



Planning Commission

**FINAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
November 2, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

1. ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Barnali Ghosh, Savlan Hauser, Elisa Mikiten, Chip Moore, Christina Oatfield, Alfred Twu, Ben Gould (temporary appointee), and Brad Wiblin.

Commissioner Absent: Jeff Vincent.

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

2. ORDER OF AGENDA: No changes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: 3

4. PLANNING STAFF REPORT:

- On Thursday, October 20th, the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission met and recommended a preferred design concept to Council for Ashby BART (will go to Council on Nov. 29)
- Staff are continuing public engagement efforts on the proposed Southside objective standards - an online survey is coming soon
- On Tuesday, November 1st, the City submitted a revised draft Housing Element Update to HCD. The revisions were based on preliminary comments from HCD and additional public comments that we received during the 7-day public review period. We expect to receive HCD's formal 90-day review comments next Tuesday, November 8.
- On Wednesday, December 7th, the Housing Element will return to the Planning Commission to approve the resolution to recommend to the City Council three things:
 1. Adopt the proposed 2023-2031 Housing Element;
 2. Certify the Housing Element final EIR;
 3. Authorize Staff to submit the adopted 2023-2031 Housing Element to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for certification.

Information Items:

- **October 20, 2022** – Transportation and Infrastructure Commission recommendation on preferred design concept at Adeline at Ashby BART Project.

<https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-agendas/2022-10-20%20Agenda.pdf>

- **October 17, 2022** – Revised Draft 2023-2031 Housing Element Report.
https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2022-10-17_Berkeley_RevisedDraftHEU_COMBINED_Lo.pdf

Communications:

- General.

Late Communications: *See agenda for links.*

- None.

5. CHAIR REPORT:

- The Bird Safe Subcommittee will be meeting on Friday, November 4; this item will not be on the December agenda as a result of a need to focus on the adoption of the Housing Element, but it will be coming soon thereafter.
- Expressed frustration with the large size of the Planning Commission Agenda packets (the November meeting's packet was 866 pages), finds that it discourages public participation and hopes that it will be remedied soon.

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/Hauser) to approve the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2022.

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

8. OTHER PLANNING RELATED EVENTS:

- Commissioner Wiblin shared that Developer Candidate Presentations for the North Berkeley BART station will be held on Thursday, Nov. 10, from 7-9pm. This event is hybrid and members of the public will be able to join via Zoom or in-person at the Berkeley Unified School District Boardroom, located at 1231 Addison St.

AGENDA ITEMS

9. Discussion: Southside Area Zoning Changes

Associate Planner Justin Horner presented information on Southside Area zoning changes and Commissioners provided comments and recommendations for staff, with the goal of returning to the Commission for a public hearing with zoning ordinance amendments.

Public Comments: 2

10. Discussion: Southside Local Density Bonus

Associate Planner Justin Horner presented on a local density bonus program in the Southside Plan Area and Commissioners provided comments and recommendations for staff to return for a public hearing with zoning ordinance amendments.

Public Comments: 1

11. 2023 Planning Commission Calendar

Principal Planner Grace Wu shared the 2023 Planning Commission Calendar with the commissioners. It was subsequently discussed and adopted.

Public Comments: 1

Motion/Second/Carried (Mikiten/Hauser) to approve the 2023 Planning Commission Calendar as is at 8:37 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

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

Motion/Second/Carried (Mikiten/Oatfield) to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

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

Members in the public in attendance: 7

Public Speakers: 7

Length of the meeting: 1 hr 38 minutes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grace Wu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Grace" being more prominent than the last name "Wu".

Grace Wu

Planning Commission Secretary