



Planning Commission

## FINAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

April 16, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Location:** North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94709

### 1. ROLL CALL:

**Commissioners Present:** Jeff Vincent, Christina Oatfield, Alfred Twu, Darrell Owens, Emily Marthinsen, Blaine Merker and Savlan Hauser

**Commissioners Absent:** Charles Kahn

**Staff Present:** Secretary Justin Horner, Clerk Faye Messner, Robert Rivera

### 2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Chochen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley's residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley's incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan Tribe and to create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this land acknowledgement.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT: 0

### 4. ORDER OF AGENDA:

### 5. CHAIRPERSON REPORT:

- Chair Vincent thanked the Commissioners for his time spent as Chair.

### 6. AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES AND LIASON COMMENTS

- None

### 7. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- None

## 8. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

- May 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting Agenda
  - Zoning Ordinance Amendments relating to ADUs
    - HCD ADU Letter
    - ADU AB 1033
  - Undergrounding of Utility Equipment
- June 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting
  - TBD - revision to the staff work plan following Council RRV
- Upcoming Council Items:
  - Middle Housing – April 29
  - Slate 2025
- Community Meeting – Corridor’s Upzoning May 1, online 6:30-8:30 pm

## 9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion/Second/Carried (Owens/Marthinsen) to approve the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes from March 5, 2025.

Ayes: Vincent, Oatfield, Twu, Owens, Marthinsen, Merker and Hauser. Noes: None. Abstain: None Absent: Kahn (7-0-0-1)

## 10. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. Action: 2025 Elections for Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Commissioners voted for Chair and Vice Chair election.

Motions/Second for Chair:

1. (Vincent/Merker) to elect Commissioner Marthinsen as Chair.

Ayes: Vincent, Oatfield, Merker, Owens, Marthinsen, and Hauser. Noes: Twu. Abstain: None. Absent: Kahn (6-1-0-1)

Motions/Second for Vice Chair:

2. (Marthinsen/Vincent) to elect Commissioner Hauser as Vice Chair.

Ayes: Vincent, Oatfield, Merker, Twu, Owens, Marthinsen, and Hauser. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Kahn (7-0-0-1)

**Public Comments: 0**

## **B. Public Hearing: State Law and Technical Edits (SLTE) 2025**

Senior Planner Robert Rivera presented on proposed zoning ordinance amendments to update the Berkeley Municipal Code to correct errors and make non-substantive, technical edits. Public comment was taken and the commissioners made a recommendation to City Council.

Motions/Second/Carried (Oatfield/Vincent ) to close the public hearing.

Ayes: Vincent, Oatfield, Merker, Twu, Owens, Marthinsen, and Hauser. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Kahn (7-0-0-1)

Motions/Second/Carried (Twu/Merker) to recommend that City Council adopt staff's recommendation.

Ayes: Vincent, Oatfield, Merker, Twu, Owens, Marthinsen, and Hauser. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Kahn (7-0-0-1)

**Public Comments: 0**

### **12. INFORMATION REPORTS**

- Corridors Upzoning Project Update – North Shattuck, College and Solano Avenue.

### **13. CORRESPONDENCE**

- None

**14. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 6:00pm**

### **15. ADJOURN**

Motions/Second/Carried (Oatfield/Vincent) adjourn the meeting at 6:27 pm.

Ayes: Vincent, Oatfield, Merker, Twu, Owens, Marthinsen, and Hauser. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Kahn (7-0-0-1)

**Members in the public in attendance: 0**

**Public Speakers: 0**

**Length of the meeting: 22 minutes**



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Justin Horner, Planning Commission Secretary