, to get an idea of
- 12 having the signage up on the building so it's a very
- 13 visible kind of element.
- So -- but we started -- we started getting
- $15\,$ $\,$ help, and then on the ground floor -- so these elements
- 16 are really kind of cantilevered.
- 17 The ground floor itself simply has that
- 18 step we saw on the footprint, so we're having really
- 19 minimal impact in terms of the -- the pool area, the open
- 20 space and so on outside the hotel and restaurant that 21 occurs on the west -- or on the south side of the
- 22 building.
- 23 So at any rate, just wanted to give you a
- 24 sense of some of the design refinements and directions
- 25 that we've been studying over the last couple of weeks

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- 1 since we met last time.
- 2 So be happy to answer any questions.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: We'll ask you some
- 4 later on. Thank you.
- 5 MR. GILMAN: Sure.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Thank you.
- 7 Continuing with -- David, are you planning 8 to have anyone else speak? Is it your intention to have
- 9 anyone else make a presentation?
- 10 MR. BOHANNON: No, just available.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Now, we'll take 12 Public Comment, and again, I stress that if you wish to
- 13 make public comments on this, it should be on information
- 14 that was not been presented at the last meeting.
- 15 I also would request that you fill out a
- 16 comment card and that you try and limit your comments to
- 17 about three minutes.
- 18 At the moment, I have four comment cards.
- 19 Mr. Bedwell.
- 20 MR. BEDWELL: Hi. Good evening. I'm
- 21 Alan Bedwell. I live at 150 Emma Lane here in Menlo
- 22 Park, and I'm also the son of former City Manager, Mike
- 23 Bedwell.

24

- And one of the main reasons that I
- 25 returned to the City here in 2008 was not only because I

Page 22

consider it home, but also because the City that year mitigation, and the park is a large asset to the Gateway 1

Page 21

- made a major effort to honor my father's commitment to
- 3 the City and renamed Bayfront Park to Bedwell-Bayfront
- Park, and as a result of -- of that, I've been actively
- involved with Friends of Bedwell-Bayfront Park, a non-5
- 6 profit group whose goal is going towards education and
- 7 outreach to help people further enjoy the unique open
- 8 space experience that is represented by the park.
- 9 With that in mind, and under the Regular
- 10 Business agenda, we as a group, the Friends of Bedwell-
- 11 Bayfront Park just wanted to share a couple of thoughts
- 12 about the Gateway project.
- 13 First of all, we initially support the
- 14 term sheet for the project in general, but with one
- 15 caveat, and that caveat is that we'd like to make an
- amendment to the public benefit funding element number 4, 16
- 17 which proposes a one million dollar funding program for
- 18 capital projects for the Belle Haven community, Bedwell-
- 19 Bayfront Park and other -- other Citywide recreational
- 20 improvements.
- 21 We respectfully request that at least 35
- percent of that one million dollars, 350,000 should go to 22
- 23 assistance to Bedwell-Bayfront Park, but for the
- 24 following two reasons:
- 25 First of all, local impacts require local

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development, and it will be offering people both work 2 3 there and stay there in the facility with great recreational opportunities, an open space that wouldn't 5 otherwise be available to them anywhere else where the 6 Gateway project is located. 7 The increased use of the park will be a 8 good thing. More people out there enjoying the open 9 space is -- is a great experience. At the same time, it 10 will also lead to increased impacts. 11 Secondly, we really urge the City to use 12 that money, especially given the tough economic times that we're all facing, to address the Gateway project's 13 impacts and not use that money to offset any type of 14 operating deficit or impacts that are going on in the 15 16 City outside the area of the project site, and that that 17 funding really should address impact associated with

And finally, just in closing, we urge the

City dedicate the funds to improvements at the park that 20 21 not only enhance the existing user experience, but also

either Belle Haven community or to the park itself.

22 the experience of new and future users as a result of

23 this important project.

24 And we thank you for your consideration

25 and appreciate your time.

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- Thank you. 1
- CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Thank you. 2
- Mr. Tim Campbell. 3
- DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF CAMPBELL: 4 Good
- 5 evening, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Tim Campbell.
- 6 I'm a Deputy Fire Chief for the Menlo Park Fire
- Protection District. I'm here on behalf of your Fire
- 8 Chief Schapelhouman.
- 9 I'd like to thank the Commission and the
- 10 City Staff on considering the issues that we brought
- 11 forward, the safety issues and being able to provide fire
- 12 protection service for this project.
- 13 I'd like to thank the City Staff for --
- 14 for meeting with our staff to continue to try and work
- 15 on -- on a resolution that is in the best interest of the
- citizens, the City and the Fire District. 16
- 17 One of the things that we wanted to make
- 18 you aware of is our property tax income from this project
- 19 is approximately \$550,000.
- 20 Unfortunately, this will not cover the
- 21 planned expenses to be able to provide service,
- 22 particularly a ladder truck -- an additional ladder truck to the Fire District to provide this level of service for 23
- 24 the City.
- 25
- There is other single costs that we have

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- to absorb, including four and a half million dollars in 1
- retrofitting of our fire stations to take on this 2
- additional truck. 3
- It will cost approximately \$615,000 a year 4
- to staff this vehicle, and the cost of the ladder truck 5
- 6 of today's cost is approximately one and a half million
- 7 dollars
- 8 The district's more than happy to use the
- 9 \$550,000 in tax revenue to continue the year to year
- 10 services that we would provide with this ladder truck,
- 11 but unfortunately the one-time costs for this project
- is -- is quite large. 12
- 13 What we're asking of the Commission and
- 14 the City is to continue negotiations with us so that we
- can come to a resolution that is in the best interest of
- 16 both of us
- 17 We've pretty much asked to split the cost
- 18 of this ladder truck as a one-time cost to help offset
- 19 the total cost to be able to save us.
- 20 This project if approved will open up the
- 21 door to other possible high-rise projects, including as
- 22 stated in your plan for the downtown corridor.
- We have great concern of being able to 23
- provide the same level of fire service protection for 24
- 25 high-rise buildings in our fire district.

Page 25 So to help us with that, we're asking the 1 City to -- to split -- and the Bohannon project help 3 split the cost for that ladder truck while we absorb the other costs of being able to provide this service. Again, we encourage to -- this Commission 5 6 to encourage the City to continue negotiations so that we can find a resolution that would be of benefit to 7 everybody. 9 Thank you for your time. COMMISSIONER KEITH: I just have one 10 11 question 12 DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF CAMPBELL: COMMISSIONER KEITH: I -- I missed what 13 14 you said the increase in salary was. 15 DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF CAMPBELL: The staffing? 16 17 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Yes. 18 DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF CAMPBELL: We would 19 have to hire additional personnel for the staffing of this ladder truck. Those costs would be estimated at 20 21 about \$615,000 a year for the three different platoon 22 shifts that we would have staffing that. 23 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Thank you. 24 DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF CAMPBELL: And I'm 25 available to any other questions.

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1 However, the Development Agreement has written into it a number of ways that it expires, one of which is once it's done, it expires. Once the project is 3 built, it expires. 4 5 So it appears to me that the benefits and 6 the mitigation measures expire, as well. Likewise, if the project is not built, it also appears that the -- not fully built, the -- it also 8 9 appears that the Development Agreement would expire, and 10 I think that's something that needs to be addressed. 11 In the Conditional Development Permit. 12 there is something about TDM measures, and the very last 13 bullet of this TDP says that any of TDM measures could be 14 ended at that point. 15 So I think that there is some work that 16 needs to be done to ensure that the mitigation measures 17 such as TDM go on in perpetuity. 18 It isn't just to address greenhouse gases. 19 It's to address traffic congestion.

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 1
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Thank you.
 2
                    DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF CAMPBELL:
                                                  Thank you
 3
     very much.
 4
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: The next speaker
     presentation will be by Joanne Goldberg.
 5
                    MS. GOLDBERG: I'm donating my time to
 6
7
     Patti Frv.
 8
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: The next speaker's
9
     Patti Frv.
10
                    MS. FRY: Good evening. Thank you very
11
     much for this opportunity to -- to speak with you.
12
                    I want to talk about a few things because
    in my opinion, the devil is really in the details, and
13
14
     what governs this agreement is really about the
     Conditional Development Permit and the Development
15
16
     Agreements.
17
                   And as I read them this weekend, finally.
18
     it occurred to me that there are a lot of commitments
19
     that normally are put into a permit, like a Use Permit
     that you're used to dealing with that are conditions that
20
21
    are part of a permit.
22
                    In this case, a lot of the conditions,
23
    including the mitigation measures, are actually part of
    the Development Agreement, as are some of the benefits
24
25
    that are promised as part of this.
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does not also allow for public hearings or review by 3 either staff or Planning Commission like Architectural 4 5 Control or Use Permits unlike the current M-2 provisions, 6 and I'm not even sure it's legal. 7 You know, I'm glad our attorney is here 8 tonight, but the ZOA that's in the agreement right now 9 was not well distributed, and with the Draft EIR and 10 it -- it is not the same or more restrictive than that. 11 The magnitude of the public benefit 12 relative to the owner benefit seems to me that there's no 13 negotiated public benefit related to the office 14 buildings, which generate 77 percent of the net operating

income for the first fifteen years, according to the to

the pro forma that was provided, but it does provide the

because the world can change a lot in that many years.

The Zoning Ordinance Amendment for M-3

18 schools, traffic congestion, et cetera. 19 So if you look at the charts on the next page, it shows that there's no revenue really needed from 20

most impacts on local and regional housing, water,

the office buildings, anyway, to meet the guaranteed 21

22 payment. It's just a floor. It's not a bene. It's a

23

24 What I did is took ten percent of the

25 revenue that was in the HBS report just for the rooms,

review, and that -- that just seems problematic to me

there's no opportunity to do another environmental

things. It appears that even if the demolitions for the

Constitution buildings don't start until the years 2025

and 2030 or if there are material changes in the project,

I also would like to highlight a few other

Page 30

Page 29 and that exceeded the guarantee every year after the -you know, when it started, which is three years after the hotel opens. So it's pretty meaningless in terms of an incentive to get tax generating uses that is also not

3

5 6 going to provide anything extra. 7 The guarantee is also minor relative to

8 the total project net operating income. 9 So I'm hoping that you will make sure that

10 the loose ends are tied up. I hope you take your time 11 and I hope you encourage the Council and the City's 12 negotiators to continue negotiations.

13 I really don't think this is a done deal 14 yet if it's to me not good enough to -- in terms of the

benefits to outweigh all of the very, very many impacts

15 16 that come from the project. 17 The findings that you're required to 18 make -- or you could say you're not making them -- are

19 consistency with the General Plan, and the General Plan 20 Industrial Use, Land Use go -- still remains in the --21 even though the General Plan was amended, and that is to

22 provide significant revenue to the City in uses that have

23 low environmental and traffic impacts, and neither one of

24 those is true for this project. Just the hotel part.

25 I have says that you need to make a

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finding that it will not be detrimental to the general welfare of the City or regions surrounding the City, but the EIR does show that there are significant adverse impacts that cannot be fully mitigated, and some 5 mitigation measures and trip caps expire when the 6 Development Agreement expires. 7 And there's no relief for the additional 8 housing need. The BMR payments are part of the usual fee structure for the city, but there's no additional relief 9 10 for the 3,000 net new units -- housing units that are required for the City and region from the direct and 11 indirect net new jobs coming from this project, and the last finding is it will not adversely affect the orderly 13 development of property within the City. 14 15 This isn't part of any broader plan. It removes the po -- the potential for a cohesive plan for 16 17 M-2 or -- and, as well, for the Bayfront Expressway and 18 the entire industrial zone. 19 So again, I hope you will help provide the -- the way to address -- or -- or suggest that there 20 21 be addressing of these loose ends and continue 22 negotiations for a much more favorable benefit to the 23 community for this large project. 24 Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Thank you.

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Page 31 Any additional public commenters out 1 there? Seeing none, then the Commission will now 3 take over and we'll start by Commission questions of 4 5 staff. 6 Before I do that -- before we do that. I -- I expect that this meeting will go fairly long, and while we have people here, I'd like to publicly 8 9 acknowledge two Commissioners that -- one of which will 10 not be here after this meeting, and that's Miss Pagee who 11 has presented many ideas at these meetings and has spent 12 many years on the Planning Commission and we're going to 13 miss her. I wanted to thank her publicly for that. 14 And there's also the possibility that 15 Commissioner Riggs and Commissioner O'Malley will not be 16 reappointed to this Commission, and this may also be our 17 last meeting as -- as Commissioners. May not. 18 We just don't know, but I do know that 19 Henry has again spent many years active in helping the 20 town, and basically I think I expressed the feelings of 21 all Commissioners what a fine job you and Melody have

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Page 32 I see Vince, your light is on. 1 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Yes. I'm 2 wondering how much the City paid for the environmental 3 consultant report from Cushman & Wakefield. 4 5 MR. McCLURE: The -- it's fully 6 reimbursed by the developer. No net cost to the City of Menlo Park 8 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: What was the cost 9 for it regardless of where it came from? 1.0 MR. McCLURE: Yeah. My recollection is 11 that the original amount of the contract was in the 12 neighborhood of \$30,000. 13 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Okay. An 14 unrelated questions, but I have more questions here. 15 What's the City's policy on disclosing 16 meetings between Planning Commissioners and City Council

17 and development interests and does the City have a 18 policy -- did it at one time have a policy over different 19 things? 20 MR. McCLURE: The City does not have any

specific written policy on the disclosure. To the extent 21 22 that is a quasi-ajudicatory matter, and so things like

Use Permit or a Variance application. 23

To the extent that a Commissioner or City 24 25 Councilmember is considering information that it received

So thank you. Thank you.

Now, we will guestion staff about anything

22

23

24

25

done.

relating to this project.

6 they don't talk about opinions that were originated in a 7 meeting with the developer, then they have an obligation 8 to disclose the -- the content of that meeting? MR. McCLURE: What it means is if it's a 9

quasi-adjudicatory matter, and this is a legislative

11 matter --- a General Plan Amendment and a Zoning

12 Ordinance is a legislative manner.

13 If it's a quasi-adjudicatory manner and 14 they're relying upon that information or that information is forming the basis for their decision or their opinion. 15 they need to disclose that information. 16 17 If it's not, you know, forming the basis

18 of their decision and they're relying on the information 19 that they received as part of the Public Hearing, there's

20 no legal obligation to disclose any of that information

21 if it is not, you know, determinative of what their 22 decision is

10

23 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: You used two

24 terms there, legal terms. One of them was quasi-

25 adjudicatory.

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1 MR. McCLURE: Correct.

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COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Could you explain 2

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3 what those are and maybe give an example?

4 MR. McCLURE: Sure. A quasi-

5 adjudicatory matter is a Use Permit or a Variance where

6 you are applying facts to the law or you're applying the

7 law to a given set of facts.

So in the use Permit Setting, it's -- you

9 are -- you know, we have findings, required findings for

10 a Use Permit, and so that's a quasi-adjudicatory matter.

11 You're acting as a judge or a jury where

12 you are making a ruling or a determination.

A legislative matter is a Zoning Ordinance 13

Amendment or a General Plan Amendment and there are 14

totally different rules that apply to a legislative 15

16

17 Someone can have an opinion, someone can

18 support a -- a legislative change which is different than

19 guasi-adjudicatory.

20 So, for example, you can't in advance of

21 a -- of a Use Permit application or a Variance

2.2 application take a public position in favor of or in

23 opposition to a Use Permit or a Variance or evidence any

kind of predisposition to vote in a certain manner 24

because you'd be violating the due process rights of the 25

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individual who is applying for that permit.

With respect to a legislative matter, you 2

can, in fact, be in more of an advocacy position, either 3

in favor of or against something that is a legislative 4

5 matter because by its very nature, legislation is

6 typically supported or opposed by people.

And so you can come, you know, with some,

but you still have to have, you know, an open mind. You 8

9 can't be so biased that -- that your decision is made in

advance of -- of all of the information.

11 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Okav. Thanks for

12 the clarification.

13 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I don't see any

14 lights and I know people have questions.

15

16 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Thank you.

17 We -- we've had -- we've heard a bit about

18 and had discussions at various meetings about the public

19 benefit -- the revenue public benefit, and -- and so

20 tonight we heard a comment about it not -- nothing in

21 particular being attached to the office -- office space. 22 Is there a recognized financial instrument

that municipalities that can be attached to office space 23

24 in a natural way or can one be designed in a reasonable

25 way? Was that discussed at all? 800-331-9029

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1 Because that came up before the

negotiation. So I'm just wondering what the status of

that is. Any information that's relevant to that. 3

MR. McCLURE: Yeah. I mean, specifically 4

5 ideas have come up about having -- sharing or imposing a 6 fee for the Development Agreement process on the office

building based on gross revenues or, you know, some --

8 per foot basis or some other mechanism, and -- and that

9 was specifically discussed and brought up during the

10 negotiations

14

24

11 I mean, we specifically had a number of

12 meetings because one of the, you know, guiding principles

13 or one of the parameters, direction of the City Council

was to seek to achieve, you know, maximum revenue from

15 the overall project; not just from the transit occupancy

tax portion of the project. 16

17 So we had -- I don't know -- two, three

18 different negotiating sessions where we specifically

19 discussed that topic.

20 You know, we had a full discussion about

it and ultimately the applicant/developer was unwilling 21

22 to agree to include that kind of a component as part of

the Development Agreement. 23

COMMISSIONER KADVANY: So -- but -- but

25 conceptually that kind of financial instrument is

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1

COMMISSIONER KADVANY: At the same time,

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     straightforward, then. There's no --
                    MR. McCLURE: I've never seen it.
 3
     mean, I'm not aware of any cities that have imposed that
     kind of an agreement.
 5
                    It was a -- you know, a fairly u -- in my
 6
     experience and the experience of other City Attorneys
 7
     that I commun -- I -- I'm part of a network of City
     Attorneys around the state and we have -- share e-mail
 9
     communications and I put out e-mails to other City
10
     Attorneys in terms of whether anybody had done this or
11
     negotiated this or was aware of this kind of a component
12
     in other cities and, you know, there are other different
13
     mechanisms.
14
                    Increased TOT, you know, certain other
15
     kind of mechanisms, in-lieu sales tax, things of that
     nature, but no one communicated back that there was any
16
17
     similar kind of arrangement that had been used by any
18
     other city.
19
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Well, how does
20
     that fit in -- I mean, there's one -- part of it is -- is
21
     the instrument. So we have the TOT to work with.
22
                    MR. McCLURE: Correct.
23
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: But that only
24
     applies to the hotel.
25
                    MR. McCLURE: Correct.
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 1
     order to get the hotel.
                   COMMISSIONER KADVANY: I -- I understand
 2
     that. I agree, and we've heard -- talked about that
 3
 4
     before.
 5
                    At the same time, there is this big office
 6
     space --
 7
                    MR. McCLURE: Correct.
 8
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: -- component.
 9
                    The same -- you know, to me all I can
10
     think of is Stanford working with Palo Alto. They need
11
     to fis -- fiscalize their plan and they basically work --
12
     the analogy of Palo Alto is to Stanford as Menlo Park is
13
     to Bohannon, but we don't know quite what the -- I'm not
14
15
                    MR. McCLURE: Well --
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: To me, I think
16
17
     there's missing components in the equation there or I
18
     want -- I guess -- I guess I feel the responsibility,
19
     our -- since this is one of our last meetings, maybe the
20
     last meeting on this, our responsibility to the City
21
     Council is to know that, you know, either you can't --
22
     you can't do anything or what we're doing is entirely
23
     commensurate with the valuation expect -- expectations.
24
                   MR. McCLURE: Well, again, generally
25
     speaking, cities don't look at a valuation expectation to
```

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there's the magnitude of the project and the expected
 3
     fiscalization benefit to the developer.
                   So there's kind of a mis -- mismatch
 5
    between instrument and magnitude, at least as perceived
 6
     by some people, or at least that's -- you know, perhaps,
 7
     I don't know. That's an unknown.
 8
                   If there was retail, then there'd be sales
9
     tax, for example.
10
                    MR. McCLURE:
                                   Correct.
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: So that would
11
12
    happen with Stanford, the shopping center, for example,
     is ta -- retail tax goes to Palo Alto.
13
14
                    MR. McCLURE: The City of Palo Alto gets
15
    sales tax revenue from the retail portion of the shopping
16
     center. They don't get it from office buildings.
17
    There's no in-lieu payment, you know, for office
18
     buildings.
19
                    Generally speaking, hotels are desirable
```

back to Four Seasons -- substantial TOT back to them.

The City of East Palo Alto is not getting all the TOT from the project. They're subsidizing the developer in

The City of East Palo Alto, you know, gave

by cities and cities actually give money to developers to

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20

21

22

23

24

25

get hotels.

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1 derive revenue from the project -- from -- they don't
2 look at getting a piece of the value of the entitlements
3 they're giving.

4 That's not part of the -- cities don't 5 have the right to say, "Okay. I'm selling you these

6 entitlements for money."

7 The only mechanism to do that is a

8 Development Agreement.

9 So it's a unique instrument that

10 government is -- municipalities are given to negotiate

11 $\,\,$ and get some -- something that we couldn't otherwise

12 exact as part of the approval of a project.

13 So in the absence of a Development

14 Agreement, there wouldn't even be any discussion about

15 any of these topics.

16 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Exactly. I

17 understand.

18 MR. McCLURE: So -- so the issue is --

19 and again, I'm not the expert in it, but the hotel report

20 indicates that you can't build this hotel and generate

21 this kind of revenue without a substantial office project

22 to support that.

So if you -- the argument is -- and again,

24 I'm not proposing, I'm not supporting, I'm not advocating

25 this project. I'm just conveying information.

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Page 41
                    Whether you believe the information is
 1
     good or it's bad, they're saying -- the experts are
 3
     saying, Suzanne Mellon, whose expertise is in hotels, is
     you can't get this project, this hotel product and this
     expected revenue without this kind of an office project.
 5
 6
                    So what you're getting for this office
 7
     project is this hotel that is going to generate this kind
 8
     of revenue.
 9
                    In the absence of having that kind of
10
     hotel size, whether it's exactly that, whether it's
11
     something less, you know, again, I don't know, and there
12
     isn't a -- a sensitivity analysis to -- you know, to do
13
     that, to say exactly how much do you need. That's a
14
15
                    That's a crystal ball -- other than her
16
     expertise -- is you need -- there isn't enough office
17
     available there to support this kind of a product, so it
18
     could end up with a totally different type of hotel
19
     product with a lesser sub -- you know, substantially
20
     lesser amount of office space, but it would only generate
21
    in the neighborhood of $400,000 in transit occupancy tax
22
    because it would be a smaller hotel.
23
                    It would not be a full service hotel.
24
    Therefore, it wouldn't be generating the sales tax
25
     revenue. It wouldn't be generating the room rates that
```

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this kind of hotel would generate.
 2
                    So the -- so the issue is, you know,
 3
     again, if you want this kind of a revenue stream from the
 4
     hotel, then the argument is you need this size or -- or
     close to this size of an office product to support it.
 5
 6
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY:
                                           But you mentioned
7
     the development. I don't want to go on and on about
 8
     this, although it is interesting as it is.
 9
                    The Development Agreement, though, in
10
     principle would allow you to tailor --
11
                    MR. McCLURE: Correct. Exactly.
12
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: And so --
                    MR. McCLURE: And that's -- and that's
13
14
     how we were able to have the negotiations to -- so that's
15
     what we've gotten.
16
                    What's included in the Development
17
    Agreement, and whether that's enough or not, that's
18
     certainly within your purview to make the recommendation
19
     to the City Council however you feel about what the City
     should be getting.
20
21
                    I mean, that's part of what you're being
2.2
    asked to give input and a recommendation on.
23
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY:
                                           Okav. Well, I
24
   have other questions, but I'll let somebody else go.
25
                    Thank you.
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Page 43 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Do you have a 1 question related to this? COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Go ahead. 3 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Okay. I just 4 5 wanted to clarify what you said, because it's very 6 interesting to me. It sounds like the argument is oh, you need this office to build a hotel. Let's say I accept 8 9 that argument. That still -- there's lot of revenue 10 that's being thrown off by that office. I mean -- so 11 we're not collecting that revenue. 12 We need this office to build that hotel is 13 fine, but guess what? That may justify it, but that is a 14 heck of a lot of revenue that's being produced by that 15 office. 16 So it's -- to me -- I mean, am I -- okav. 17 I'm kind of leaning here, but I'm trying to get a sense 18 of what the basis of this negotiation was, and I think 19 that's what it is, and what I want to bring to light is 20 there's a huge benefit by you looking at it this way and 21 ignoring the -- the revenue stream that's being enabled 22 by the zoning action associated with the office. 23 And yeah, maybe the office is required, 24 but we're not tapping into that, and the argument for not 25 tapping into that is well, nobody does that.

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800-331-9029 Page 44 1 I mean, is this an accurate characterization of the negotiating process? MR. McCLURE: No. 3 4 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Okay. MR. McCLURE: 5 Again, we can only 6 negotiate to what the other side agrees to, okay. You 7 can't negotiate in a vacuum and say -- well, we get our 8 negotiating authority and direction from the City 9 Council. 1.0 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Okav. 11 MR. McCLURE: And we go and we ask for 12 things and we put things on the table, and the other side 13 says, you know, yes, they'll agree to it, or no, they 14 won't agree to it, and it's -- in essense, it's irrelevant what the economics are or how much benefit it 16 is to the other side 17 If they're unwilling to put more on the 18 table to get the deal, we don't have the ability to say, 19 "Well, that's not enough, that" -- because ultimately 20 it's the City Council that says that's either enough or 21 it's not enough. 22 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: So it's --MR. McCLURE: So, you know, negotiating 23 in the public process is one of the most difficult 24 25 things, because I'm sitting at the negotiating table

1

3

4

5

6

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10

11

12

13

14

not.

None of those items specifically included

So ultimately the Council has to decide --

MR. McCLURE: -- do we want the project

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     without my client or someone that can ultimately make the
     decision there. That decision is made in public by the
 3
     City Council as a whole.
                   And so you can only bring back what you
     can get from the other side to the City Council for their
 5
 6
     further review and input, which is what we've done.
 7
                   You know, we started the whole process
 8
     with that. We came back with a check-in on that and
     asked the Council for direction, and, you know, is this
 9
10
     enough? Do you want more? You know, and that's where we
11
12
                    Again, a negotiator is -- can only do
13
     what --
14
                    COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Okay. This is
15
     not meant to be a criticism of the negotiator. This is
     simply trying to understand the process, and it --
16
17
                    MR. McCLURE: What I'm saving is that the
18
     process is -- we went and we got what -- the most that we
19
     could get out of the applicant and presented that to the
20
     City Council in the term sheet.
21
                   It's up to the City Council to say that's
22
     enough or it's not enough.
23
                    In this case, the City Council said, "We
24
     want you to go back and we want you to have further
25
     discussions about the following list of items," and we've
```

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COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: 15 Well, I'm not 16 sure that's really the -- the compromise there. I think 17 there's a whole public process that we've started -- just 18 started now, and these -- it helps to have the public 19 looking over these documents and understanding --20 MR. McCLURE: Absolutely. COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: -- the revenue 21 part. 22 So I think we're getting started, but I'll 23 24 have more to say about that later. 25 MR. McCLURE: No. I don't disagree with

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gone back and we're continuing to have additional

a get a percentage of the rental income as part of the

Development Agreement, because we've been told that that

is a non-starter for them, that that's not going to work.

They're not going to agree to that. They're not going to

COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Okav

in this hotel revenue enough that we give up that item or

negotiate and pay in perpetuity or even for a period of

discussions with them on those items.

time a percentage of the gross revenues.

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     you at all. All of this is relevant, and -- and that's
 1
     what the Council is asking for your input.
 2
                   CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Katie.
 3
                    COMMISSIONER FERRICK: These questions
 4
 5
     are for you, too, Bill. Good evening. Just a couple
 6
     small Development Agreement questions to get
     clarification on
                    One of the public speakers wondered if
 8
 9
     we're allowed -- I mean, are we allowed to recommend
10
     allocation of a particular percentage of a particular
11
     benefit to go to a certain thing; i.E. the Bedwell-
12
     Bayfront Park 35 percent as an idea? I mean, is that
13
     something we're able to --
14
                    MR. McCLURE: Yes.
15
                    COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Okav. And then
16
     the other one is the expiration of the -- reading in the
17
     expiration for Development Agreement, are the
18
     conditions in the Development -- how are the conditions
19
     in the Development Agreement enforced and do they expire,
20
    including the TDM measures?
21
                    MR. McCLURE:
                                  So various different
22
     conditions are enforced in different ways, but the TDM
23
     measure is one that continues for the life of the
24
     project.
25
                    It's in the EIR. It's in the mitigation
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1 measures. It's in the mitigation monitoring, reporting

2 program and specifically in the Development Agreement, if

3 I can find it.

4 Paragraph 5.6 says: "The terms and

5 provisions of this section 5.6 shall survive the

6 expiration of the Development Agreement."

7 So again, there are specific provisions

8 throughout the Development Agreement that specifically

9 say that they survive the termination. The additional

10 $\,$ one percent TOT survives the expiration or termination of

11 $\,$ the agreement, you know, and certain other provisions.

12 But you have to look at -- at what the

13 specific condition is and where it's in different

documents to understand whether it runs for the life of

ii addamente ed anaerbeana wheener it rand for the fire or

15 the project or not.

16 So the -- the EIR specifically calls out

 $17\,$ $\,$ various different TDM measures that apply to each

18 component, each building within the project, and those

19 run for as long as that building is there.

20 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Thanks.

21 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Just to follow up on

 $22\,$ $\,$ that, so it sounds like it's sufficient that it be in the

23 EIR and not in the Development Agreement.

24 MR. McCLURE: It's both. It says that it

25 survives the expiration of the Development Agreement in

return.

1

Page 50

Page 49 the Development Agreement, that specific paragraph on 3 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. All right. And I have a couple questions. 5 I just wanted to ask, probably for staff. 6 I'm looking at things that were passed out May 3rd. 7 Modification 6.1, and I know we talked about this last time, but in looking -- I'm just curious. 9 I know 6.1.2 savs that "major 10 modifications would be allowed subject to review from the 11 Planning Commission based on the Planning Commission's 12 determination," and I'm just wondering on 6.1.1, who makes the determination? 13 14 MR. MURPHY: 6.1.1, the determination 15 will be made at the staff level by the Community 16 Development Director designee. 17 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okav. And then --18 I'm still confused on it, their definition of -- is 19 that -- do you think the definition of "major 20 modification" is included within that paragraph or not? 21 MR. MURPHY: No. That's one item that 22 was flagged that there's a -- a need to reconcile some 23 more lines with the -- the language in the Development 24 Agreement with this Conditional Development Permit, and 25 that was something that was pending the City Attorney's

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2 So that is something that we're trying to 3 disclose to the Planning Commission that there may be some refinements to this, but we haven't worked out the 5 specific language vet. 6 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okav. 7 MR. MURPHY: So it's important for the --8 if the Planning Commission has specific comments or 9 issues related to the concept, that's something that the 10 Commission can provide a recommendation on tonight and 11 that can be worked on between the Planning Commission 12 meeting and the City Council meeting. COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. Thanks --13 14 thank you for that clarification. 15 Is there -- are -- there are other issues. 16 I guess, the Conditional Permit that still haven't been 17 worked out is what you're saving. 18 MR. MURPHY: The majority of the other issues have been worked out, and that's kind of reflected 19 in the -- the red-line changes. 20 21 I believe the ones -- this issue about 22 modifications is the one item that was flagged in the 23 staff report that we know needs more work. 24 There -- there's the potential that 25 something could come up based off the City Council

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- check-in on May 11th regarding the Development Agreement
- 2 that could have some potential for ripple effects, and
- 3 there's other items that the Commission tonight could
- 4 flag that would require some additional refinement if the
 - Commission provided direction about a concept.
- 6 I'll just look and see if anybody recalls
- 7 anything else that requires anything else in particular,
- 8 but I think it's just that one section.

1

5

- 9 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. And we've
- 10 had -- we've had, you know, several people correspond
- 11 $\,$ with us since our last meeting, and one question that I'd $\,$
- 12 just like, if you could address this, is some people
- wonder why does this have to be -- if it's not totally
 worked out, why does it need to be recommended upon at
- 14 worked out, why does it need to be recommended upon at 15 this time if we're looking at something that has such a
- 15 this time if we're looking at something that has such a
- 16 long term? Can you just respond to that?
- 17 MR. MURPHY: Yeah. The project was
- $18\,$ originally applied for in 2004, then modified in 2007.
- 19 Since the spring of 2009, the City Council has played an
- 20 $\,$ active role in being involved in the project's overall
- 21 $\,$ timeline, and there have been multiple if not close to a
- 22 dozen check-ins about the overall project schedule of the
- 23 City Council, and the City Council has made the review of
- 24 this project a priority with the goal of it most recently
- 25 going through a series of meetings that would result in a

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- 1 decision by June of this year, and that's part of the
- fact that this project has been going through the review
- 3 process for a long time, and I think the Council believes
- 4 that there's a -- it's good for the community to be able 5 to focus on this and then be able to move on to some --
- 6 some other issues.
- 7 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. And -- and I
- 8 understand, I mean, in their staff report for -- I got so
- 9 many documents up here, it's hard to -- I'm looking for
- 10 dates of what I'm referring to.
- 11 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: The City Council.
- 12 COMMISSIONER KEITH: The City Council
- 13 meeting for April 6th, and obviously for term number one,
- 14 it's quality hotel, and it's quite clear -- I'm making a
- 15 statement, and then I have a guestion -- that the main
- 16 benefit that the Menlo Gateway proposal offers to the
- 17 City is the potential revenue and amenities of a hotel.
- 18 And that's -- that's true, right? That is the whole
- 10 And that s == that s title, light: That is the whole
- 19 benefit.
- 20 So I just need to understand a little bit,
- 21 $\,$ and I may know the answer already, but I want to hear it.
- 22 The hotel doesn't have to be start --
- $23\,$ $\,$ started for eight years, and then there is no completion
- 24 date; correct?
- MR. McCLURE: That's basically correct.

can get a final inspection for the building shell for the

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     I mean, there's -- sorry. There's certain steps that
     they have to go through.
 3
                    So they either have to pay a non-
     refundable non-applicable fee to extend it beyond five
     years or they have to have submitted a substantially
 5
 6
     complete application for a building permit which, you
     know, is going to cost them upwards of a half million to
 7
     three-quarters of a million dollars to put together the
     working drawings to submit a substantially complete
 9
     application.
10
11
                    COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okav. And so --
12
                    MR. MURPHY: And then just to follow up,
13
     on -- in terms of the completion, there's a need to make
14
     a progress on the hotel as it relates to sheetrock
15
     inspections, and that's an indication that they are fully
     intending to complete a project at that stage.
16
17
                    But in discussions, there wasn't something
18
     that specifically tied the actual completion compared to
19
     occupancy of the office building.
20
                    But there is something that's a major
21
     milestone for the completion of the hotel.
22
                    COMMISSIONER KEITH: And that's having
23
     sheetrock
24
                    MR. McCLURE: It's eighty percent of the
25
     hotel has to have passed sheetrock inspection before they
```

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office buil -- for any one office building. 3 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Eighty percent has to be done before they can get a final inspection for the office building 5 6 MR. McCLURE: Eighty per -- they have to 7 have obtained a final or a past inspection for eighty 8 percent of the sheetrock in the hotel before they can get a final on the shell and before they can apply for 9 10 tentative improvements for the first office building. 11 So they -- they are fully committed. 12 because they will have -- will have spent, you know, upwards of, you know, sixty, seventy percent of the cost 13 14 of constructing the hotel at that point in time. So they're fully committed to complete the hotel. 15 16 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. So just hypothetically, is it possible -- I understand what 17 18 you're saying. Financially, I'd love to hear from Dave 19 on this, perhaps, but financially, let's say you get the hotel and you're at eighty percent, but then you don't 21 finish it and you get the office going. 22 I mean, there's nothing that it says that 23 you can't -- or is there? Where is it exactly that says 24 that you can't start using the office if the hotel isn't 25 done?

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Page 55 MR. McCLURE: There is nothing in the 1 Development Agreement or the Conditional Development Permit that says they can't occupy the office building 3 ahead of opening the hotel. 4 5 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. And then --6 but that's even though in the staff report, April 6th, the main benefit to the City is the potential revenue 8 from the hotel. 9 MR. McCLURE: That's correct, but they 10 can't -- I mean, the problem is -- is that you can't --11 COMMISSIONER KEITH: I know it's --12 MR. McCLURE: They can't build the hotel 13 without building at least the first office building if 14 not two or three of the office buildings, and once you 15 sign up a tenant for the office building and you don't --16 generally you don't start the office building before you 17 have tenant -- a tenant or multiple tenants lined up for the first office building in order to get the financing 18 19 and the commitment to build the office building. 20 So in order to do that, you have to commit 21 to a delivery date to the tenant and you have to know 22 that you can be able to deliver to the tenant. 23 So they have to get the hotel moving along to get it to eighty percent sheetrock completion before 24 25 they can pull their building permit for the tenant

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improvements for that first office building or have the 1

shell signed off. 2

They can't do either one of those without 3

having an eighty percent sheetrock, which means they've 4

got about sixty million dollars invested in that hotel by 5

the time they can pull the building permit for the TIs to

get final for just the shell.

8 So, I mean, nobody's going to sit there

9 with a sixty million dollar investment and just let it

10 sit. I mean, it just doesn't make any economic sense.

11 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okav, right.

12 Presumably that's why you negotiated that in that

13 fashion.

14 MR. McCLURE: Yeah. I mean, they need

the flexibility -- again, this is part of the negotiating

process, but you have to have some flexibility that if 16

17 the hotel is lagging behind -- you know, you've really

18 invested a lot of money, and that's our concern to get it

19 up and going, that they're that committed to it, that

20 they've reached that level of, you know, permit sign-off

that we know the hotel's going to get completed. 21

22 It makes absolutely no sense they won't

complete it, but we've got the tie, the hold that they 23

can't pull their TI permit and they can't get the shell 24

25 finaled until they're eighty percent sheetrocked.

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been brought up by some speakers -- about the

25

24

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Page 59 for my sake just to get them out of the wav. 1 On the negotiating team, do we have at the 2 negotiating table -- as opposed to available by phone or 3 pre-meeting -- someone experienced with -- other than 4 5 yourself or -- and other than City Staff, someone 6 experienced with this level of real estate negotiation? MR. McCLURE: So the only participants in 8 the negotiating team were the City Manager, myself, Kent 9 Stephans and Justin Murphy, and between the City Manager 10 and myself, we've probably done -- and people in my 11 office, we have probably done fifteen development 12 agreements in the last twenty years. Some much larger 13 than this, some smaller. 14 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Thank you. 15 And I heard something rather odd this 16 afternoon, so I just wanted to verify. 17 You continue to represent the City of 18 Menlo Park at that negotiating table as -- as our 19 attorney? 20 MR. McCLURE: Yes. 21 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Thank you. 22 I guess this would be for Justin. I apologize. I have reviewed so many documents which 23

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     reassessment of the land.
 2
                    Can you respond to that?
 3
                    MR. McCLURE: So the -- the value of the
     construction will be reassessed. A couple of the parcels
    have been reassessed within the last ten years.
 5
 6
     substantially capturing most of the current market value.
 7
                    We did again put on the table the concept
 8
     of reassessing or having them agree to reassess all of
     the properties as of the date of completion of
 9
10
     construction, and they were unwilling to agree with that
11
     term
12
                    So they could reassess with buildings, but
    not necessarily the land.
13
14
                    COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. And I propose
    that in your negot -- your discussions, you brought that
15
16
     back to City Council and that's not a concern.
17
                    MR. McCLURE: No. It was part of the
18
     report back to the City some of the terms that we had
     sought through negotiations and were not successful.
19
                    COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. All right.
20
21
    I'm going to let somebody else ask guestions.
22
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY:
                                           Henry.
23
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Thank you.
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of questions regarding the negotiating team just for --

First, Bill, if I could ask you a couple

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The traffic mitigation I believe at one
point was not due to be enforced until all the office
buildings were complete. In other words, the project is
built out.

Is that still the case?

MR. MURPHY: There are multiple
mitigations related to traffic.

8 Are you talking about the trip limit?
9 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Yes. Thank you.

10 Trip limit.

11 MR. MURPHY: Yes. So I believe that one 12 is tied to full construction, but let me just look. Yes,

13 that's completion of project buildout, so that would --

14 with the Independence space being first, that would mean

15 the Constitution phase second and that would mean the

16 second office building on Constitution.

second office building on Constitution.

17 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Okay. But among the

18 TDM aspects that would be phased in, that would

19 presumably include, for example, bicycle storage within

20 the office building that is built.

21 So essentially the site aspects would be

 $22\,$ $\,$ built in. It would be primarily the trip generation

23 penalty that would not engage until published.

24 MR. MURPHY: The trip limit penalty, yes,

25 would definitely not apply. That's a condition of

all tend to blend together at some point.

seemed like a good idea prior to the meeting, but they

Page 61 approval 8.68, but there's the separate mitigation and condition related specifically to TDM, and that's one 3 thing that's reflected as a change writing 8.65 just to clarify that the -- clarify what the intent was. The TDM would be implemented in phases 5 6 based off the construction. So there would be some 7 physical site change -- amenities, but also things like shuttles would need to start up. Maybe not be the full 9 extent, but shuttle service would need be enhanced as 10 individual phases of the project are completed. 11 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Okay. Thank you. 12 And then shifting gears somewhat, I see Chip is back there. I don't know. You might want to 13 14 field this, though, Justin. Oh, maybe it's more Public Works, but 15 16 these sidewalks that would be anticipated location, 17 dimension and type of sidewalks that would necessitate 18 the removal of the mature trees. 19 Has the team considered -- that is, the 20 entire team, staff and developer -- alternative sidewalks that either could be modified as the trees affected them? 21 22 Whether that meant going around occasionally a tree or 23 having to repair a sidewalk in the future. 24 I have another alternative, but are -- are 25 alternatives being examined?

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Page 63 1 recommendation encouraging the property owner to make a good -- the developer of this project to make a good 2 faith effort to secure the public access easement that 3 would greatly increase the chances of preserving those 4 5 three trees. 6 If there's some other specific trees that 7 you're concerned about, when you talk about those specific trees, I'm personally familiar with a lot of the 8 9 trees. Otherwise, yes, we did look at what the best 10 designs were for retaining trees. 11 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: That is terrific. I 12 will throw out for that intersection, because I believe 13 we have parking on both streets, on both sides, 14 potentially at the intersection bulb-out could take the 15 place of what is currently reserved for parking. 16 Admittedly we don't park on intersections. 17 but that might allow the sidewalk to bump out into what 18 is currently the roadway? 19 MR. MURPHY: Are you talking specifically 20 about the intersection of Constitution and Chrysler? 21 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Yes. 22 MR. MURPHY: All right. So with that 23 intersection as part of mitigation, traffic mitigation 24 for the project, there's a need for the traffic signal. 25 and then with the traffic signal, the -- the lanes to

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 1
                    MR MITRPHY:
                                  Yes. I mean, the -- are
     you -- there's a number of components associated with
 3
     sidewalks for the project.
                    Are you -- are you talking about the
 5
     connecting offsite sidewalks --
 6
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS:
 7
                    MR. MURPHY:
                                 -- or are you talking about
 8
     the sidewalks on the project?
 9
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Within the right-of-
10
     wav.
                    MR. MURPHY: Right. So those involved a
11
12
     lot of analysis about the quality of the trees, the
     location of sidewalks, type of sidewalks, including
13
     walking -- me personally along with two arborists walking
14
     the site to get a understanding for it.
15
16
                    The plans submitted we feel are the --
17
     including the various alternatives that are shown are the
18
     staff's best recommendation for -- for the sidewalks and
19
     tree locations.
                    So it's mainly the trees at the corner of
20
21
     Constitution and Chrysler that are the most mature that
22
     would we think benefit from an alternative.
23
                    Unfortunately, that alternative would
24
    require the consent of a private property owner that's
    not involved with the development, but we are as a
25
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800-331-9029 Page 64 1 accommodate it. So that was looked at as a possibility, 2 but we didn't --3 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: I see what you're 4 5 saying. All right. Understood. 6 I have a couple more items, but I'd like to hold them for later CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Katie, I see your 8 9 light on again. 10 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Thanks Just 11 really briefly. This one's for Bill. 12 The below market rate housing agreement 13 has been characterized by some as an amount that is no 14 more than would be required by a normal level of fees for 15 a project of this size. 16 Would you agree with that characterization 17 or is it actually, you know, smaller or larger or what? MR. McCLURE: That's a fair 18 19 characterization. 20 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Okay. Thank you. 21 And can a Development Agreement include 22 building plan review by the Planning Commission prior to 23 permits being issued? MR. McCLURE: Say that again. 24 25 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Well, if some of

1

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Page 65 the buildings aren't going to be constructed for ten or more years, things change, you know, styles change, 3 materials that are preferred, you know, better, higher performing than what's available today, that sort of thing, like there's some sort of review of the building plans more specific. 6 7 MR. McCLURE: So like Architectural 8 Control? COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Yeah. I don't 9 10 know -- I know we don't have Architectural Control in the 11 City, but just something that we're not approving in 2010 12 standards when something's going to be built in potentially 25. 13 14 MR. McCLURE: So that's part of the 15 reason for the language about substantially consistent 16 and allowing at a staff level or City Manager or designee 17 level, you know, non-significant changes that don't 18 affect the height, square footage, use, you know, various 19 other caveats or limitations on what modifications. 20 But there could be, you know, what are 21 considered minor modifications, which would be 22 architectural type of materials, those kinds of things 23 that could be approved at a staff level. In theory, it

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could be also be done at the Planning Commission level.

The concern as expressed by the applicant

24

25

3 be imposed that weren't part of the original negotiation. So that's the concern they had and why as 5 long as it is non-material, they requested that it be at 6 a staff level review. 7 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: I see. 8 MR. McCLURE: We have had -- we talked about this internally -- with the Vintage Oaks project, 9 10 the Seminary Oaks, whatever it's called, that was part of 11 the seminary property, there was a non-discretionary review and comment process where it came back to the 1.3 Planning Commission for review and comment on the final architectural design of the houses, and -- and so they 14 15 made a presentation. 16 The Planning Commission had the ability to 17 comment, but it was a non-binding review and approval 18 process. 19 It was simply a way to give the public and Planning Commission the opportunity to give comment on 20 21 the final design of those houses. 22 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: And if -- I 23 believe I heard from one of the applicant's consultants that the LEED gold standard that is part of the project 24 25 is going to be LEED gold standard in the time that it's

is not having a discretionary review process where

something could get denied or additional conditions could

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|----|---|
| 1 | built, not in whatever today's is or |
| 2 | MR. McCLURE: No. The way the the |
| 3 | language is in the Development Agreement is they've |
| 4 | agreed to LEED gold and silver as of the date of the time |
| 5 | they registered it with the LEED organization, which is |
| 6 | typically the way it applies in the LEED process. |
| 7 | COMMISSIONER FERRICK: But they can't |
| 8 | register it with the LEED organization until they're |
| 9 | closer |
| 10 | MR. McCLURE: They registered it in |
| 11 | 2009 |
| 12 | COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Oh, they already |
| 13 | did. |
| 14 | MR. McCLURE: as part of the |
| 15 | application process for this project. |
| 16 | COMMISSIONER FERRICK: And then this |
| 17 | might be actually a question for later, so I'll wait on |
| 18 | that, my garage question. |
| 19 | Thank you. |
| 20 | CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: And John, do you |
| 21 | mind if I ask a question? |
| 22 | COMMISSIONER KADVANY: No. |
| 23 | CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I usually don't |
| 24 | get an opportunity to do so. |
| 25 | I this again is for Bill. You |
| 23 | 1 this again is for site. Tou |

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1 mentioned that you and our City Manager have had many

years of experience along the lines of reviewing this

type of Development Agreement and for a number of very 3

large projects. 4

5 Does this include experience in financing,

6 as well?

MR. McCLURE: Yes. I mean, part -- part

of my private practice, I do real estate, so purchase, 8

9 sale, financing of real estate. Not of this magnitude,

10 but, you know, I do -- I am familiar with those issues.

11 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I'd like to ask

12 you a financial question, if I may.

13 The -- the financial valuation that was

14 presented to us in one of the reports said -- indicated

that the return on investment for this particular project

16 was less than fifteen percent, I think 12.6 percent or

17 something close to that, and they made the statement that

18 normal expectations on the part of the people who finance

19 at this level, which is exceedingly high-level finance,

normally -- normally expect to have fifteen percent. 20

21 Is that consistent with your experience

22 over the years?

MR. McCLURE: It varies, but that is kind

24 of the general accepted, and that is a return from both a

25 cash on cash return of operations as well as the, you 18 But institutional investors expect a

their expectation is.

19 larger return for that kind of a financial investment and 20

a fifteen percent return when they're going into it, but

that -- you know, it all depends on the investor and what

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1

15

16

17

21 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Okay. So one

22 could conclude if the Planning Commission made

23 recommendations that would drastically affect the return

24 on investment, that it might be more difficult to obtain

25 financing of a project of this size.

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- then that would require a Zoning Ordinance Amendment to addition to a straight rezoning of the property to modify
- 2
- the applicability. 3
- COMMISSIONER KADVANY: A Zoning Ordinance 4
- 5 Amendment. Okay. So that's an amendment. So that's
- 6 what -- that's what we have in front of us here is the
- Zoning Ordinance amendment now? Yes/no?
- MR. MURPHY: Right, but it would be a 8
- 9 more streamlined amendment as opposed to creating a whole
- 10 new district
- 11 The district would be there, but it would
- 12 require another, you know, conscious step of the -- the
- 13 Planning Commission recommendations, City Council action
- 14 to amend the Zoning Ordinance to expand the
- 15 applicability.
- COMMISSIONER KADVANY: All right. But in 16
- 17 any case, this just refers to this particular realization
- 18 of -- all right.
- 19 I -- there's a -- in the purp -- in the
- 20 purpose statement which tees up this whole section.
- 21 there's a -- there's this phrase that I found curious for
- 22 several months now which goes something like "allowing
- for modern business practices that often lead to shifts 23
- in primary business functions over time." It sounds to 24
- 25 me like that -- that they change what they do.

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 1
                    MR. McCLURE: Again, it's -- ultimately
     up to the Bohannons and whether the return on investment
 3
     is adequate for them.
 4
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: And I'll ask him
     that question later. Thank you.
 5
 6
                    John.
7
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Thank you.
 8
                    I -- I have some questions related to the
     proposed General -- General Plan Amendment, Zoning, and I
 9
10
     may not be clear exactly about what goes where, but for
11
     exam -- for example, I'm just looking -- what I have in
     front of me for my reference is attachment J from the
    April 19th staff -- staff report's draft -- draft
13
14
     ordinance.
                   It has a section on applicability, which
15
16
     is this -- the area that we're looking at here on the
17
    map. So there's applicability of what? What's being
18
     limited there besides the --
19
                    MR. MURPHY: The applicability is related
     to this zoning district. So this zoning district only
20
21
    applies to that area.
22
```

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COMMISSIONER KADVANY:

MR. MURPHY: In the future, it could, but

designation can apply elsewhere in the future?

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23

24

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So -- but the M-3

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Why is that there? What is -- what is 1

that telling us? What does that do that we couldn't do

without it? 3

MR. MURPHY: I -- I believe that part of 4

- 5 that is a reflection of what's sometimes called this
- high-tech flex space that oftentimes buildings are -- are
- built and the exact functions they incur in that space
- 8 change over time, and this is a topic that has been
- 9 subject to quite a bit of discussion in -- in the City
- 10 dating back to 1997 through the dot.com boom and then
- 11 discussions, as well.
- 12 So I think this is a reflection of a bit
- 13 of history of how the certain Use Permit requirements
- that are currently on the books as it relates to $\mbox{M--}\mbox{2}$ differentiate the types of specific spaces within a
- building, and this sort of purpose statement provides 16
- 17 greater flexibility in how some of those spaces would be
- 18 used.

14

- 19 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Well, you know,
- it's there. It seems -- still seems mysterious to me. 20
- It's not clear how important it is, but in any case. 21
- 22 Here the definite question is basically
- the dimensions of the lots to which this may apply. So 23
- we have a minimum lot ac -- area of three acres, at least 24
- 25 200 by 200 feet.

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assuming the aggregation difficulty is overcome, because

So what -- what can we possibly do --

23

24

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25

these criteria.

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Page 75 know, I'm a developer. I buy it up. I aggregate. What 1 kind of building could I build on a three acre plot 2 meeting these -- meeting these criteria? How many 3 stories is it? How much -- you know, would that leave 4 5 open for parking and so on? Just what would be these --6 MR. MURPHY: You'd have to go through, 7 then, the other development regulations. If you want to go back to that page, I can go to that, but from memory, 8 9 it's the 45 percent FAR. I think it's 45 feet in height, 10 so that's roughly three stories. 11 The parking would be room for 300, so this 12 is -- to meet those requirements, it would be -- if 13 you're familiar with the 180-190-200 Jefferson on 14 Jefferson Drive where there's a jog in the road, it -- it 15 would roughly equate to that. 16 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: I don't know that 17 building --18 MR. MURPHY: Okav. 19 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: -- by memory. 20 MR. MURPHY: Okav. 21 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: This is a reason 22 why these kinds of criteria for characterizing buildings 23 are so irrational, because people can't interpret what 24 they mean.

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     of ownership, what can we conceivably see in principle in
     that area -- say in that interior zone given these
 3
     criteria?
                    MR. MURPHY: Yeah. I mean, part of that
     would just be complete -- part of it would be
 5
 6
     speculating, but if you wanted to -- because -- and the
     aggregation is probably the biggest issue, but I
 7
     previously referred to a page in the fiscal impact
     analysis at the last meeting, I referred to that.
 9
10
                    It lists all the property sizes with the
11
     twelve properties that are located between the two
12
     project sites. Not a single one is at three acres, but
     once you start looking at more than one property, then
13
     you can start getting properties that are at least three
14
15
     acres.
                    So -- I can -- I can pull up that specific
16
17
     table again and go through that with you if you'd like.
18
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Well, no. I just
19
     mean roughly speaking -- I mean, well, how many -- what's
     the total acreage of the interior? About sixteen or
20
21
     something?
22
                    So like four -- there's at least four
23
     three acre plots in there or something. Let's take one
24
     of those.
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What could you do? I come here. I -- you

800-331-9029 emerickfinch@emerickfinch.com Page 76 1 mean, but I don't want -- I'm not going to belabor the 2 3 So anot -- okay. I have some other questions that I want to ask about the General Plan Amendment, but 4 5 I'll do those for -- after somebody else goes. 6 Thanks 7 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: This question is for 8 Bill, and what triggers a reassessment in a normal world? 9 MR. McCLURE: Fifty percent change of 10 ownership. 11 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: So if two adjacent parcels owned by two different people are merged, then 12 13 that would trigger it? 14 MR. McCLURE: It would likely trigger a 15 reassessment. 16 So if they end up putting these parcels 17 together under a new ownership entity where you don't end 18 up with the identical ownership as it was preexisting, it 19 could -- would likely trigger reassessment because it 20 would be a change of ownership. COMMISSIONER PAGEE: 21 Okay. And then do

I don't know -- I don't know what they

we have -- currently, do we have any architects on staff

that are -- we have people are undergraduate degrees in

MR. MURPHY: We don't have any people

to review -- to do architectural review?

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Page 77 architecture. We don't have anybody that's a licensed architect. 3 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: For these LEED standards, realizing that LEED -- LEED is evolving and improving over the years, what precipitated -- I can 5 6 understand registering a project for an imminent project, but why was a line placed in the sand so early and then 7 8 written into this Development Agreement? MR. McCLURE: Again, this was a 9 10 negotiated term in terms of the -- we wanted to make sure 11 that the Development Agreement had -- there was 12 representations it would be designed to LEED standards. 13 So we then zeroed in on defining that, and 14 defining it, you know, we would try to get the language 15 in that it would be LEED standard as of the date that 16 they submit the building permit application for any 17 individual building, and their discomfort related 18 around we don't know what those are going to be at the 19 time. You know, Development Agreements lock-in laws in 20 effect generally at the time the Development Agreement is 21 entered into and the project is approved. 22 So they insisted upon the 2009 as the 23 date 24 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Okay. So I -- I 25 quess the City realizes that LEED gold today might be a

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Page 79 district. 1 2 So other than that piece, the City of Menlo Park gets about eleven percent of the property tax 3 4 revenue. 5 So the -- the land -- to the extent that 6 land is reassessed, for every million dollars of reassessment of land, the City gets one -- you know, eleven percent of the one percent. 8 9 So we get about \$1,100 for every million 10 dollars per year. That's the sum total we get for 11 reassessment. 12 COMMISSIONER KEITH: 1,100? Is that 13 right? 14 MR. McCLURE: Yeah, because the -- one 15 percent is 10,000, and we get eleven percent of the one 16 percent 17 COMMISSIONER KEITH: 18 MR. McCLURE: So if it's a hundred 19 million dollars, it's only \$110,000 to the City of Menlo 20 Park. 21 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. Thank you. 22 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I turned my light 23 off. I have a -- I think a very simple question for 24 Justin. 25 I'm looking at 7.1.3, and it reads:

```
Page 78
     certificate ten years from now, so --
 2
                    MR. McCLURE:
                                  Again, we understand what
 3
     the implications are. ,and that's a term that you can
     comment or make recommendation on.
                    COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Okav.
 5
 6
                    MR. McCLURE: Ultimately, again, it's up
7
     to the City Council when it comes to them whether the
 8
     terms are acceptable or not.
                   COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Right. Okav.
 9
10
     That's all for now. Thank you.
                   COMMISSIONER KEITH: I just have kind of
11
12
     a follow-up question on that a little bit.
                   You know, she's asking about the
13
     reassessment of land and normally, you're saying it's
14
15
     fifty percent change of ownership.
16
                    And on another tetra to the question, what
17
    percentage of property taxes goes to the city versus the
18
     state?
19
                    MR. McCLURE: Well, the state doesn't --
     in theory, the state doesn't get any, but some of the
20
    school tax money goes -- ends up -- the state gets credit
21
22
     for it when the tax revenue goes up for a school district
23
     that is fully subsidized by the state.
                    So the state gets the credit when the
24
   property tax goes up. It doesn't go to the school
25
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Page 80 "Prior to recording the final parcel map, all existing 1 structures that cross proposed property lines for 2 conflict with proposed easements shall be demolished and 3 final inspections for the demolition permits shall be 4 obtained. Any remaining buildings on each side shall be 5 6 demolished prior to building permit issuance for each 7 8 I -- would you just reword that and help 9 me understand it? What -- what buildings -- if we're 1.0 looking at the buildings here, which -- which of the 11 present buildings would be affected, I guess? MR. MURPHY: Let's see. So 7.1 re --12 13 relates to the Independence site, and -- and then 7.2 14 relates to the Constitution site, and this whole section of the Conditional Development Permit is just intended to 16 get the basic sequencing understood and ultimately a lot 17 of the specific conditions that are then in 8 would 18 prevail. 19 So this -- because the project involves 20 some modifications to some lot lines that's being accomplished through a tentative parcel map at this 21 stage, and then later on, there'd be a final parcel map. 22 So there's the need for the final parcel 23 map to be approved, and then the next step is 24 25 recordation, so -- and that's when the lot lines are

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Commission is this concept that you -- by doing some --

this is -- this is a condition for permitting a Variance.

that you can't give anybody basically an advantage that

isn't enjoyed by their neighbors or they shouldn't --

that's one of the conditions, and I'm just trying to

21

22

23

24

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Page 83 1 ahead. COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Thanks. 2 So -- so sticking with the new General 3 Plan Amendment, one area -- issue that interests me and I 4 5 have some concern about is the way everything we're doing 6 basically leaves aside the future development of the Bayfront Expressway, and it will be de facto by executing 8 this project, it's going to -- it's going to rule out 9 some -- some things maybe make other things possible. I 10 don't know 11 One thing is undergrounding the power 12 lines; not necessarily in the vicinity of the project, 13 but over a much greater expanse; not necessarily financed 14 by this project, but financed in some other way, but 15 thought about in the context of this project is obviously this -- this is how you would start it here. 16 17 You couldn't -- probably couldn't do it in 18 the future if you didn't think about it now, so I'm 19 wondering how -- given where we are in the whole progress 20 of everything and given the complexity of the engineering 21 task and the uncertainty even in viability and so on, 22 how -- how might something like that be structured into, I guess -- the Development Agreement or -- and/or the 23 other parts of the entire -- everything that we have 24 25 before us? Does that include the -- does that include

Page 82 understand the whole situation here with regard to that. 1 This is really a question for Bill. 3 You know, we just heard that other property owners would probably be subject to a reassessment on their land. Because they're smaller than 5 6 three acres, they'd have to aggregate. 7 So they would be at a disadvantage to this 8 developer, and I can't really reconcile all this. Is that that -- is that inherent 9 10 unfairness a legal issue for this project, for this Development Agreement for the way the M-3's structured? 11 12 MR. McCLURE: No. I mean, again, it's -it's a legislative matter. It is not a Variance issue. 13 14 It's a legislative decision. You can rezone property --COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: 15 Okav. 16 MR. McCLURE: -- and properties situated 17 in different zoning districts are treated differently. 18 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Okay. 19 MR. McCLURE: And we have properties next door to each other, across the street to each other that 20 21 are in different zoning districts that have different 2.2 right and regulations that apply to them. COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: That clarifies 23 24 it. Thanks.

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CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Again, John, go

MR. McCLURE: Sure. We have been having

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the General Plan Amendment, zoning consideration? 1

2

How do you address something like that?

discussions -- again, we were given direction by the City 4

5 Council to go back and rediscuss some additional items or

rediscuss items that we may have discussed previously,

and that's one of them

8 And so we've had discussions with the

9 applicant along the lines of obtaining cooperation if the

10 City pursues the undergrounding of utilities across the

property, obtaining cooperation by them considering --

12 having them consider redesign of the buildings or a --

13 you know, relocating the buildings on the site to take

14 advantage of the utility easement as it's relocated off

of their property or removed from their property.

16

And so we're going to be reporting back on

17 that to the City Council next Tuesday.

COMMISSIONER KADVANY: And does that 18

19 include some kind of schematic idea of what would -- it

20 sounds like that would require a considerable proactive

role for the City, then, to make something like that 21

22 happen.

MR. McCLURE: I mean, if the City wanted

to pursue it, it would require a proac -- this is -- this 24

25 is like maybe twenty percent of the -- of that line

it's not a --

Page 85 affects this property that's within the City of Menlo Park. About eighty percent of it is off this property. 3 So it goes all the way down the properties along Haven between -- you know, the back rear of the property's along Haven between them and the bay, and then 5 6 it goes to the south towards East Palo Alto to the City 7 boundary. So it's quite a distance of overhead lines 9 that would be affected. COMMISSIONER KADVANY: That's either good 10 11 or bad depending on how you --12 MR. McCLURE: Yeah. It's -- but it would require the City to take a very proactive position --13 14 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Right. 15 MR. McCLURE: -- because you can't put that underground line under Bayfront Expressway. 16 17 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Mm-hmm. 18 MR. McCLURE: So it would have to be 19 relocated elsewhere. And that -- you know, again --20 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Does that mean so 21 under -- so where -- where does the expressway start, I 22 quess? 23 MR. McCLURE: At the edge of the 24 property. 25 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: All right. So

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MR. McCLURE: There isn't room between 2 3 the property and Bayfront Expressway or Caltrans rightof-way to put the underground utilities. COMMISSIONER KADVANY: So it would have 5 6 to basically be underground along the easement? Is 7 that --8 MR. McCLURE: Or circumvent -- get moved 9 over to Independence, run the length of Independence or 10 11 Again, it's a -- the City would have to 12 decide that it was it was going some time and resources to investigate what the options are and what the 13 14 potential financing mechanism might be and work with PG&E 15 to investigate that. 16 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: So how would --17 where would that be codified and everything? 18 MR. McCLURE: We're talking about 19 language to go in the Development Agreement. COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Okay. Good. 20 21 Thanks. 22 Now another issue -- so, I mean, when I 23 think about these -- this issue, I rare -- I think it's 24 stuff -- you can only do it kind of -- you can think about the kind of 50,000 foot level, so in addition to 25

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|----|---|
| 1 | that one, what's happening over the Bayfront Expressway |
| 2 | is traffic and parking for this entire area. |
| 3 | So perhaps not just the the internal |
| 4 | area that we're looking at right here, but even just a |
| 5 | little bit further south, the number of car trip's an |
| 6 | important issue, vehicle trips. |
| 7 | Where would it if the City wanted to |
| 8 | take a firmer stand on like the total number of trips |
| 9 | once again, making the analogy with Stanford, the way |
| 10 | that I understand Stanford works is that there are pretty |
| 11 | firm limits on vehicle trips that have been vested there |
| 12 | for many years. |
| 13 | They don't build more parking spaces. |
| 14 | They have to live they have to live within their |
| 15 | means. That's the way Palo Alto's addressed congestion |
| 16 | for Stan Stanford. |
| 17 | If we wanted the City wanted to pursue |
| 18 | something like that I'm not saying no net trips now, |
| 19 | but we take a number like our 9,200 extra trips or |
| 20 | 10,000, whatever it is. |
| 21 | It's some growth boundary for trips, |
| 22 | where where would that be codified? Would that be |
| 23 | part of the General Plan, End Zoning and could could |
| 24 | that even be done? |
| 25 | How would you get the idea of what I'm |
| | |

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1 talking about.

2 MR. McCLURE: I got the idea. It is much

3 easier to do with a single employer. Google does it.

4 You know, Facebook does it. You know, Hewlett-Packard

5 does it, Stanford does it.

6 So when you have a single employer that

has a campus, whether it's a corporate campus or a

8 physical campus, it is much easier as an employer to

9 impose requirements on your employees and to be able to

10 $\,$ monitor that, require that they report on it, et cetera.

11 It's much more difficult to apply it to

12 a -- a landowner that is not an employer and not

2 a -- a landowner that is not an employer and not

13 occupying those facilities.

14 So Sun Microsystems run -- has run their

15 own shuttle and buses, et cetera. Google does it to San

16 Francisco. They have the Google buses.

17 But, you know -- so it's easier to do it

18 in those kind of contexts. It's also easier when you're

19 located on Caltrain at the edge of the Stanford campus so

20 that you have the feeder then being on the other side of

21 the freeway between, you know, an expressway that goes

22 across the bay and 101.

23 So part of it is looking at what is

24 realistic and how -- who you are imposing it upon and how

25 do you implement it, you know, compared to a different

Page 89 situation So there was like rail here. If there 3 were other, you know, mass transit that was available to this location, it would be easier and more likely to be successful to apply it in that kind of setting. 5 6 And so again, part of it is looking at when you're imposing that kind of requirement through --7 in the -- in the case of the Stanford campus, it's 9 imposed through a guasi-adjudicatory, you know, process 10 through their land use permits through the County of 11 Santa Clara is how that is imposed. 12 The City of Palo Alto regulates a very --13 very, very small portion of the campus and they are 14 certain requirements that -- there again, but part of it 15 depends on, you know, is the requirement or regulation or 16 condition that you're imposing, is it something that's 17 realistic, achievable and, you know, potentially 18 successful. 19 And I know in Palo Alto, a lot of people 20 just park off-campus and ride their bikes on to campus. 21 And, you know, it hasn't totally been successful in terms 22 of it working, and -- and there's a lot of, you know, 23 evidence of the south of campus neighborhoods starting to 24 put parking limitations and restrictions in that area 25 because they're getting the brunt of people parking off

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improvement, and -- and the City of San Francisco. 1 there's been a lot of tax loss due to buildings just not 2 being built. It has nothing to do with lot line 3 adjustments. 4 5 Is there any way to tighten that up? 6 MR. McCLURE: Again, I'm not sure what it 7 would be I mean, I -- I'm -- I don't know how much 8 9 tax revenue we're getting from the buildings on those 10 properties to know whether it would make any significant 11 financial difference to the City of Menlo Park. 12 I mean, I don't believe that it's 13 significant moneys. 14 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Well, in my case, 15 how about the City employees? MR McCLIRE: 16 Not likely. 17 Again, you know, if it's a hundred million 18 dollars, it's eleven percent of one percent. 19 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: That's a \$110,000. 20 MR. McCLURE: I doubt it's in that 21 neighborhood. Some of them are LEED. Some of them 22 aren't. They're not all vacant buildings. 23 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Right, but if you're 24 going to record a map with a lot line adjustment, then

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     campus, and then people get on their bikes and -- and
     ride into campus.
 3
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Okay, great.
 4
     Thanks.
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY:
 5
                                           Henry
 6
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS:
                                          Thank you.
 7
                    I think we're at the point where comments,
 8
     even motions are on the table.
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I don't think
 9
10
11
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Or are you limiting
12
     this still to questions?
                   CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Well, we've been
13
     asking questions. We're just about finished with staff
14
     and ready to ask the applicant questions.
15
16
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS: All right. Well,
17
     I'll hold my comments until we're actually ready.
18
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Melody, do you
     have a question of staff?
19
                   COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Yes.
20
21
                   In our Draft Agreement, there isn't a time
22
     frame, a required tightening of the time between a demo
23
     permit and a construction permit, and I realize that the
     demo permit is tied into the recording of the lot lines,
24
     but if we demo a building and we don't have that tax base
25
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800-331-9029 Page 92 1 destroyed. MR. McCLURE: Correct. They're not --2 they're not likely to go ahead with the mapping until 3 they're ready to go ahead with the project. 4 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: 5 Okay. 6 MR. McCLURE: It wouldn't make a whole 7 lot of sense to make that financial adjustment well ahead 8 of time. It's more likely that the map gets done at the 9 time, but they're going to be proceeding with the 10 building permit application, because that's about a 11 six-month process, anyway. COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Thank you. 12 13 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: It appears that we 14 have finished questions of staff, and I had a request from a couple of the Commissioners that we take a five-16 minute break 17 So we'll take a five-minute break and then 18 restart. 19 (Recess taken). 20 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: The meeting is 21 back in session. The meeting is back in session. 22 Mr. Bohannon? Is he here? We're at the point of the meeting where the Commission would -- would like to guestion you and your applicant team, so 24

it's required in this document that the building be

Commissioners, who's first?

25

Page 93 All right. I'll go first. I had one 1 question that I -- that I asked of Mr. McClure and told 3 him that I would ask you the same question, and that pertained to obtaining financing for a project of this 5 6 As I understand the project, its total 7 investments are going to exceed 450 million dollars, and for that, you have to find, I would guess, variable 9 sources of financing, and in the -- one of the financial 10 appraisals by our consultants, they -- they mentioned 11 that fifteen percent was the normal rate of return to 12 people who invest at this size level would require and that this project here was going to provide a 12.68 13 14 percent return on investment. 15 I don't know how people get to be that 16 exact, but that's basically what they've said, and so as 17 a consequence, it was judged to be somewhat minimal in 18 terms of being able to obtain financing. 19 And my questioning to you is: How much 20 leeway do you have in a return of investment before you 21 reach a point where you don't think you'd be able to 22 raise that 450 million dollars for this project if we go 23 ahead with it? 24 MR. BOHANNON: Okay. Internal rate of 25 return is a -- is a -- you know, a financial metric that

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Page 95 John. 1 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: I have a guestion for Andrea about the -- about LEED and this project. 3 4 MS. TRABER: Good evening. COMMISSIONER KADVANY: 5 Could you give me 6 a ballpark estimate of what LEED -- well, tell us a little bit about what -- what will LEED be -- what occurs with LEED basically after a project -- you know, after 8 9 the buildings are basically built and running, what role 10 LEED has 11 And I guess that's basically assessing energy efficiency, and about -- and about how much that 12 13 costs per building. 14 MS. TRABER: Okay. So LEED is a 15 comprehensive system that can be used for design and 16 construction and existing building and operation. 17 But the distinction is that the system, 18 when you're using design and construction, is obviously 19 for -- for that process. 20 Right now, it is optional as to whether a 21 building owner then also transitions into the existing 22 building system, and that -- that system is very different and has to do with operational standards for 23 24 managing building and all kinds of things beyond energy 25 and water and that purchasing, like that.

Page 94 we don't actually, you know, use at Bohannon particularly 1 because we -- we are developers and owners. 2 3 We develop to own, and internal rate of return depends on an artificial sale at a certain point in time in order to generate the return. 5 6 Having said that, bankers do and financers 7 do want to see what an internal rate of return is, and fifteen percent is on the low end of the range. So they 9 would prefer to see twenty. 10 It's my -- my belief that before the 11 project will be financeable, we'll need to see some 12 improvement in rent in the office market. So the rents that are representative in 13 14 the pro forma are -- are some point off in time from 15 being achievable, and in order -- and in order for us to 16 get 12.6 -- in order to get into the fifteen to twenty 17 percent range that I think would finance the project, you 18 know, we'll need to see a little bit more rent growth. 19 So I'm not sure at what point it, you know, we'll be there, but I'm fairly confident that the 20 office market will ultimately reach a level that would 21 22 support financing this project. 23 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: All right. I 24 think I understand your question -- your answer to my 25 question. Thank you.

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Page 96 So it is optional for that. I -- there is 1 no requirement now to get into the existing building 3 program. There is encouragement just because it 4 5 starts to -- you know, if the life -- looking at the 6 lifecycle of a project. We're seeing more buildings start to use the existing building system in this market. 8 So LEED is also updated every -- now going 9 on a three-year cycle. The next -- 2009 was the entire 10 cycle. 2012 will be the next cycle, and every time it 11 goes through this cycle, basically the credit categories 12 will stay the same. 13 The general goal of improved energy 14 performance and leadership standards for all of the areas naturally kind of rise. 16 So they choose, you know, the best 17 standard and place at the time when they do the upgrade. 18 So it's kind of like it all -- the floor rises. 19 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Okay. For this project, it's the design and construction. 20 21 MS. TRABER: 22 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: And that's where we're seeing --23 24 MS. TRABER: Yes. 25 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: -- certification.

1

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Page 97 MS TRABER: Yes. There's no requirement 1 to do the other system. 3 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: All right. Here's a question: As a City, we -- you know, this is a -- this is a big issue for us, especially when we have this 5 6 Downtown Specific Plan coming up, standards coming up 7 An alternative to LEED -- I don't want to bring up Stanford again. Stanford decided to kind of 9 10 come up with their own criteria, their own standards. 11 What's your sense to which developers and 12 builders can realize LEED goals somewhat independently of the official LEED process at this point? 13 14 For these office buildings and hotels, not 15 something as radically different as a parking garage. MS. TRABER: That's an easy question. 16 17 Thank you. 18 Basically the system where organizations 19 develop themselves have usually an internal verification 20 process. So they check themselves. They don't have a 21 third party rating. 22 What's important about LEED -- and why it 23 is actually valuable in the market and in terms of 24 validating performance -- is that it's third party rated.

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You have to go through a pretty intensive scrutiny of

models and so on to get your rating, and that -- that's distinctly different than, say, a Stanford developed system where they develop it, monitor it, internally measure their own performance. 5 6 I mean, you can get to it. You know, it's 7 a much more custom system, and you can get to -- you can certainly stand that much similar goal and metrics, but there's no outside validation. 9 10 So I think that's one really important thing about LEED is that it is validated by others that 11 12 has nothing to do with the project and doesn't selfgenerate the system. 13 14 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: All right. Well, I think what's unique -- what's the difference and kind 15 16 of what's the difference in energy efficiency you get by 17 that outside validation as opposed to homegrown, but I --18 MS. TRABER: It really has nothing to do 19 with it, actually. The difference you get with energy efficiency is how well you design and project the 20 21 project. 22 You can set very high standards, but in

any system, you set your standards.

three-party documentation and performance and building

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don't want to take this too far afield. Thank you very

COMMISSIONER KADVANY: All right. I

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Page 99 much. I mainly wanted to get clarified the design and 1 operation. 2 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Since you're up 3 here, I understand that you went and you got this project 4 5 pre-certified or not pre-certified, but on track for 6 LEED MS. TRABER: It's registered. 8 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Registered so that 9 it -- you can see where you were as far as points. 10 Knowing that LEED improves -- gets -- gets harder every 11 time it evolves. Every three-year cycle, it gets harder. 12 Would that be -- I mean, it's not up to 13 you, I would imagine. You can redo it, but why would we 14 not consider re -- redoing the LEED and bringing it up to 15 the current standard at the time it's applied for a 16 permit? 17 MS. TRABER: Well, I think you could do 18 that. I think we had the -- we wanted to show a 19 commitment that we were actually going to do LEED, not 20 just say we were going to do LEED. That's the main 21 reason we registered it. 22 But it was designed by staff that it looks 23 better, that the project was actually going to follow 24 through. 25 So That's the reason we pre-registered in

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1 2009.

2 I think you can consider -- you know,

3 looking at the current standards, I think -- I think, you

 $4\,$ $\,$ know, as I was mentioning, the market can change. A

5 lot's going to change in ten, fifteen years. I think

6 it's going to going to get overall.

7 At the same time the standards are

8 raising, I think it's also going to be easier to do some

9 of the technologies that are going to come into play.

10 There's going to be more equipment

11 available, more energy efficient, things like this.

12 There's a lot of technology that's going to be changing,

iz There s a rot or technology that s going to be changing,

13 too.

14 So I think you could consider looking at

15 the current -- I would also say that from Dave's

16 perspective, that having a building built in more years,

 $17\,$ having a LEED 2.2 rating is not going to do very good in

18 the market.

19 You would probably want to just for market

20 value change to the new system, and I don't -- it's not

21 going to get -- it's not going too make it any more

22 difficult.

23 So it was hard to get a bead on the -- you

24 know, what system to use, because we don't know what it's

25 going to look like in ten years.

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the parcel or --

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Page 103 changes that came along with that. 1 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Great. Thank 2 you. I really like those changes. 3 4 And then back to the other slide on the 5 Independence site. Some of the trees that there was some 6 people concerned about are near garage B, and I know at least some series of them on Chrysler Drive is probably doomed because of the traffic mitigations, but is there 8 9 others that are now potentially uncovered by garage that 10 could be retained? Or maybe is this a Justin question. 11 MR. MURPHY: Let's see. You're talking 12 about onsite trees? 13 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Well, yeah. There 14 was the redwood trees that are --15 MR. MURPHY: The redwood trees are 16 offsite and they're on the south side of Constitution. 17 So in terms of the garage footprint placement to the 18 north of the garage, there's the potential that there's 19 some trees that may not be in the exact footprint of the 20 garage, but the most important thing in terms of tree 21 removals for the site have to do with the overall grading 22 that's occurring to comply with the FEMA flood 23 requirements. 24 So there's going to be a grade change that 25 occurs that -- as staff looked at it, there weren't any

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Page 102
                    MR GILMAN:
                                Yes, a smaller footprint.
 1
     I think if we -- we've got the slide here if we reel
 3
     through a few here. I'll show you.
 4
                   MR. BOHANNON: If I can clarify, I think
 5
     this might answer your question, Katie.
 6
                    The smaller footprint and the higher --
7
     you know, they're higher as a result of -- of the smaller
 8
     footprint.
 9
                   That's an option that's been offered to
10
     the City, and as a recommending body, as part of your
11
     recommendation good he think, you can -- you can
12
     recommend for that option if you so choose.
                   COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Great. Thank you
13
     for clarifying.
14
                   MR. GILMAN: And just to clarify what
15
     that option was, in the case of the Constitution garages,
16
17
     garage A was set back I think an initial twenty. 25 feet
18
     from Marsh Road. The dimensions set back from Bayfront
19
     is the same.
                    In the case of garage B, it was set back
20
    an additional I think sixty feet from Bayfront from what
21
22
    it had previously been, and if we go back one slide.
23
     you'll see the Independence situation.
                    In that case, the garage is set back about
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    75 feet from Independence. So those were the major
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trees onsite that could -- that would be worth designing around as it relates to the overall scale of the project and the amount of earth moving that would occur.

COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Okay. 4 5 MR. MURPHY: One kind of -- one notable

6 exception, though, is on the Independence site that 7 doesn't have anything to do with garages.

8 There's some olive trees that are 9 currently up in a berm and they're not impacting the rest

10 of the site. That was something -- because the trees

11 were actually up -- up high, there were trees that could

12 be pre -- preserved in the current berm.

13 We've looked at the trees quite

14 extensively given the overall grading plans and the

15 proposed construction.

16 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Okav. Thanks.

17 On the plan, though, there is a

18 significant increase in the planting of trees.

to one ratio? The number you're removing, you're adding 20

Isn't there something like a two or three

21 in two or three times more?

22 MR. GILMAN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Thank you. I just 23

wanted to clarify that. 24

25 And then I think the other questions I

Page 105 have are -- thank you -- are probably for Mr. Bohannon or maybe even another staff one. 3 Could you comment on your thoughts about the proposal by the Fire Protection district and what -what's going on with that? 5 6 MR. BOHANNON: I'm not sure how to 7 comment. We've had discussions with the City and the 8 negotiations with the City negotiating team. 9 We don't agree with the Fire District's 10 characterization of the situation. There is -- there are 11 discussions going on between the City and the Fire 12 District and we're -- we're involved. 13 I -- I'm not sure how I handle this 14 question exactly. 15 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Is it an ongoing 16 negotiating issue? 17 MR. BOHANNON: Yes. 18 MR. McCLURE: It is. It is on ongoing 19 discussion with the three parties. 20 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: So that kind of 21 actually leads me to a question for you, Bill, for our 22 procedural thing here tonight. 23 Since there's ongoing issues, we're going 24 to either be making the specific recommendations on to

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Council with the thought that, you know, like -- so, you

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Page 107 And I didn't know if that was part of the 1 whole current jobs to housing ratio imbalance we have now or what the correct information is on that. 3 MR. MURPHY: Yes. I do recall reading 4 5 that today, and that number did jump out at me as a large 6 number myself, and that's something that I would need to look up specifically, but I had the same sort of thought 8 process in terms of the -- the number of employees 9 associated with this and the -- the number of housing 10 11 So I go up, start looking that up while 12 you ask some other questions if you'd like. 13 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Well, I guess, the 14 more -- I just want to make sure that the -- the 15 estimated number of jobs when it is built out is 2.300. 16 So the 3,000, wherever that might have 17 come from, isn't necessarily rooted in this project. It 18 can't really be if it --19 MR. MURPHY: Yeah. It's nothing that 20 resonates with me, but -- so I don't know exactly where 21 that number came from. 22 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Okay. Thank you. 23 Let's see. I think that's it for now. 24 Thanks. 25 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Any additional

Page 106 know, there is really no like approval, per se, for us. 1 We're going to forward it with specific recommendations 3 or not. 4 Would that be -- how would you characterize it? 5 6 MR. McCLURE: For example, there may be 7 some things you want to give general recommendations on 8 or guidance or recommendations, but again, it's what 9 you're comfortable with. 10 So if you think or feel that we need to continue working with the Bohannon organization and the 11 12 Fire District to come up with a mutually acceptable resolution, that's something you can include in your 13 recommendation. 14 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: I see. And this 15 16 one I think may be a question for Justin. 17 It was stated by one of the community 18 members in Public Comment that there's over 3,000 housing 19 units that need to -- that need to be created to offset the jobs in this project, and that seemed awfully high 20 21 considering --22 MR. MURPHY: Yes. 23 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: -- that it was my 24 understanding that there was potentially 2,300 jobs total once the num -- once the buildings are built out. 25

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1 questions?

2 COMMISSIONER KEITH: I just have a

3 question for Mr. Gilman, the architect.

I was just curious. Regarding the pool at the hotel, I noticed you put it on Bayshore Freeway and I

6 was curious what the choice was putting it there.

7 MR. GILMAN: Actually, early on, we

8 looked at a number of site plan alternatives. One of the

 $9\,$ $\,$ major aspects is that location gives us the best solar $\,$

10 angles during the day.

11 And so for the idea of being able to be

 $12\,$ $\,$ out lounging around the pool and so on, it gave us the

13 best solar relationship because it's essentially on the

14 southwest side of the building.

15 The -- another major aspect of that is

16 that we do have a sound wall element that is one of the

 $17\,$ $\,$ aspects that sort of helps contain that whole outdoor

18 pool deck area.

19 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. Thank you. I

20 was curious about that.

21 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: John.

22 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Well, just to

23 continue that with ${\tt Tom}, \; {\tt I} \; {\tt mean}, \; {\tt I} \; {\tt just} \; {\tt --} \; {\tt it} \; {\tt was} \; {\tt one} \; {\tt of}$

24 $\,$ the first things I also noticed about the design when I

25 first saw it, and somebody else mentioned just the noise

really the difference.

story building.

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that if you can build three times as high, then the land

is worth three times as much, which brings me to ask you

MR. GILMAN: In that range.

three-story office buildings, would you be budgeting that

COMMISSIONER RIGGS: If you were building

MR. GILMAN: Well, I think that the issue

When you start increasing density, you go

COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Well, actually, I

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MR. GILMAN: Yeah, so absolutely.

if -- I think you're budgeting somewhere around \$400 a

square foot for the office buildings here.

that happens with -- with the higher densities. regardless of size of the parcel itself, is that you

quickly become -- you quickly get put into a box of

requiring structured parking, and I think that that's

from surface parking to requiring either underground

parking or parking structures, and I think that's --

was comparing a three-story building with an eleven-

There's going to be more things associated with an

eleven -- eight- or eleven-story building in terms of

there's not a significant difference in cost per square

foot of a two-story versus a three-story building, but --

Page 110

Page 109 from the freeway. A sound wall will mitigate that somewhat. 3 I mean, so my concern is just simply it diminishes the quality of the hotel having this -- having this beautiful outdoor pool so close to the freeway. I 5 6 mean, I guess it's as much comment as question, I guess. 7 I mean, I realize you all have decided to 8 make that tradeoff simply. I don't know what -- what --9 where are your thoughts on it are. 10 MR. GILMAN: Just that we should be able 11 to do a good job in terms of a sound wall being able to 12 contain the freeway noise and be able to create, you know, a more passive kind of environment there. 13 14 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Okay. Good luck, 15 assuming it gets built. 16 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Henry 17 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Yeah. Thank you. 18 I guess I'm going to make Tom stand up 19 again. 20 There continue to be questions circulating 21 in town about the value of the site after the General 22 Plan Amendment as opposed to before, and so to try to 23 bring this a little bit into focus -- whether or not we 24 can actually work with it or not is another question. 25 I heard a -- the proposition, for example,

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Page 111 life safety issues that come into play. Once you're 1 above 75 feet 2 So, yes, those things do impact the cost 3 of the building itself, as well as the other kind of site 4 5 costs that are associated with higher densities. 6 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: So there's life 7 safety, there's seismic, there's --MR. GILMAN: Typically deeper 8 9 foundations. There are additional elevator requirements. 10 There's a whole series of things that go along with life 11 safety, as well, various refuge for safety, things of 12 that nature, smoke evacuation systems. 13 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: So if it went down 14 to three stories, we can trust it would not be $400\ --\$ the 15 same \$400 per square foot. 16 MR. GILMAN: Typically less. 17 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Notably less? 18 MR. GILMAN: Again, it would depend on 19 what you include in level of quality, what you include in 20 there. 21 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Well, try a similar 22 A office space, just not so high in the air, much of it, and I think you pointed out that you don't need to 23 24 include the price of parking structure. 25 So by the way, the \$400 a square foot

includes the element of the structured parking? 1 MR. GILMAN: I'm not sure what --2 MR. BOHANNON: I'm not sure if I'm 3 understanding the question properly, but let me try. 4 5 The -- the cost per square foot of the 6 three-story buildings would be lower by virtue of the 7 absence of parking structures, but the buildings 8 themselves might be similar cost-wise. 9 I think -- I think there's more cost on a 10 per square foot basis as soon as you get to the life safety threshold, and -- I mean, I think that's after 12 four, five, and probably the most expensive that the 13 building is going to be at right five stories because, 14 you know, there's an economy of scale. 15 If you get a little more height and skin area as it relates to those elements, then you get -- you 16 17 get an economy that's happening. 18 So there's -- you know, there's -- there's

a point where you -- you look at parking structures with

density where the parking structures start to make sense,

and as you add more height and density, the project goes

There's a point where if you get to enough

density and you say, "boy that doesn't make sense. It

would be better to go back to three stories."

in more -- more economies of scale.

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Page 113

So I think that's really the way -- in either case, whether it was a three-story or an elevenstory, these are going to be very high quality and expensive buildings.

COMMISSIONER RIGGS: All right. I think I should have clarified. What I'm trying to establish is that it's not necessarily fair to -- for the public to conclude that the availability to build at three times the FAR makes it equivalent to have three times as much land, because the cost of building under those conditions

land, because the cost of building under those conditions is higher.

MR. BOHANNON: Well, it's significantly

higher. We're essentially constructing land in the form of parking structures, so --

15 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: And foundations.
16 MR. BOHANNON: And foundation.
17 So that's really the way I look at it.

18 We're not -- there is -- there's a limit as to how much 19 land is there, but we can create land area in the

20 structures or the equivalent of land area so that we can 21 get more density.

22 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Right, and I know 23 you're not going to have actual comparative figures, so

24 I'm not going to press you further on that, but that --

25 that does help clarify what I think sometimes is a

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Page 114 misunderstanding about land value. 2 Thank you. 3 And actually, David, as long as you're up, I believe at this time the term sheet does not include anything like a sales tax in-lieu fee. 5 6 Although variety of fees and so forth, and there's a good variety of them, but I believe that's 7 8 correct, right? That would apply to the office building? MR. BOHANNON: I think that's correct. 9 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Okay. I'll leave it 10 11 at that 12 Thank you. CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Kirsten, did I see 13 14 your light on earlier? John, you're okay? COMMISSIONER KADVANY: 15 David, I had a 16 question following up on Henry's topic of the in-lieu 17 fee. 18 So maybe you've heard discussion tonight 19 about public -- public benefit and how it relates to fiscalization of the property it's on. 20 Is your -- I mean, is it your sense that 21 22 the amounts for right now the way they're structured or 23 do you have something in principle against other ways of defining public benefit or in-lieu fee or what --24 whatever it is in sort of 25 words or less? 25

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Page 115 I don't want to get into debate about it, 1 but are there principle reasons about why you don't want to get into certain things with respect to the office --3 office buildings in terms of public benefit or the 4 revenue for -- for the City, or is it you think the 5 6 package is adequate now? Don't need anything else? Sort of where are you at on that? 8 MR. BOHANNON: I think there is an 9 extraordinary deal for the City of Menlo Park as it is. 10 We're not asking for any public subsidies, which would be 11 more typical in -- in a development of this nature. 12 The office buildings will be a significant 13 endey -- endeavor. To burden them with participation 14 would likely put off the point in time that we could 15 actually build them, make them riskier if we could get the finance 16 17 It's not in the City's interest in my 18 opinion to try to burden the office component given that 19 that's what's going to make this project happen. 20 Without the office buildings, we can't do 21 the hotel. 22 You know, we're working on a project in Belmont right now where, you know, discussions there are 23 24 how much subsidy is the City going to provide us in order 25 to get a hotel. That also has an office building

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Page 116 attached to it. 1 2 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Thank you. 3 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Melody? COMMISSIONER PAGEE: I have a question 4 5 for staff. 6 Justin, this is -- each of these parcels, 7 Independence and Constitution, were going to be broken up 8 into one or two long parcels; is that correct. 9 MR. MURPHY: Yes. So --10 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Melody, I didn't hear your question. 11 12 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: I'm just clarifying 13 that each of the parcels on Independence and Constitution 14 were going to be broken up into one or two parcels. 15 MR. MURPHY: So, I mean, I believe 16 there's five parcels on Independence, four on 17 Constitution. So those five on Independence would be 18 merged and resubdivided potentially into two lots, and 19 those proposed lot lines are shown and then on 20 Constitution the same thing, merged into four lots and then divided again into two. 21

there may be a note on the plans that may create a little

three proposed lot lines on the Constitution site?

COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Can you explain the

MR. MURPHY: Let's see. I believe that

Page 117 bit of Constitution --COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Mm-hmm. 3 MR. MURPHY: -- but the -- so there's some internal property lines that aren't really supposed to be there, so let me turn to CA2.1, maybe. Oh, CA1.1. 5 6 CA-1 is circle page B-51. The April 19th 7 staff report, and yes. So the -- moving from Marsh Road to Chrysler along Constitution Drive, these plans 9 erroneously show proposed lot lines between the parking 10 structure, garage A and office building one. That lot 11 line shouldn't be there 12 Then there is a proposed lot line between the two office buildings, so that one is accurate, and 13 14 then between office building two and garage B again, there's another proposed lot line that shouldn't be 15 16 17 I think for building code purposes, 18 there's the need to kind of show the imaginary property 19 line and I think that may be a -- a remnant of that. 20 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Okay. So -- so the 21 M-3 zoning, the summary is that the lot areas will have 22 three acre minimums, a lot width of 200 feet, a lot depth 23 of 200 feet, setbacks front, rear and sides of twenty 24 feet and a height of 45 max. 25 The bonus would be based on the floor area

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specific development standards.

So what is occurring here is those are 2

reflected on the project plans, and then there's a 3

condition of approval that says that the setbacks need to 4

be generally consistent with the project plans, and then

6 there's another condition of approval that says the

overall project needs to be in substantial compliance

with the project plans. 8

9 So conceptually, the City could come up

with a two tiered, but just whether that's necessary

11 given the fact that the City has used the Conditional

12 Development Permit and comparable Planned Development

13 Permits to establish specific requirements for a number

of properties. So this is then consistent with that

15 practice.

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16 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: So subsequent

applicants using this same process on their property

18 would not necessarily -- adjacent property owners would

19 know that, although the three properties on their right-

20 hand side are going to combine and they're going to form

21 this -- this kind of Development Agreement amongst those

22 properties and they're going to go in for the M-3-X

that -- although they might think that they have -- that 23

24 property is going to have twenty foot clear, it might

25 not, and that's going to be a staff decision?

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ratio. So the bottom line on M-3 would be 45 percent 1

office. The bonus would be a hundred percent with the

3 ho -- I imagine with the hotel is the bonus which allows

4 you to go over.

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5 For this particular property, this bonus

6 is going to be provided because one of four parcels will

have a hotel on it? Is that correct? 7

MR. MURPHY: Yes. The floor area ratio

will be calculated across all properties in the -- in the 9

10 project. So there's two sites, and then each site would

have essentially two parcels. So yes. 11

12 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: So --

MR. MURPHY: Calculations across those 13

14 four proposed parcels.

COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Right. Now, why 15

16 don't we have two levels of setbacks? Because clearly

17 this development already has -- does not have setbacks to

18 20/20/20.

19 MR. MURPHY: I mean, that's something in

concept that could be done. It's a matter of -- that's 20

21 something that the Planning Commission could consider,

22 but this is set up with establishing a base to this M-3.

23 and then there's the Development Agreement that's needed

to exceed the floor area ratio and then the Conditional 24

Development Permit and the different tools for allowing 25

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MR. MURPHY: In terms of setbacks? 1

COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Yes 2

MR. MURPHY: It will be a City Council 3

decision. If they -- we are talking about something 4

5 that's less than twenty feet?

6 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Yes

7 MR. MURPHY: That will be a City Council

decision with a Planning Commission recommendation to the 8

9 standard development permit process.

1.0 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: It's just this one

11 that's an exception to that? I thought that anyone that

12 applied through the M-3 would not need to come through

13 the Planning Commission.

MR. MURPHY: No. That's kind of a

15 misunderstanding of things.

16 If someone else in the future were to

17 apply for the M-3, right off the bat they would be going

18 to the City Council, because anybody applying for M-3

would need a Zoning Ordinance Amendment, General Plan

19

20 Amendment, Rezoning.

21 All those actions require City Council

22 review which then involves Planning Commission

recommendation, review by staff. 23

So let's just say for discussion purposes

25 that someone wanted to pursue the base M-2 requirements, 21 MR. MURPHY: Right. And that's why I 22 said that there'd be a zoning ordinance.

project and only those two sites?

proposed happens to be the two sites identified with this

19

20

23 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Because the guestion 24 from Miss Pagee implied that somebody else might be in

25 the M-3 and wanted to take use of it. So I just wanted

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Page 123 1 the map? MR McCLIRE: Correct. 2 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: 3 And that sounds as amendment. 4 5 MR. McCLURE: Yes. 6 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Got it. Thank 7 VOII 8 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Are there any 9 additional questions of the applicant? COMMISSIONER KEITH: I -- I just had one 10 11 actually for staff. Sorry. CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: All right. Go 12 13 ahead. 14 COMMISSIONER KEITH: In just looking at 15 attachment D, the questions that you were going to report back to the City Council on, and I wanted to ask about 16 17 number 9, the hundred dollar per trip penalty. 18 It -- the hundred dollar per trip should 19 have the word "annual" in front of it, right, just to 20 clarify? Because it's not --21 MR. MURPHY: Yes. That's an annual. 22 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay, I mean, it. 23 just makes a difference. 24 MR. MURPHY: This is just kind of 25 shorthand. The actual important language does -- that

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800-331-9029 Page 124 has been clarified to insert annual. I think at one 1 point it didn't, and that wasn't clear, so I think now we've inserted that word. 3 4 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okay. I know you're 5 not reporting back on this until May 11th, but do you 6 have any information on it now? 7 All right. Okav. I see you shaking your 8 head. 9 MR. McCLURE: Sorry. No, we don't have 10 anything to report back to you tonight. 11 COMMISSIONER KEITH: I thought I'd ask. 12 That's fine. 13 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Okay. Again, on 14 additional actions that are expected to be taken on number 17, how does Council initiate steps to change 16 school boundaries? 17 MR. McCLURE: There is a process through 18 the County Office or Board of Education to change the 19 boundaries of school districts. 20 So I don't know whether the City would be working with the Ravenswood City School District to 21

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to clarify that for anyone who's not --

2 MR. MURPHY: Sure.

3 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: My intent was to say

here we have a new zoning, M-3. Someone else can apply

for M-3. They aren't automatically in M-3, only these 5

6 properties.

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7 They can apply to also have an M-3

8 inspired zone rather than come up with M-4, M-5 or M-6.

COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Right, and they, 9

10 too, will also have to go through somewhere around twelve

hearings to get it, I suspect. 11

12 COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Okay. That's it.

COMMISSIONER KADVANY: I do have just a 13

14 clarification, Justin. What -- why is the General Plan

Amendment -- I understand the other condition, but why 15

16 the General Plan Amendment? Why would they go through that? Why isn't that already -- what has to be --

18 MR. MURPHY: I believe it's a General

19 Plan Map Amendment that corresponds with the M-3. I

20

don't believe it would necessarily be a General Plan Text

21 Amendment.

17

22 MR. McCLURE: It's page I-2. So the

23 General Plan map that is part of the General Plan

24 Amendment only shows these properties.

25 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: So it's basically

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CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: But there is a

implement that change or what -- how that might take

mechanism by which they can do that, then?

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Page 127 I hope that the City continues to look at 1 Marsh Road as this project develops, because I believe there will need to be more. So that's just a comment. 3 The second item has to do with the 4 5 penalty, for wont of a better word, for the traffic 6 reduction This Commission felt that traffic 8 reduction was something that we should address 9 aggressively, and we certainly made an aggressive --10 aggressive recommendation, I think fifty percent, and it 11 looked like seventeen percent has been thoroughly discussed and resolved that that is something achievable. 12 13 But I agree with one or two other 14 Commissioners that have commented or at least, I think, 15 raised the issue that the hundred dollars per year for additional trips, if we're estimating somewhere around --16 17 well, we're estimating about 2,000 employees and 18 presumably additional hotel quests. 19 If we -- if this project falls behind, 20 say, by five percent, that's a whole lot of extra car 21 trips, but put a number on it. 22 Say there are an extra hundred cars coming 23 to and fro, that comes up to ten, maybe 20,000 if they're 24 going both to and fro and counted that way. 25 Well, \$20,000 doesn't buy one parking

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                    MR McCLIRE:
                                  Oh, it's ten percent. The
     citywide TOT is ten percent. Palo Alto's like twelve
 2
 3
     percent. I think Redwood City's twelve percent, but
 4
     Menlo Park is ten percent.
                    COMMISSIONER KEITH: Okav. That was my
 5
 6
     next question. I just wanted to know what was
 7
     comparable.
 8
                    Thank you.
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Then I think we'll
 9
10
     move on to Commission discussion.
11
                    Thank you, Mr. Bohannon.
12
                    Henry.
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Well, it's almost
13
14
     ten o'clock, so I'm just going to jump right in here.
     There are five points on my mind remaining about this
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16
     project, and one or two I probably can't do anything
     about, but there's -- still there, so I'll mention.
17
18
                    One is the traffic impact we'll call it on
19
     Marsh Road, although it affects everything from Bayfront
     Park to Middlefield Road and the roads there -- thereto.
20
21
                    And from the hearing four weeks ago, it
22
     was evident -- or three weeks, whatever it was, it was
23
     evident that we don't currently have a backup plan for
     that and we've already determined what the project
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space in construction. So in essence, the City might as

well know that all they're going to get out of this 2

condition is some money in the bank. 3

responsibilities will be.

It seems very unlikely that this will be 4

5 seen as an impetus to revise or work harder on trip

reduction. I'll just point that out for City Council's

7 consideration, and maybe that's okay.

8 Item three, the largest disappointment for

9 me about the priorities set for the term sheet and now

10 the -- the agreement is the absence of an aggressive

11 response to our -- our housing impact.

12 Creating housing in Menlo Park really

13 comes down to the land on which to put it. We've been

14 building up a fund for BMRs and we're finding it very

15 difficult to actually build them.

We don't have sites to put them on, and 16

17 from this project and potentially in the future, if this

18 specific plan goes forward, we'll have other projects

19 again providing money, but again, we'll have no land.

20 And I would only ask that given the

significant step of an additional 2,100 jobs that this 21

22 project represents, that it's not inappropriate to ask

for more help than usual in identifying a parcel of land. 23

24 That might take -- take the form of

25 identifying the land, and something like an eight million

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It may be enough of an open issue to cause

I will spill the beans since by midnight

And so in addressing the up value issue,

There was a point made to Council, for

One of the reasons that I asked about

complications in the approval process of this project,

I'm sure I will have said something similar, anyway. I

see a great deal of advantage to the City to this

I've tried to do some research and come up with a

suggestion for those who want to address this issue.

example, that it's likely that the new value of this land

development costs is to share something that I know as an

three times as much square footage on, that does not make

The overhead costs of the parking

architect, which is if you have land that you can build

the land worth three times as much. Not by any means.

structures alone, which I think Mr. Collacchi and Mr.

they were nearly the square footage of the office

a significant impact on the cost of construction.

Spear went to trouble in past months to point out that

buildings, they don't build themselves, and that alone is

is perhaps a hundred million dollars, starting with the

project, and I would like to see it realized.

which I don't think benefits anyone.

assumption of 27 million.

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Page 129 dollar contribution is made to the -- the housing issue. If that eight million dollars were applied 3 to a land purchase, for example, just the ability to designate land I think would be huge. Frankly, I can tell you as an ex-board 5 6 member of Habitat, if you want something built on that land, it doesn't actually have to cost anything if you're 7 8 talking about affordable housing. Habitat will do it. 9 The one thing habitat can't find is 10 land -- well, has difficulty finding. 11 So I would propose that we urge Council to 12 take a more proactive stance and ask if Mr. Bohannon and his organization might be able to assist in identifying 13 14 15 I realize that we haven't zoned anv. I think we have to think outside the box, and it may be 16 17 that this would help us do so. 18 My fourth point is in trying to wrestle 19 with the recurring issue that I hear about town, which is 20 that there has -- is as a result of the General Plan 21 Amendment rezoning, a significant change in the value of 22 these two properties. 23 Without saving for myself that I think 24 that this is an open issue, I will report that publicly 25 in this town, it's an open issue.

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So without going into too much further, 1 I'll just say that a good rule of thumb from my point of view in having talked to -- too developers other than -outside of this project might be that -- and I'll just 4 5 throw this out. 6 Say it doubles the land, the value of this land. In other words, say it adds another 27 million dollars worth of value to the land. 8 9 Mr. Bressler has suggested more than once 10 that -- and I have concurred, and I think this Commission 11 concurred back in November -- that it would make sense for the City to tie some of the public benefit to that 12 13 valuation of the land. 14 That to me means that we recognize that 15 that value is not achieved until it's built upon. Up until then, it's simply theoretical. 16 17 Even if the land is sold, it still does 18 not realize its value until it's built upon and becomes a -- an income generator. 19 20 Interestingly enough, if the City asked 21 for a sales tax in-lieu on the office space, which we 22 have been known to do. of -- I'll throw out a number. If we use \$1.40 a square foot, that would bring in about a 23

800-331-9029 emerickfinch@emerickfinch.com Page 132 whether that's a new million or whether that is an 1 exchange for something else, but the point is that it 2 would be annual, and as I recall, our sales tax in-lieu 3 fee is tied to inflation. 4 5 So for those who would like to address or 6 tie the value of the land, I'm throwing that out as a mechanism, and no doubt to inspire discussion up here. 8 And then finally, my fifth point I can 9 make fairly quickly, and I made it initially a few weeks 10 11 This evening essentially concludes our 12 architectural control on this project, and what is built 13 eight years from now, fifteen years from now, nineteen 14 years from now does not need to come back to this group for further review. 16 On the other hand, this team has presented 17 us with a pretty solid amount of documentation. I have 18 to say a lot more documentation than as I recall 1,300 El 19 Camino or 1,500 El Camino -- sorry. Fifteen -- the 20 Beltramo site gave us, and very positive images. 21 As I said a few weeks ago, this 22 Commission -- and I believe the public at large -- has reacted specifically to those renderings that we have 23 24 seen.

I'll leave it up to the negotiating team

million dollars a year to this City.

So it's my suggestion to staff that the

Page 133 concept of what modifications to the design might trigger this Commission's review should be a -- a relatively low 3 bar, because we are putting much faith and this project is being judged I think quite positively based on those 5 renderings. 6 That's it. CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Any other 7 8 comments? Vince. COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Okav. What might 9 10 be an issue has been the value that's created by the 11 zoning actions, and I don't think that's had a proper 12 airing out. 13 I -- I think that there is extraordinary 14 upside depending on what rents do. I'm grateful for 15 Mr. Bohannon's candor and the way he looks at the 16 project, and I don't really think we should do something 17 that would slow down the building of this if we do see 18 fit to approve it. 19 On the other hand, I don't think that we 20 should grant this incredible zoning -- up-zoning without 21 having some ability to share in the tremendous upside. 22 Frankly, the financial report that we have 23 in front of us is woefully inadequate in addressing that. 24 It really will depend on how the local economy develops, 25 and we're talking about a long period of time, but I

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Page 135 1 this project. What I've written so far is quite 2 incomplete in terms of how I think this should be 3 negotiated. I'm not sure I want to disclose that, but I 4 5 think we need a process that we haven't had so far in 6 order to make sure that the City realizes the benefit that's there, that -- that can be shared from this and it does not need to jeopardize the building of this. 8 9 So that's what I have to say. 10 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: For clarification. 11 Vince, to make sure I heard what you said correctly, I 12 think you said that you feel that this project should 13 move ahead, but you cannot in good conscience vote for it 14 unless we do something about getting more of the public 15 benefits from the developer. 16 Is that correct? 17 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Well, I wouldn't 18 characterize me by saying that I necessarily think this 19 project should move ahead. 20 I guess what happened is I've seen enough 21 public support for this project from what's been 22 presented here that I sort of give up fighting that. I mean, I have very serious concerns about 23 24 the housing, as Henry indicated, and I think that if we

Page 134 think Menlo Park deserves to have a significant upside 1 2 here if there's a significant upside to this project. 3 I think the current benefits are not going to make a big difference, not going to make a material difference in the budget of a City, and I think if this 5 6 is successful, there's money being left on the table here that could make a huge difference for the City, and I --7 I frankly think I would be derelict if I didn't bring 9 this up. 10 I think we need a process to address this. flesh it out, understand it and negotiate it, and we 11 12 don't have that. So I can't -- I can't recommend that we 13 14 move forward until that happens, and the input I got from Mr. McClure tonight indicates that there was kind of a 15 16 deficient process to bring these sort of issues out, and 17 frankly. I don't care what other cities are doing. 18 I think when you go into a negotiating 19 process, you have to consider the perspective of the person you're negotiating with, and we have a pretty 20 21 clear indication of that. 22 I've had the pleasure of speaking Mr. 23 Bohannon several years ago about development projects. I think he takes a cash flow view of things. He's 24 expressed that tonight, and I take a cash flow view of 25

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Page 136 identify housing and build it proximate to this project.

So yeah, I have other concerns. They've 2

been expressed by other people, but the -- the real 3

problem here is I think too much money potentially is 4 5 being left on the table, and we have had a deficient

process in terms of negotiating that, and I think the

7 City owes it to itself to take their time on this

8 project.

9 I mean, we've spent eighteen months or

10 something like that doing this. I'm not recommending the

process we through this, but this is a huge project

12 extending out various numbers, it's been given a lot of

13 years, and I don't -- I don't see what the rush is when

14 we're talking about something that make be a material

difference in the finances of the City going forward if

16 it's properly constructed.

17 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I have another

18 question for you because I want to thoroughly understand

19 your position.

20 I -- I don't know what you would suggest

in order to share in what you call that tremendous upside 21

22 and I don't know what the tremendous upside truly is, so

perhaps you might comment a little bit on that. 23

COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: I can contact --24

25 comment -- comment on that in general terms.

do go back into the negotiating this, we ought to

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Page 137 Rents can go up a lot around here, and 1 the -- the leverage of this project's cash flow to rent 3 is huge. So depending on how economic development proceeds here -- I mean, we saw this in 2000. There is tremendous run-ups in -- in rents. 5 6 The City's granting a huge concession 7 here. If there's tremendous upside to that that doesn't jeopardize this thing being built or financed, I mean, I 9 think that we owe it to ourselves to understand that and 10 to make an appropriate deal. I don't think this is an appropriate deal. 11 12 Okay. This actually addresses the 13 concerns that have been expressed tonight in regard to 14 the financials on this project by the applicant himself. So I have reason to believe it's fair. 15 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I'm still confused 16 17 because I don't know how you -- how you propose to do 18 this. I don't see any -- any mechanism for -- for what 19 you're suggesting. 20 I did see some ideas on the part of Henry 21 which might enable us to share in that, but your -- your 22 suggestion is -- is basically we want more, but I can't 23 get a handle on how much more you think and what you 24 might think would be profitable -- what you might think 25 would be fair.

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1 And I -- I don't like the idea of sharing profits. I personally -- I think we're getting into a 3 different stage of government to talk about sharing in profits with commercial buildings, and I don't see the -and -- and if we did move along that way, if I were 5 6 the -- the applicant, I would want some share in the 7 risk, as well, and I don't think the town's prepared to 9 Those are my comments. COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Can I comment on 10 11 that? 12 I think the City is creating a lot of potential opportunity here, and I think that there are 13 mechanisms by which if the developer realizes a 14 tremendous benefit from this, the City can, as well. 15 16 Now, there is a philosophical issue that 17 you're bringing up regarding risk, and it's -- it's all a 18 matter of perspective. 19 You can look at this and say we're taking a risk -- I mean, we're going to get the hotel TOT. 20 21 That's actually a real risk, okay, but that's -- that's 22 pretty standard for these kinds of developments. 23 But I don't think that we're adding any risk to the project or I think these benefits can be 24 25 negotiated in a way that we're not adding risk to the

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Page 139 1 project. Now, that's separate from the issue of how 2 if we share risk with the developer. Right? We're 3 sharing risk with the developer in a way already because 4 5 we're extending this over a long period of time. 6 There are risks that Melody talked about where we may have things getting torn down and not built. Nobody knows what the economy is going to do, okay. 8 9 I take a fairly pragmatic view on this. 10 We don't have to approve this. We don't have to create 11 this value. So the fact that we have a choice there I 12 think gives us a right to negotiate this and -- and get 13 what we can. 14 And I don't think there's anything wrong 15 with that. That's the legal issue that's been -- been 16 here. We do have a right to do this in the Development 17 18 If you look -- he's asking for a new 19 zoning district. He's asking for extraordinary things 20 for this project in particular. 21 If he was asking to build out to the 22 extent that it's currently zoned, that would be one 23 thing, but that's not what's happening here. 24 So we're conferring value the minute that 25 that zoning decision is set to paper and approved, and I

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think we're derelict in our duties if we don't make a 1

good effort to get something reasonable for the City for

what we're giving, and -- I mean, if I'm going to 3

negotiate this, I'm going to look at what's the potential 4

5 upside here.

6 And we haven't done that. We haven't

7 really aired it out what the potential upside is. I

8 guarantee you the developer has.

9 We need to start thinking like the

10 developer if we're not going to negotiate this project.

11 There's a mechanism to do that.

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: It would be my 12

13 fear that going along the lines that you propose would --

14 would in essence kill the project, which -- and I happen

to think that this project is good for the town, for the

City, and I have a little knowledge about investments and 16

17 how they get money to -- to build things, companies and

18 buildings and what have you.

19 Nothing of the order of 450 million

dollars, but I do know getting financing is very, very 20

difficult, and the -- the return on investments, whether 21

22 one likes it or not, have to be pretty high before you

can get people to invest in any project, particularly 23

24 now.

25 But prior to the downturn in business, you

We're not -- we are taking away some of

of the financing, if it's subordinate to what we have and

what the developer could enjoy to the upside, but I think

waiting for your big thing, but I'm going to go ahead and

certainly to the extent that the -- the town, the City

should be negotiating for, you know, reasonable benefit to -- to have -- give -- you know, give over the sort of

rezoning and all that, but today I'm really -- I have

able to remember and not speak incoherently.

Environmental, General Plan, et cetera.

a -- I kind of wrote it out so that I would actually be

policy issue, and that is that -- you know, the question

impacts of the proposed project, is it in the City's best

here on our sheet tonight is given all the benefits and

interest to approve the project? And then I know that

later, we may get into the very specific pieces of that

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Any other

COMMISSIONER FERRICK: I know vou're

Well, to the extent -- I agree with Vince

So I really wanted to talk to our main

if it's conditional based on certain financial events

that are properly structured, we're not adding risk.

we deserve that for what we're giving him.

comments? Yes. Katie.

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Page 141 needed at least that fifteen percent in order to get any interest on the part of people to invest, and this is a 3 huge project, and I think it's a wonderful project. It does a number of things that I will list later on that I think are good for the town. 5 6 So I'm concerned that your concept 7 could -- could cause this project to leave the town and 8 we wouldn't have it. 9 COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: Can I go on? 10 I think that's false reasoning. This 11 project's not going to leave the town. The land's in the 12 town. We have a multi-generational landowner. 13 That's all part of the perspective when 14 you negotiate this, and I -- we either -- I think the 15 internal rate of return viewing this, as well. 16 Mr. Bohannon said so himself. That's not the way he 17 looks at it. 18 That's taking a sort of transient owner 19 that comes in, buys it. They bought the land. Now they have to put something on it. They've got to get a rate 20 21 of return. 2.2 That's not the situation here. I view 23 this as I believe the applicant does, as a cash flow 24 situation with tremendous potential upside.

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And I don't -- I think, you know, in terms

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1 So, you know, in general, we all know there's going to be impacts, and we know that some of them are significant and unavoidable. 3 We all know that there are also 4 5 significant benefits. Increased annual income for the

6 City and the vital services that they provide, community benefits of jobs, physical improvements around Bayfront

Park and/or the Belle Haven neighborhood and possibly 8

9 most significantly is the leadership in terms of healthy

10 building practices and carbon footprint reduction.

11 We use the term "sustainability" to ask

ourselves whether this project fits that term and if it

13 could be part of the case for overriding considerations

14 needed to proceed.

15

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12

Sustainability is defined by Sustainable 16 San Mateo County as viewing the relationship between our

17 actions today and their effect on the future.

18 We have to meet today's needs without

19 compromising the ability of future generations to meet

20 the needs -- to meet their needs. Sustainable planning 21 recognizes the interconnections between the environment,

22 the economy and society. A disruption in any one area

23 affects the health of the other two.

24 According to demographer estimates as

25 reported in Sustainable San Mateo County's 2009 report,

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San Mateo County can anticipate an additional 80,000 1

residents by 2050. That's not that long after the build-2

out of this project. 3

We will all be feeling the significant and 4

5 unavoidable impacts of growth in our county whether we

6 allow this project to proceed or not, but with this

7 proposal, we are in a position to mitigate some of those

8 impacts while planning sustainably for future generations

9 in and around Menlo Park.

1.0 I believe this project helps in the

11 three -- in all three aspects of sustainability. It

12 helps the economy by providing a place in our community

13 where businesses and non-profits can innovate and thrive.

14 It helps the environment by providing a development

that's far more environmentally sensitive than it might

16 be if it had been developed in a neighboring community.

17 and it provides healthy work space to thousands while

18 creating more green space than with its current paved

19

20 Social justice is the one aspect where we

21 might need to refer to the term sheet to discover the

22 agreement with Job Train for local hiring, hopefully more

than eight and a half million dollars for affordable

housing and the million dollars for park and neighborhood 24

25 improvements help society.

- Page 145
- 1 Another aspect to the social justice is
- 2 the ability to provide all residents with good schools
- 3 and basic services, both of which will be enhanced by
- 4 this project because of the tax revenue it will generate.
- 5 No, this project doesn't solve all the
- 6 social issues nor does it completely mitigate all the
- 7 negative impacts on the environment.
- 8 However, if we are to plan for 80,000 more
- 9 residents in this area, we need jobs and housing in this
- 10 county and locally so that our residents can get to them
- 11 without causing further traffic impacts up the road or
- 12 down.

- 13 Developments will inevitably happen, and I
- 14 believe this particular development typifies the type of
- 15 things that we want to see in this area.
- 16 It's clear to me that we still need to
- 17 provide more affordable housing right here in Menlo Park
- 18 to absorb this growth. I completely agree with
- 19 Commissioner Riggs and Bressler in this regard, and I
 - appreciate this project will make a dent in this issue
- 21 with eight and a half million dollars dedicated to
- $22\,$ $\,$ affordable housing, but it is my hope that the Bohannon
- 23 family can actively help with the development of housing
- $24\,$ $\,$ in a more tangible way and in a more significant way by
- 25 finding a location, overseeing design and help -- even

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- 1 helping with community outreach, which he has clearly
- 2 shown himself to be very adept at.
- 3 In short, it would be a great community
- $4\,\,$ op -- it would be a great opportunity to make sure this
- 5 $\,$ money is well spent and does become actual housing, not
- 6 just a number and a bank account.
- 7 I live less than a half a mile from this
- 8 project site as the crow flies and about a mile by road.
- 9 The traffic impacts will affect me and all of my
- 10 neighbors, so the steps taken to mitigate these impacts
- 11 were critical.

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- 12 A seventeen percent trip reduction
- 13 strategy helps a lot. I wish it had -- could have been
- 14 more such as safer and wider Marsh Road overpass with
- 15 dedicated bike lanes or even a dedicated exit spur on the
- 16 site from northbound 101, but I have to acknowledge the
- 17 significant impact -- improvements and commitment to
- 18 traffic reduction that are in this plan and will remain
- 19 in this plan for the lifespan of the project.
- 20 This is a car-centric location and it will
 21 take the most aggressive trip reduction strategy
- 22 possible, and these strategies need to be implemented.
- 23 maintained and even improved upon as the life of the
- 24 project goes on.
- 25 We've heard testimony about how much this

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- project will mean to the 1.900 plus construction
- 2 employees and future 2,300 employees, and when I weigh
- 3 those needs of the workers to people who currently live
- 4 in Menlo Park are in need of work in our own City against
- 5 the additional seconds I will spend waiting at the five
- $\,$ 6 $\,$ intersections I cross on my way to 101, it's obvious to
- $7\,$ $\,$ me that the benefits to society and the economy outweigh
- 8 much of the negative traffic impacts in -- with that
- 9 consideration alone.
- 10 Regarding open space, this development
- 11 $\,$ actually increases the amount of non-paved surface than
- $12\,$ $\,$ could be there now. The green space for the amphitheater
- 13 and the sports uses will go a long way in attracting
- 14 excellent employers to be tenants in these buildings --
- 15 in these buildings, and I appreciate that the parking
- 17 to add more attractiveness to this project and make it

garages could cover a smaller area and be slightly taller

- 18 feel less massive.
- 19 I encourage my fellow Commissioners to
- 20 weigh in on this issue so that there's a little bit more
- 21 clear direction when it -- when -- if considered after
- 22 this tonight.
- 23 And I believe the applicant has proven
- $24\,$ $\,$ himself to be a caring member of this community, willing
- 25 to engage the community more than any project we've

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- 1 $\,$ wit -- witnessed, and I've also found Mr. Bohannon
- $2\,$ $\,$ engaged in the community in many other ways, including
- 3 the Green Ribbon Committee, supporting downtown block
- $4\,$ $\,$ parties, creating community engagement groups, and he's
- 5 never afraid to pick up the phone and talk about
- 6 something that might -- that you might have said that
- 7 intrigued him.
- 8 Of course his willingness to engage in the
- 9 community cannot be the main reason to support a
- 10 development, but it does go a long way in building the
- 11 trust that he will be there for this development from 12 start to finish and deeply cares about how it would
- 13 affect the community he also calls home.
- 14 So in closing, there's many reasons to
- 15 support this project, and I certainly -- some aspects
- 16 that give me pause.
- 17 After much reading, studying and talking
- 18 with members of the community, I have come to the
- 19 conclusion that there are many substantial benefits that
- 20 do outweigh the significant and unavoidable impacts,
- 21 particularly if the contribution and participation in 22 affordable housing can be increased beyond the minimum,
- 23 maybe doubling and being the -- actively part of its
- 24 creation, and if the Bohannons and the City and the Fire
- 25 Protection District can come to a -- an agreement about

applicant, consultants, staff, Councilmembers and many

And that's all I have to say.

but it may be appropriate if you think you're going to go

we may -- I don't know how much time we're going to need,

but I think we should extend it as has been suggested to

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Kirsten.

COMMISSIONER KEITH: So moved.

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: 11:30.

was whether we'll go past 11:30. I -- I wouldn't

COMMISSIONER KADVANY:

will continue till 11:30. We'll strive to complete

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past 11:30 to take a vote to extend the meeting time or

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Thank you.

MR. McCLURE: Pardon the interruption.

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I think probably

COMMISSIONER RIGGS: I think the question

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Until 11:30. We

community members who have given countless hours to

improving this project in one way or another.

I applaud the efforts of all the -- the

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this property.

consider doing so.

11:30. If the Commission agrees.

hesitate to work till 11:30.

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     business before then. If not, then we'll have to have
 2
     another meeting.
 3
                    MR. MURPHY: I just want to be clear
     about the -- another meeting in terms of the City
     Council's schedule. The Council is expecting to receive
 5
 6
     this on May 25th. So the noticing time frame for that is
     that the Planning Commission should complete its
 7
     recommendation by this Thursday.
 9
                   So there's a Council meeting tomorrow
10
     night. There's the potential for a special meeting maybe
11
     on -- on Wednesday night.
12
                   CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: We can only do
     what we can do. We'll find out that as -- as we
13
14
     progress.
15
                   Any other Commissioner want to speak their
16
     piece at this time? John.
17
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Well. I hope I'm
18
     speaking the peace.
19
                    Let's see. Collect my thoughts here. Oh.
     on -- just a word on valuation. My personal feeling is I
20
     don't have the answers, you know, on what -- how to value
21
     this project. It's an enormously complex question.
22
23
                    I think what we have on paper strikes me
24
     as being -- it's probably a little bit too generic,
    assumptions are not flexible enough, robust enough for
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IIntil 11:30

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     the City -- you know, for the City Council's --
 1
     ultimately what we have to do here is provide the
 2
     direction to City Council, and my message to them would
     be it -- it may very well be that what we've heard from
 4
 5
     Mr. Bo -- Mr. Bohannon, others, what we see on paper that
 6
     ultimately it comes down to that, that is correct.
                    Maybe things -- the value judgments that
 8
     Jack has talked about, they may be correct.
 9
                    I think what's important as a message to
10
     City Council at this stage is simply that these are
11
     reasonable questions to raise about valuation.
12
                    It's not all here on paper. They need to
13
     talk about it themselves and think about what the reality
14
     of the situation is and think about the issue, as -- we
15
     have, and churn it over and, you know, maybe they'll end
     up at -- where we are, where everything's on paper, but
16
17
     maybe they'll end up somewhere else.
18
                    So I think they need to push the
19
     boundaries of the box there.
20
                    In terms of, you know, my view of the
21
     project which I think -- you know, I hope has become
22
     clear is is that I'm really -- I'm really dismayed at the
23
     lack of urban planning that's going on here.
24
                    This may be -- I don't really -- the way
25
     the findings are phrased that we're supposed to vote on,
```

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20

21

22

23

24

25

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                                                       Page 152
      there's various language here -- you know, the project --
  1
      here's one that "no project alternative is rejected
      because it would not achieve any project objectives --
  3
      objectives maximizing utility -- utilization of the
  5
      project site, achieve project benefits or create
  6
      substantial new tax revenue."
                     Well, my goodness, this -- this project is
  8
      all about the bottom line. This is designed by
  9
      spreadsheet, and that's -- you know, I -- we're looking
 10
      at a twenty-year time frame, a huge project, area that's
 11
      on the San Francisco Bay.
 12
                     You know, as I've said before, this -- if
 13
      you look at Baltimore, Long Beach, Oakland, other places
 14
      that are on water that look good now, that look great
      now, they looked terrible before, and we're not doing
      anything like that here. We're not even rejecting that
 16
 17
 18
                     I mean, it's just -- it blows my mind. I
 19
      mean, I just -- it's just -- if we don't think about that
```

somehow now and think about are there some choices we

might make now like these power lines, like how this

relates to the future development of this area in some

mean, I -- you know, it's just -- I just don't get it. I

If Council doesn't talk about this -- I

```
Page 153
     just -- you know, I'm sorry to not -- still not be a
     little bit more articulate about it, but I'm just at a
 3
     little bit of loss of words.
                   Former Mayor Slocum said in her -- you
     know, her -- her well spoken discussion to us at the last
 5
 6
     meeting in Public Comment, it was something to the effect
     that to help Council realize -- take a leadership in the
 7
     understanding of what's going on here for this project is
 9
     the maximize project revenues while minimizing impacts.
10
                    Well, how about also planning -- planning
11
     this -- this large major neighbor -- neighborhood? I
     mean, I think that has to be -- I think that has to be
12
     added on here.
13
14
                    So I just -- that -- that's what I'm
15
    looking for. I am gratified that the negotiation team
16
     and Mr. -- and Mr. Bohannon have taken up this power line
17
     issue, at least to discuss it and figure out how that may
18
     continue. That's a great start.
19
                    One consequence of that, though, is
20
     that -- well, suppose -- suppose there isn't traction to
21
    that. It could be financed in some way by a bond or
22
     something, whatever. Maybe it's twenty million dollars,
23
     but for a bond measure, that would be -- that would be --
24
     that would be doable.
25
                    Well, then what -- how might that or even
```

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     basically there's not going to be much going on on the
 1
     outdoor first level potential retail space at all.
 2
                   I think Mr. Bohannon said well, for
 3
     example for -- for meals, as they do on Sand Hill Road,
 4
     where they're getting rid of the caf -- the little cafe
 5
 6
     there, you know, we'll bring it in, we'll cater in.
                    You know, people -- a lot of the high-tech
     companies, we have high-tech chefs and so on. You eat
 8
 9
     it. It is more efficient to eat in when there is no
10
     approximate dining. It takes a while to get out.
11
                    Well, yeah, but -- yeah, but why was it
     designed like that, and was that a good idea?
12
13
                    And maybe you'd rather have urban space
14
     which doesn't create that, and again, it gets back to
15
     it's 9:00 to -- it's 9:00 to 5:00, mostly five days a
16
     week, not much to be going on here on the weekend.
17
                    I disagree with the appl -- the
18
     characterization of this as a long-term, you know, major
19
     size sustainable product.
20
                   It isn't because of the -- it's
21
     autocentric, okay. Let's get beyond that, but then also
22
     the way it's using space. The kind of urban space it's
23
     creating.
24
                   I don't know anybody who would
25
     characterize this outside of Menlo Park saying this is a
```

```
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     other long-term considerations that can be thought about
 1
     today for either the sub area or the contiguous area in
 3
     the current -- current M-2, how that might feed back on
     what's being talked about today? How might that feed
     back on the plan for the -- for the Constitution site?
 5
 6
                    Probably not much for the Independence
 7
     site, and possibly something for the Constitution side to
 8
     how it interacts.
                    What's essentially being designed as a
 9
10
     very private space might inters -- interact with the
     greater public space.
11
12
                    I quess, you know, as a -- someone as a
     Planning Commissioner, when I -- if I -- looking myself
13
14
     in the mirror, that to me is really a fundamental issue
     is how public and private spaces interact.
15
16
                    Forgetting about all the finances,
17
     forgetting about all these office spaces.
18
                    What I -- you know, I understand, you
19
     know, this is -- it's an office -- it's an office park.
     basically, but I was really surprised at our last meeting
20
     when I -- when I -- I asked a question about well, what
21
     was -- it was sort of -- it was a leading question about
22
23
     what was meant by community space or neighborhood space
     or something like that, and basically we were led -- if \ensuremath{\mathrm{I}}
24
    understand the response right -- to hear -- hear that
25
```

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                                                       Page 156
      great sustainable design.
  1
  2
                     You say well, it's using 101. Well, yeah.
      101 is a freeway. We assume that. That's a bad -- you
  4
      know, we're trying to get away from that kind of
  5
      dependency.
                     Now, I'm not saying start over from
  6
  7
      scratch, but at a certain -- you know, at a certain
  8
      point, I have too many disappointments in terms of the
  9
      urban planning aspects of this project.
 10
                    And yeah, it has a lot of great benefits,
     but it's -- you know, I've got a book at home and the
 11
 12
      title of the book is Everything for Sale, and I think,
      you know, that's a -- you know, that's a problem with the
 13
      way we think -- you know, think about a lot of our major
 14
 15
      public and private citizens, and I think that's all I
 16
      have to say, and I hope I kept my peace.
 17
                     CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: You made your
      peace.
 18
 19
                     Katie wants to respond to that.
 20
                     COMMISSIONER FERRICK:
                                            Yeah. I mean. I
      totally agree that this project would look completely
 21
 22
      different and I would look at it in a different way if it
      were near a transit corridor, if it was near El Camino,
 24 if it was near Caltrain, something like that.
 25
                     It's next to a freeway and we can't
 26
      magically
```

3

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Page 157 make this developer own that land on a railroad corridor that exists in its current -- you know, it is where it 3 is, and so what could be good there that could be 4 sustainable, this -- you know, that's -- yeah, of course, I'd rather not have more cars running up and down freeways and what not, but there is the freeway, there is the bridge, there is the land and he owns it there. And so what could be there that would 8 9 benefit the City and future generations most? Thank you. 10 But I'm also glad you brought up the power 11 lines. I do hope -- I'm glad that got traction, too, and 12 I agree it would be far more beneficial longer term if it 13 were -- if they were underground. 14 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: And I agree with 15 what -- you know, and to a certain extent, you know, 101 16 is going to be there. That's the reality of it, and it 17 may be that most of these -- many of these car trips are 18 just transferred from some -- somewhere else and so 19 20 But -- so I think, you know, to me -- to 21 me, there could be an improvement by something, you know, 22 in between. 23 I don't mean to stake out an extreme. I 2.4 think that wouldn't make sense to me, either, so -- but I 25 think there are improvements that are possible here and 26 it sounds like even people -- you know, people on the

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Page 159 1 and, you know, we're the ones that have guided it that 2 direction and less from the -- the experience in urban planning. You know, maybe it's just -- it's in there 4 5 and we felt good about it enough that that's one of our 6 main critical concerns. I don't know, but --COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Well --7 8 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: -- I think like that was critical action. 9 10 COMMISSIONER KADVANY: You know, assume 11 just for, you know, a thought process we can get rid of 12 the power lines. 13 How does that change your conception? 14 Just the space along bayfront and so on and relationship 15 to the project, and also, you know, what could possibly also be there on the first floor level. Then that can 16 17 possibly change given the conditions that are already 18 codified in here. So that might not be an issue. 19 But, you know, I mean -- to a certain 20 extent, I'm being polemical just to make a point about 21 the way -- so much about the way -- so much about what 22 we're worrying about here. So enough said. 23 Thanks. 24 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Melody, do you 25

```
But not necessarily going --
                    COMMISSIONER FERRICK: And I have a
  6
 7
      question for you, too, John.
  8
                     Have you had the chance to review --
 9
     because they did a -- quite a large presentation -- maybe
 10
      it was the one you missed -- last November.
 11
                    They had a whole series of how this space
 12
     inter-connects and relationship of the pedestrian
      experience and this whole -- there was like a whole bunch
 13
 14
      of views.
                     COMMISSIONER KADVANY:
                                            Internally, yeah.
 15
 16
                     COMMISSIONER FERRICK:
                                            No. Externally,
 17
      too.
18
                     COMMISSIONER KADVANY:
                                            Well, maybe I did
 19
     not
 20
                     COMMISSIONER FERRICK: There is that --
 21
     we focused most of our discussion and questioning on
 22
     spreadsheet issues, but there was quite a bit of
      presentation on -- you know, you noticed even today we go
 23
     straight to the spreadsheet when really the only
 24
 25
     presentation was about the building design and planning,
 26
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                     COMMISSIONER PAGEE: I'm too tired.
  1
  2
                     CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: You're too tired?
  3
      Okav.
  4
                     Well, excuse me. Go ahead.
```

negotiation team and the City are seeing that that's a

possibility, and I'm heartened by that and I think we can make -- I think we can make some great improvements for

the City in the project by thinking about these issues.

```
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                    COMMISSIONER PAGEE: You go ahead.
 5
 6
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: What Vince said,
 7
    it's pretty clear that I feel that this project would be
 8
    beneficial to the town, and I'm not going to read
9
     something, but I -- I am going to look at my notes here.
10
                   I -- I had major concerns because it's the
11
    largest project ever in Menlo Park and those concerns
12
     that -- have been alleviated because I'm convinced that
13
     the construction will be high quality construction.
                   T'm convinced it's in the right place and
14
15
    I'm also convinced that it will be seen as a true
    gateway. I think that's a good name to choose for it.
16
    It's a true gateway on Route 101 to -- to Menlo Park.
17
18
                    And then I was concerned -- and I still
19
    have some of this concern, but I don't know how they
20
    respond to -- to it.
21
                   I certainly am -- not strongly as Vince,
22 but I had fear that we'd be given undue financial
    advantage to the developer, but it's very risky,
2.3
     especially in today's economic climate, lower than usual
24
25
26
    return on investment, which I've looked at over the years
```

have anything you'd like to say?

800-331-9029 emerickfinch@emerickfinch.com Page 162 sometime ago because I didn't feel it was realistic, and now with negotiations, there's an attempt to reduce the trips by seventeen percent. 3 4 I'm not sure that that couldn't be a little bit better, but I -- but it certainly is better than zero, and I think it's attainable. 6 7 And the traffic development plan to go 8 along with that I think is excellent. 9 I had a concern about the -- about the 10 hundred dollars a trip. If none of the reductions took place, the developer would have to pay roughly \$187,000 a 12 year, and so what he saves by reducing the trips from 13 11,000 and change to 9,000 and change is that \$187,000 14 The greenhouse gases, this was -- it's 15 16 carbon neutral now, and the developer was advised by 17 major consulting experts and then he went out of his way 18 to get learned people to -- to look at this. I was particularly impressed by the 19 20 support of our past mayor, and this does embody Menlo 21 Park's plan of action plan, and we also have a major Commissioner associated with that that also supports the 22

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And very importantly, it's accepted by --

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in the number of things that I've done.

There's a long time frame before recovery

of investment, but there have been many financial and 3

4 other concessions to the City; perhaps not enough, but

we'll get into that a little later on. I think.

But I think it's admirable that a 6

7 developer is considering such a huge investment in the

City in this economic climate.

9 The -- I was worried about the time frame

10 of construction, but I -- I know that I've had

11 discussions with Mr. Bohannon and I'm convinced that it's

12 in the best interest of him to move as fast as possible,

13 and I believe that he can obtain financing as the project

14 has been described.

15 The extra time is a safety factor. I --

16 primarily because there's no quarantee that the economic

situation will get positive as rapidly as we would like

18

17

19

I think he's dealt well with the

20 aesthetics, especially the garage because I was concerned

21 about the garages. The new footprint, the new designs,

22 the landscaping, the larger setback, they're all positive

23

24 The traffic, I voted against that fifty

25

1

7

26 percent recommendation that was passed on to Council

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Belle Haven is extremely supportive of

this, and the commercial neighbors around them. Some of

them have come to the meetings and they've been very.

very supportive. 4

5 Not one has expressed a lack of support as

far as commercial people are concerned, and that -- and

there have been a number of other residents supporting

8 this

9 I was surprised at our last meeting where

10 everybody spoke in support where our previous meetings we

11 had negative comments, but I think on balance, we --

12 we've had people who get it from every side.

13 The Environmental Quality Commissioner,

Mitch Slomiak, I don't know him, but apparently he also 14

feels very good about the environmental aspects of this 15 16

project.

17 And some disappointments. Transmission

18 lines, I felt it would be great if they were put

19 underground, but it doesn't appear that that will happen 20 in the short run. But it's possible that will happen.

21

And then again, we may regret something

22 that we've done if it is done, because it might have been

a different structure. I grant you that. 2.3 24

I -- I'm not sure about this ladder truck.

25

26 I -- I think somebody has to look into that very, very 800-331-9029

23

24

25

26

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carefully and -- and really conclude one way or the other 1

2 the need for that.

by the City residents.

3 If there is a legitimate need, and of

course the Fire Department feels there is, but I think we

5 need some other objective evaluation of that, then I

6 think we should figure out some way to get -- get that

7 done.

8 I am not sure what we should do in the

commercial buildings, whether we should limit wet labs, 9

10 questions about water conservation.

11 I do believe that we should have reports

12 on achieving all these goals this have been set forth

13 in -- in the Development Agreement.

T -- I think basically I'll go through 14

this quite rapidly now. I'm going to -- I support the 15

Gateway project because it's quality development, it's in 16

17 the right place, a true gateway. He's a local developer,

18 he's trustworthy. He's supportive of the City. He's

19 honest, and he's engaged with all.

20 He's got the strong support of Belle Haven

21 residents, strong support of commercial residents,

22 support of other residents, and -- and I think it's

exceedingly important that we have a past mayor and an 2.3

Environmental Quality Commissioner to support that. 24

25

26 I expect upgrades to the district beside

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```
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     it or in between it. I -- you know, when something is
     improved, the tendency is for things around it to get
     improved, and I expect that will happen.
 3
 4
                    But very importantly, it's not mentioned
     very often, but it creates thousands of jobs, and I -- I.
     you know, that to me is -- is an exceedingly important
 6
     aspect of this, and priority hiring of Menlo Park
 8
     residents. I think that's extremely important, as well.
 9
                    And it's synergistic, because once it
10
    looks good, gets good tenants, it's going to help the
11
     other commercial businesses attract and retain their
12
     employees.
13
                    The revenues exceed expenses by a
14
     significant amount. There's guaranteed revenues.
15
     grant you that that's probably based just on what the
16
     hotel will do, but it's -- at least it's a guarantee that
     you don't see much of that.
17
18
                   The eight and a half million to the below
     market rate homes I think is -- is a sizable sum, and I
19
20
     agree with the comments made here that -- that we should
21
     use Mr. Bohannon's expertise in a way to figure out how
22
     to use those dollars plus what we have to encourage
23
     building in this town for -- for potential new residents.
24
                   And I'm pleased about the capital
25
26
     improvements and I do feel it's a good idea by one of the
```

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Page 167 years out, that it would be very difficult to get 1 financing for this project, so ${\tt I'm}$ -- ${\tt I'm}$ really not for 2 that -- that process, but I could agree with Henry and his concept which I think makes a lot of sense about 4 5 bringing additional dollars into the -- into the City. 6 That's -- that's where I am, and I'll turn 7 the mic over to Kirsten. 8 COMMISSIONER KEITH: Thank you. I -- I, too, had many reservations when I 10 first saw this project as to the height and it took a 11 while to get used to that, because we haven't seen 12 anything like that here before. So it's a challenge. 13 You know, we've looked at this many times 14 now and I do see many benefits, but I do see minuses. 15 I'm going to go through briefly my list here. The traffic reduction penalty is 16 17 insufficient and I hope that -- that the negotiations 18 will continue to address that, because I think that that 19 was something that was pretty important for us when we 20 asked for a fifty percent trip reduction, and it was 21 great when you came back with seventeen. The hundred 22 dollar annually is not enough. 23 The ladder truck for the Fire Department, 24 that is a big issue. I don't see why the City should 25 26 have to pay for it or the Fire District through our

```
morning felt that it designated the Bayfront Park and
 3
     suggested I think 35 percent of that. I think that makes
 4
                   It's carbon neutral. It's LEED silver and
 6
7
     gold certifications, and I mean, there is just so much
8
     that speaks for this project as being good for the town.
9
                   I -- I do have a problem with the sharing
10
    profits. I don't have a problem of trying to get more
    benefits for the town, but the sharing profits really
12
    bothers me. It just -- it goes against everything that
13
    I -- I just don't think it's appropriate.
14
                   This project does provide out of the
    profits which incidentally were not -- taxes -- federal
15
16
    and state taxes were not in the pro forma, at least I
17
     don't think so, and one way or the other, we get a little
    bit back from the state, also back from the Federal
18
    Government in grants and what have you
19
20
                   So there are extra does that come that
21
    have not been talked about.
22
                   And as I said, although there's
    disagreement at this Commission, I think if we go to the
23
    point where we try and have a profit-sharing business on
24
25
    the possibility of people making a lot of money many
26
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presents - presentations -- present -- I can't pronounce

the word. One of the gentlemen who made comments this

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Page 168 prop -- our taxes if it's something that needs to be 1 purchased for this building particularly, for these 2 buildings because of the height of the building. So I know that negotiations are ongoing on 4 5 that issue, but that's ${\tt my}$ feeling on that, but I think 6 that that should be something that is borne by the 7 developer. 8 I'm not sure about the numbers. I know that the fire -- Stephanie Kamen said that it would also 9 cost an additional four and a half million to retrofit 10 11 one of the stations. 12 That seems awfully high, that retrofit, 13 but I think that's something else that Bill McClure and the other negotiating team will look at, but again, I 14 don't feel that the City should have to pay for that 15 16 cost. 17 I think that there needs to be better 18 wording in -- on the minor and major modifications for 19 architectural review. This project is something that may 2.0 not be started for eight, possibly longer years, and $\ensuremath{\text{I}}$ think that -- I don't know -- you know, what changes will 21

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brought up additional changes, and it seems like, you

know, every time you look at this and you make changes to

I know tonight, Mr. Gilman, your architect

22

23

24

25

26

be occurring.

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     it, something better comes out.
                    So I don't know what it's going to be like
     in eight years or when you start to build this, and I
 3
 4
     think that architectural review by the Planning
     Commission is important. So I will -- I think that
    should be tightened.
                    And yes, there is an increase in revenue
 8
     for the City. When you look at the total revenues that
 9
     we've been presented with in this -- the Bay Area
10
     economic report, total revenues 2.151, subtract the
11
     expenditures and you get a net surplus of 1.6 is sort of
12
     what it's calculated at right now.
13
                    I see that number and I also see the
14
     other, but we have to retrofit a fire station, we have to
     buy a fire truck, all these other things. So I've
15
16
     already said my piece on that.
17
                   Also the issue about the housing. You
18
    know, originally when this project came forward, there
     were questions about asking well, is it possible to put
19
20
     housing on this site, and I understand, you know, that
21
     you're saying well, no, we need the office space to
     support a hotel and you need a hotel to generate revenue
22
23
     for the City. So that went away.
24
                    I do think it would be great if -- if Mr.
```

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Bohannon would help the City in maybe figuring out spaces

on where to purchase land to build the BMR units. 1 because -- or housing in general because that's the biggest concern, and I know that the reports had said 3 that maybe only ten percent of these employees will 4 actually live in Menlo Park. 6 I really question that number. I know the 7 experts have decided that that's the number, but I just 8 think it might be higher. 9 Other concerns obviously are about the 1.0 school issue, and I'm glad to see that -- I don't know 11 attachment D, but that is something that is still being 12 looked at here. 13 I can't imagine how difficult it is to 14 change elementary school boundaries or how much time that will take, but it's great that City Council asked the 15 16 negotiating team to look into that, and I -- I think 17 that's very important because I think that we would end 18 up with more students, and as we all know, we're building new schools now. The schools are overcrowded, and that's 19 20 a big issue. 21 In looking at the building, it is -- you 22 know, I can see that Mr. Gilman has put a ton of work into this, all of you have, and I trust that, you know, 23 it will be a very high class building. You talked about 24 25 using natural stone and the insulated windows and the 26

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26

25

26

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Page 171 outdoor amphitheater and using the open space and all 1 2 these wonderful things that you want to do with the site. It is a huge upgrade to the site. I mean, it -- there's no doubt about that, and I understand, you 4 5 know, Vince's concern about the -- and all of our 6 concerns, actually. Not just Vince's. All of our concerns as residents of Menlo Park that this project 7 8 provide residents with the greatest benefit while being fair to the developer, that the City also get the 10 greatest benefit that it deserves, because it is a major 11 12 And I did like what Henry had mentioned in 13 looking at, you know, possibly \$1.40 a square foot or something like that that would be revenue that came 14 15 directly to the City.] So I would encourage also that the 16 17 negotiators maybe take a second look at that idea, if 18 that idea was even looked at previously and rejected. 19 I appreciate, also, that LEED 20 certification is -- is here. I would ask that the 21 buildings accommodate solar panels and put them on the 22 roofs of the garages, as well, so that you have shade on the top floor. 23 24 I like the benefits for -- for the park, 25

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Page 172 any benefit potentially for up to fifteen years, and I 1 2 know we saw some numbers. 3 The money is running out to continue the upkeep of that park, and I -- I would ask that maybe 4 5 that -- when that money is supposed to be transferred to 6 the City, if that could be looked at again. 7 I appreciate Mr. Bohannon. He's a -- he's 8 a resident of Menlo Park. He cares about his legacy here. His family's from here. It's unusual that we have 9 10 somebody who wants to develop this land and will retain ownership of the land -- of the property. 11 12 And I also, you know, applaud you on the 13 carbon neutrality of the project. I think that was 14 really important, as well. It sets a great precedent, and a LEED building sets a great precedent. 15 So those are all very important, and I 16 also found it interesting at our last meeting when we had 17 18 the Public Hearing, the final Public Hearing for this 19 project that everybody spoke in favor of it. 20 I mean, clearly the community seems to really want this project, as well. Obviously, you know, 21 22 with the job creation and things like that. So those are my comments on it. 23 24 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Thank you. Henry? 25 26 Excuse me. Do you want to wait? Okay. Henry.

Bayfront Park. I have concerns that there wouldn't be

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                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS: All right. It's --
 1
     I'll make three or four quick comments and then I'll make
     a motion.
 3
 4
                    First I want to -- I think I said before
     but at I have not put enough emphasis on it. I think is
     in many ways, including aesthetically, a very attractive
 6
 7
     project.
 8
                    It's clearly an impressive effort, and I
 9
     think if this project goes forward, we would be proud of
10
     it. This whole town will be proud of it.
11
                   I have to echo our chair's comment,
12
     because it's kind of odd that it doesn't get said, but
13
     jobs are a very good. Creating jobs, even if it weren't
14
     2010, is a good thing.
15
                    It does have repercussions, but it's a
16
     good thing, and David put this project together with a
17
     great deal of care, concern for the City's issues, so I
18
     also have to echo the chair's comments in appreciation
     with the process, the intent and where we've gotten to.
19
20
                    I have to say, having given a fair amount
21
    of thought to this and being interested in the subject
22
    for many years, that I think there may be other options
23
     to provide fire truck ladder service to this building,
24
     that they need to be looked in to, and I don't think they
25
26
     will be looked in to unless the City says to the district
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you shall look into working with Redwood City, working
     with Palo Alto; not necessarily just for the equipment,
     but for the staffing of the equipment.
 3
 4
                    But in any case, I don't see that as a
     Planning Commission issue for direction or otherwise.
                    So I'd like to make a motion to
 6
 7
     recommend -- to recommend -- well, I believe we would be
 8
     making the findings and recommending approval for staff
 9
     report with about a half a dozen items.
10
                    One is to modify the parking structures
     per the alternative that the architects have presented.
12
     Another is assuming that David and the architects are
     behind it at this point, the revised renderings for the
13
     hotel should be accepted.
14
15
                    If they're not being accepted, that goes
16
     back to my previous comment about the reliance that this
17
     group and the public would have on the renderings.
1.8
                    The third stipulation would be to ask the
     negotiating team to re-examine the hundred dollars per
19
20
     year per car.
21
                    The fourth would be to ask staff to
22
     tighten the architectural modifications trigger or for
     the definition of what needs to come back to Planning
23
24
     Commission.
25
26
                    Fifth item would be to -- again, to urge
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Page 175 the Bohannon group to help identify land, and I'll put a 1 2 number on it, just a target. Say for 400 dwelling units. That's identify land, not go out and have to buy land and gift it, but to help in the -- through 4 5 the development world to identify what could be traded, 6 what could be identified. And then are we at six? I didn't -- right 7 8 now. To consider a sales tax in-lieu fee on the office space that would be applied on leased space as opposed to 9 incomplete or vacant space -- no. Let me rephrase that. 10 As completed -- on office square footage 11 12 as completed in the range of \$1.40 a square foot. 13 And I'd like to point out that if we were to receive that kind of in-lieu payment on about 700,000 14 square feet, we're talking about receiving a bit over a 15 million dollars a year. 16 17 That's the equivalent of giving the City a 18 trust fund of twenty million dollars, and just as --19 as a -- as a talking point -- excuse me for this aside --20 in my motion, that I think is a very significant 21 addressing of what the increase in value of the land 22 would be, especially considering the fact that there is 23 again really no increase in value unless someone puts 24 cash up-front and takes very significant risk involved in 25 26 developing this property.

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800-331-9029 Page 176 So that's my motion with its six 1 conditions. 2 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: What's number two? COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Number two was to 4 5 modify the hotel per the renderings or to accept the 6 hotel renderings that were offered today, assuming that 7 they are what the team is settled on at this point. 8 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: We have a motion on the floor. 9 10 Do we have a second? Can I second on the 11 motion? I second the motion. 12 Kirsten? 13 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: I have a question. So I like all those six items, Henry. The identification 14 of land, I agree with, but for a 400 unit -- there hasn't 15 been affordable housing development in San Mateo County 16 17 over about 121 units in decades 18 I'm not sure there is any in the 400 unit 19 range. I'm just thinking that might be a little bit of 20 21 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Well, I said 22 identify land --COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Uh-huh. 2.3 24 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: -- and I just threw 25 26 out this number because I think the EIR said the impact

Page 177 was 75 households, which we had trouble taking seriously, but on the other hand, if there are 2,000 new employees, it's very hard for me to believe that's 2,000 new 3 4 households, whether they're in Menlo Park, Redwood City or Mountain View. 6 Typically in this area, it takes two incomes to support a household, and so at the most, that 8 will be a thousand, and then there'll be some 9 instances -- actually, they kind of went through this in 10 the EIR. There are some other reasons why those people 11 would be double counted. 12 So there could be up to 800 or a thousand new houses -- new residence he is needed. It could also 13 be that thirty percent of the employees live with their 14 parents. I mean, this is 2010. 15 16 So on the other hand, 75 is low, so I just 17 threw out 400. I mean, largely because I'm not -- I 18 didn't do enough research to suggest any other. COMMISSIONER FERRICK: I guess I'd rather 19 20 see it on -- on acreage, because other low market rent 21 units are in normally quote unquote market rate 22 developments with certain numbers of units dedicated. 23 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: We can see acres. A 24 hundred units per acre is pretty dense. 25 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Very dense. 26

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     buildings, but again the service, I don't know what the
 1
     payback is as far as how long it would take them with the
 2
     taxes on this building to pay back the fire truck in
     order to get it there.
 4
 5
                    There might be an initial cost for the
 6
     developer to buy a fire truck, share with the Fire
     Department. I don't know if they'd pay cash, but that
 7
 8
     should be considered as a fire truck.
                   Tighten -- to tighten the requirements for
 9
10
     transportation. There's discussion of shuttles to the
     train stations. So to model a plan similar to Genentech
11
12
     in South City or some -- somewhere else where the
13
     shuttles are working and that they meet each train or
14
     each bullet or whatever it is so that people can rely on
15
     them, if that's going to be a trip reduction.
16
                   I like the idea of some type of sales tax
17
     in-lieu. I certainly concur with Vince that there's a
18
     lot of money to be had here, and without going into
19
     details, you don't develop a building not to make money.
20
    It's just how much, and I'm not going to say that Mr.
     Bohannon isn't entitled to a profit, but -- and I'm not
21
22
     sure if we weren't part of the negotiations as to how
23
     much give and take there was and was this the final
24
     bullet where you pull it and say, "No, that's it. I'm
25
26
     walking away from the table" as happened in San Francisco
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Page 178
 1
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Very dense. But we
     could say four acres, four to eight acres, five to ten
     acres. I'd -- I'd certainly be willing to modify that
 3
     from a unit to an acreage.
                    What do you think as the seconder?
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: That's okay. Did
 6
7
     we end up with four or five acres on that?
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Let's say five to
 8
9
     ten acres -- a range from five to ten acres.
10
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Any discussion?
11
    Let Melody have hers and then --
12
                    COMMISSIONER PAGEE: No discussion. Just
13
     items to consider. And that would be to -- when the
     building is built, the LEED standards at that time,
14
     that's important to me.
15
16
                    Considering the benefits of having a fire
17
     truck as far as insurance rates for the developer of the
18
    property, and I'm not sure what the insurance company
     would require as far as proximity to a firehouse.
19
20
                    It might be -- they may have already
21
    looked at that as far as helping them pay or the offset.
22
    The fire truck isn't going to benefit anybody but this
     building -- these buildings.
23
                    So it might be for the City of Menlo Park
24
25
    or the Fire Department to pay for it just for those
26
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Page 180 1 recently. 2 Just a few simple things. I like what Katie said tonight. It was nice that you prepared your comments ahead of time unlike the rest of us. Very good. 4 5 Very good. It was a -- it's a good thing. 6 I'm not necessarily -- if this project 7 goes away and we started out with a four-story project 8 many years ago that was voted down for the Bohannon project, so if you don't vote it now or if you don't 9 10 encourage this development now, it might be twice as 11 high. 12 So just a suggestion, but there should be 13 some mitigations and certainly provide for it. 14 I'd love to see this project done just on the far east side of the project that doesn't impact the traffic on 280 and most of the residents. 16 17 It most impacts the people closest by, and 18 I don't think they realize it until the building is built 19 how it's going to impact them, and I don't know what 20 other mitigations other than hopefully encouraging people 21 to take public transportation are going to help. 22 That's it. CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Thank you. 23 24 COMMISSIONER KEITH: I -- oh, sorry. Go 25 26 ahead

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drastically different between now and then. I just

26

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Page 183 where they try something, and something comes back to us 1 2 and then it goes back to them. That's the process that Vince is talking about. They need to grapple the valuation, but not by 4 5 themselves. I don't think we should leave them on their own. They should try something, we should give them feedback, and then let them decide. 7 8 For example, we haven't had a discussion -- this false precision also extends to topics 9 10 we've covered tonight. 11 We haven't -- talked a little bit about 12 traffic and mitigations, barely anything. We haven't 13 said -- talked about the EIR. I think it's quite an excellent ETR but 14 15 we really haven't said anything -- haven't talked about these issues. 16 17 Water is -- is still -- is out there. 18 It's coming up okay. If we don't -- we should think 19 about that a little bit. So that's false precision. 20 I'd like to add something about the power 21 lines and planning the area as a whole. I'm not sure I 22 can come up with a friendly amendment which codifies that in a way which will get some traction with the Council so 23 24 that they actually do something about it as opposed to 25 26 giving lip service and really nothing end -- ending up

```
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     don't -- I don't know.
 2
                    And, you know, I do think that there are,
     like I said, benefits and minuses to this, but on Henry's
 3
     sales tax in-lieu, I mean, I just think that when you
 4
     talk about it, that there's all this potential money to
     be made, I think that's the key word, is that there's
 6
 7
     potential.
 8
                    And it doesn't mean it's quaranteed, but
 9
     if we did something along the lines of $1.40 a square
10
     foot for the rented space, there's something more that
     the City gets.
12
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Thank you.
13
                    John
14
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: I -- just in terms
     of the -- the motion, I'm concerned a bit here about kind
15
16
     of false precision at this, trying to craft this, and now
17
     we've got twelve minutes left in the evening.
1.8
                    I think it's important. We want to
     stimulate Council to think about everything we've talked
19
20
     about tonight.
21
                    I think this kind of detail is -- is
22
     pretty irrelevant, really. You know, they'll get the
     message. They'll get it and then they'll run with it.
23
24
                    I think it's important that we go
25
```

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through -- I think we should go through another cycle

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26

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1 happening.

2 That's another reason I would like to

3 come -- to see what they do with it. Okay. They've

 $4\,\,$ heard it, they understand the problem, they know what

5 it's about.

6 I'd like to see what they do with it, you

7 know, give me a reality -- you know, get a reality check

8 on it, what's possible as a negotiator -- the negotiating

9 team. See also what the project team has to say and

10 cycle it through.

11 We are making a lot of progress here, the

12 City is, I think. I think we are, and I think there's a

 $13\,$ $\,$ lot of politics that's been driving the approval of this

 $14\,\,$ project, which is not a good -- not a good way to plan,

15 and not only that, it's -- I think it's based on a false

16 assumption of past conceptions in this City of, you know,

17 incredibly intransient -- intransigent factions not able

18 to debate rationally about complex topics.

19 I think we've proven that we can do that,

 $20\,$ $\,$ but it takes time, you know. It doesn't take forever.

21 It doesn't take another year. It takes a little time.

22 So that's where I'm at.

So I -- you know, my answer to given all

24 the benefits and impacts on the proposed project is in

25

23

26 the best interest to approve a project, probably, but

we're not quite sure exactly how right now is my answer

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- 2 to that question.
- 3 It's not a yes or no question. It's much
- 4 more nuanced than that.
- 5 Thanks.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Henry.
- 7 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Well, I know I
- 8 should as the maker of the motion respond to the comments
- $\boldsymbol{9}$ $\,$ that I guess were mainly from Melody and a couple echoed
- 10 by John and -- and by Kirsten.
- 11 First of all, I'll just say again that I
- 12 don't think it's appropriate for us to address the fire
- 13 truck.
- 14 We have heard from Mr. McClure that this
- 15 is still being looked at. There's -- the parties are
- 16 still working on this.
- 17 I personally think there is another
- 18 solution to buying a dedicated forty foot ladder truck
- 19 for Menlo Park so that it can make no other trips than
- 20 the practice runs of which it has enough of them to wear
- 21 it out in twelve to fifteen years, as we've been told.
- 22 And it's the only vehicle that they want
- 23 to take out on the freeway because it's the one that has
- 24 the jaws of life in it.
- 25
- I mean, we -- the Navy doesn't take the

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aircraft carrier to -- every time a buoy looks like it needs to be repainted, so -- I just don't think the Planning Commission should get involved in that. 3 4 As for LEED, let me just speak to something practically. In order to design to a criteria. 6 not to mention price it and fund it, you need to know 7 what the rules are. 8 To commit yourself to rules that have not 9 been written vet, particularly as described -- because 10 technology hasn't necessarily gotten there -- is really 11 too much to ask of a project. 12 This is further along in design than just 13 a schematic design. A great deal of work went in before 14 those renderings could be done or if they didn't make any sense, plus they couldn't risk showing them to us, having 15 16 us decide to marry them and then find that they did the 17 detailed drawings that they can't quite build it that 18 19 So just practically speaking, as an 20 architect, I wouldn't want to touch that commitment with 21 a ten foot pole. 22 So I don't know how to guite work in the 23 tightening up of the TDM, although I do recall that the applicant has committed to fairly specific runs of the 2.4 25 26 van.

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- 1 They're already operating a van for the
- 2 existing low-rise buildings, and I thought that was --
- 3 maybe I should defer that to Justin, but I think there's
- 4 a fairly good program.
- 5 MR. MURPHY: Yes. I believe that the TDM
- 6 plan calls that out pretty well. So I think what was
- 7 described by Commissioner Pagee is what the intent is and
- $8\,$ $\,$ what I believe the commitment is in terms of meeting
- 9 the -- the trains.
- 10 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Fantastic. I was
- 11 hoping that was so.
 - All right. I think we got that one.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Time for a vote?
- 14 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Time for a vote.
- 15 MR. McCLURE: Can I just clarify the
- 16 motion? I want to make sure that the motion includes
- 17 attachment A to tonight's staff report which outlines,
- 18 you know, what you're recommending, and then it is with
- 19 six additional items that were added by Commissioner
- 20 Riggs, one being to accept the alternate design --
- 21 parking structure design.
- 22 And item two was to modify the hotel
- $23\,$ $\,$ consistent with the renderings that were shown tonight if
- 24 approved by the applicant/developer, if that's acceptable
- 25

12

26 to them.

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- 1 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Right.
- 2 MR. McCLURE: Item three is to re-examine
- 3 or reconsider the amount of the proposed penalty for non-
- $4\,$ $\,$ compliance with the trip limitation.
- 5 Item four is to tighten the definition of
- 6 $\operatorname{minor/major}$ modifications and what would come back to the
- 7 Planning Commission for approval.
- 8 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Right. And that was
- 9 specifically to recognize that Commission and I feel the 10 public has been very supportive of the aesthetics that
- 11 they have seen, and therefore that is a significant
- 12 element in the support from the Commission and the
- 13 public.
- 14 MR. McCLURE: And item five is that --
- 15 requesting that the developer help the City identify land
- ${\tt 16} \quad {\tt of} \ {\tt approximately} \ {\tt five} \ {\tt to} \ {\tt ten} \ {\tt acres} \ {\tt for} \ {\tt housing} \ {\tt within} \ {\tt the}$
- 17 City.
- 18 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Right.
- 19 MR. McCLURE: And item six is to consider
- 20 a -- in the negotiations consider sales tax in-lieu fee
- $21\,$ $\,$ to be applied to office square footage as completed at
- 22 the range of approximately \$1.40 per square foot per
- 23 year.
- 24 COMMISSIONER RIGGS: Right, and let me

25

26 back up to number five.

abstain?

1

3

4

Abstain? You

Nο

Page 190

```
Page 189
                    I actually didn't indicate that housing
 1
     had to be in the City, and given that it's an ABAG issue,
     I think if property were identified in a neighboring town
 3
 4
     that was clearly not otherwise destined for housing, I
     think that would suit our intent up here. I'm looking
    for nods. It's too sleepy for nods, but --
                   COMMISSIONER FERRICK: I -- I mean, I
 8
     know it achieves the main goal of getting more housing,
 9
     but it wouldn't help Menlo Park's jobs to housing ratio.
10
     per se if it were not in Menlo Park.
11
                   CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I'd like it in
12
     Menlo Park.
                   COMMISSIONER RIGGS: All right. We have
13
14
     a couple of nods for Menlo Park, as you -- as you've
15
16
                   MR. McCLURE: Okay. So that would be the
17
     motion.
18
                   CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: That's correct.
                   All in favor?
19
20
                    COMMISSIONER RIGGS:
21
                    COMMISSIONER KEITH:
                                         Aye.
22
                    COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Ave.
23
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY:
24
                    All opposed?
25
26
                    COMMISSIONER BRESSLER: No.
```

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```
6
     four in support.
7
                    MR. McCLURE: For the record, those
 8
     voting in favor in favor are Commissioners Riggs, Keith,
9
     Ferrick and O'Malley and those voting against the motion
10
     are Commissioners Bressler, Kadvany and Pagee.
11
                   CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: That's correct.
12
                   COMMISSIONER KADVANY: Just for the
13
    record, a comment on the record, I wanted to offer a --
14
     with my light on, I wanted to offer a friendly amendment
     which would provide language to ask the City Council to
15
16
     resolve to -- you know, identify a process vis-a-vis the
17
     power lines and, you know, planning of the area in
18
     general, because we didn't have time to do that.
                   CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: I do believe
19
20
     they're looking at that right now.
21
                    COMMISSIONER KADVANY: They're looking at
22
23
                    CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Okay. We have
    update on pending planning items.
24
25
26
                    Do you have anything for us, Justin?
```

COMMISSIONER KADVANY:

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY:

COMMISSIONER PAGEE: Opposed.

CHAIRPERSON O'MALLEY: Three opposed,

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Page 191 MR. MURPHY: Yes. I believe I have a few 1 updates. One, tomorrow night's Council meeting. We had 2 sent out an e-mail just to make sure that the Planning Commission has aware of the Planning Commission 4 5 appointments which Commissioner O'Malley already talked about, but also there's a separate item regarding 7 Commission recruitment in general. 8 So we just want to make sure that the 9 Planning Commission was aware of that. Let's see. Then there are a few updates 10 related to El Camino Real Specific Plan. I believe 11 12 there's an e-mail bulletin sent out on April 30th 13 regarding the availability of the Specific Plan, the schedule related to the EIR and the need to prepare the 14 15 water supply assessment. There's going to be events related to 16 17 block parties this summer. So that's kind of a quick 18 update on El Camino Real Downtown, and the last update is 19 related to the annual Commission surveys. 20 And just a friendly reminder, I believe 21 four Commissioners have submitted results by -- surveys 22 by this morning. I think we're just looking for everybody else to submit those as -- as they're able to. 23 24 I think that's it for updates. 25 26 COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Sorry. Before you

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                                                       Page 192
      adjourn, I have a couple questions for you, Justin --
  1
  2
      well, one question and one comment.
  3
                     I vaquely remember an e-mail -- it might
     be one of the Planning Commissioners that didn't submit
  4
  5
      the survey.
  6
                     Is this something that we would have
  7
      gotten from --
  8
                     MR. MURPHY: It may have come from
      Margaret Roberts, and we can definitely resend it.
  9
                     COMMISSIONER FERRICK: I can look it up.
 10
 11
      I just wanted to know what I'd be looking for.
 12
                     Okay. And then the block parties are
 13
      going to coincide with the first and last summer concert
      series. I can't recall the dates in my head right now.
 14
 15
                     MR. MURPHY: I believe they are June 23rd
 16
 17
      and August 11th.
 18
                     COMMISSIONER FERRICK: Any other
 19
      Commissioner?
 20
                     Meeting's adjourned.
 21
                    (The meeting concluded at 11:31 PM).
 22
                              ---000---
 23
 24
 25
 26
      STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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| | Page 193 |
|----|---|
| 1 | COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO) |
| 2 | |
| 3 | I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the |
| 4 | discussion in the foregoing meeting was taken at the time |
| 5 | |
| 6 | and place therein stated; that the foregoing is a full, |
| 7 | true and complete record of said matter. |
| | I further certify that I am not of counsel or |
| 8 | attorney for either or any of the parties in the |
| 9 | foregoing meeting and caption named, or in any way |
| 10 | interested in the outcome of the cause named in said |
| 11 | action. |
| 12 | 4001011 |
| 13 | |
| 14 | IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have |
| 15 | hereunto set my hand this |
| 16 | day of, |
| 17 | 2010. |
| 18 | |
| 19 | MARK I. BRICKMAN CSR 5527 |
| 20 | |
| 21 | |
| 22 | |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | |
| 26 | |

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