



Planning Commission

**FINAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
October 19, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

1. ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Barnali Ghosh, Savlan Hauser, Elisa Mikiten, Chip Moore, Christina Oatfield, Alfred Twu, Jeff Vincent, and Brad Wiblin.

Commissioner Absent: None.

Staff Present: Secretary Grace Wu, Clerk Zoe Covello, Justin Horner, and Steve Buckley.

2. ORDER OF AGENDA: No changes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: 1

4. PLANNING STAFF REPORT:

- On Tuesday September 20th, staff presented at a City Council Work Session on draft proposed development standards for middle housing (presented to the Planning Commission in June) and Southside (coming to the Planning Commission in November).
- On Tuesday, October 11th, Council adopted zoning ordinance amendments to clarify and streamline the permit process for amusement device arcades.
- On Monday, October 17th, staff posted a revised draft of the 2023-2031 Housing Element and is seeking public input until next Tuesday, October 25th.
 - The revised draft and link to the public comment form can be found at the City website: <https://www.cityofberkeley.info/housingelement/>
 - Monday, October 24th, 12-2pm – drop-in Zoom office hours will be held.
- On Monday, October 17th, the public comment period for the Draft Housing Element EIR closed and staff are currently incorporating comments.
- Staff are continuing public engagement efforts on proposed Southside objective zoning standards.

Information Items:

- **October 14, 2022** – City/UC/Student Relations Committee Presentation on Residential Objective Standards: Southside. <https://berkeleyca.gov/yourgovernment/city-council/council-committees/cityucstudent-relations-committee>

- **October 11, 2022** – City Council Report on Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to clarify and streamline the permit process for Amusement Device Arcades. (40 pages)
<https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2022-10-11%20Item%2020%20Referral%20Response%20%20Amendments%20to%20the%20Zoning.pdf>
- **September 20, 2022** – City Council Worksession Report on Residential Objective Standards: Middle Housing and Southside. (487 pages)
<https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2022-09-20%20WS%20Item%2001%20Residential%20Objective%20Standards.pdf>
- **August 30, 2022** – Housing Element Draft Environmental Impact Report. (441 pages)
<https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Berkeley%202023-2031%20Housing%20Element%20Update%20Draft%20EIR.pdf>

Communications:

- General.

Late Communications: *See agenda for links.*

- Supp 1.
- Supp 2.

5. CHAIR REPORT:

- None.

6. COMMITTEE REPORT: Reports by Commission committees or liaisons. In addition to the items below, additional matters may be reported at the meeting.

- None.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion/Second/Carried (Wiblin/Vincent) to approve the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes from September 7, 2022.

Ayes: Ghosh, Hauser, Mikiten, Moore, Oatfield, Twu, Vincent, and Wiblin. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. (8-0-0-0)

8. OTHER PLANNING RELATED EVENTS:

- On Thursday, October 20th, the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission will hear an item on the Adeline at Ashby BART project and will be recommending to the City Council to adopt a preferred design concept.

AGENDA ITEMS

9. Discussion: Bird Safe Berkeley Requirements Referral

Associate Planner Justin Horner presented on bird safe glass requirements and requested direction for staff to prepare zoning ordinance amendments. Questions and comments were received from Commissioners and members of the public, and the Commissioners moved to form an ad hoc subcommittee to do additional research on the subject matter.

Public Comments: 8

Motion/Second/Carried (Mikiten/Moore) to form an ad hoc subcommittee comprising Commissioner Oatfield and Commissioner Twu to look into bird safe glass in the month of November at 8:02 p.m.

Ayes: Ghosh, Hauser, Moore, Mikiten, Twu, Vincent, and Wiblin. Noes: None. Abstain: Oatfield. Absent: None. (7-0-1-0)

10. Public Hearing: Zoning Ordinance Amendments that Address Technical Edits and Corrections to Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Title 23 – Package #4

Associate Planner Justin Horner presented on technical edits and corrections to the new Zoning Ordinance, the Commission held a public hearing, and Commissioners recommended that City Council adopt the package as is.

Public Comments: 0

Motion/Second/Carried (Mikiten/Vincent) to close the public hearing at 8:13 p.m.

Ayes: Ghosh, Hauser, Mikiten, Moore, Oatfield, Twu, Vincent, and Wiblin. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. (8-0-0-0)

Motion/Second/Carried (Ghosh/Mikiten) to approve the proposed motion at 8:13 p.m.

Ayes: Ghosh, Hauser, Mikiten, Moore, Twu, Vincent, and Wiblin. Noes: None. Abstain: Oatfield. Absent: None. (7-0-1-0)

11. Public Hearing: Demolition Ordinance Amendments

Planning Manager Steve Buckley presented on amendments to the demolition ordinance. A public hearing was conducted, staff discussed the subject matter, and the Commissioners motioned for the item to return to the 4x4 Committee for further review before returning to PC.

Public Comments: 4

Motion/Second/Carried (Mikiten/Vincent) to close the public hearing at 8:42 p.m.

Ayes: Ghosh, Hauser, Mikiten, Moore, Oatfield, Twu, Vincent, and Wiblin. Noes: None.
Abstain: None. Absent: None. (8-0-0-0)

Motion/Second/Carried (Oatfield/Moore) to refer the draft ordinance amendments back to the
4x4 Committee at 8:55 p.m.

Ayes: Ghosh, Hauser, Mikiten, Moore, Oatfield, Twu, Vincent, and Wiblin. Noes: None.
Abstain: None. Absent: None. (8-0-0-0)

Motion/Second/Carried (Hauser/Oatfield) to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Ayes: Ghosh, Hauser, Mikiten, Moore, Oatfield, Twu, Vincent, and Wiblin. Noes: None.
Abstain: None. Absent: None. (8-0-0-0)

Members in the public in attendance: 14

Public Speakers: 9

Length of the meeting: 2 hr 13 minutes



Grace Wu

Planning Commission Secretary