

**OFFICIAL**  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
South Valley Area Planning Commission Minutes  
Thursday, September 26, 2019  
Marvin Braude San Fernando Valley Constituent Service Center  
6262 Van Nuys Boulevard, First Floor Meeting Room  
Van Nuys, California 91401

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH VALLEY AREA PLANNING COMMISSION HEREIN ARE REPORTED IN ACTION FORMAT. THE ENTIRE DISCUSSION RELATED TO EACH ITEM IS ACCESSIBLE IN AUDIO FORMAT ONLINE AT [planning.lacity.org](http://planning.lacity.org). TO LISTEN TO THE AUDIO FILE: UNDER General Info, **SELECT COMMISSIONS & HEARINGS, SOUTH VALLEY, AGENDAS, LOCATE THE COMMISSION MEETING DATE AND SELECT THE AUDIO**” BUTTON.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. with Commissioners Raymond Bishop, Lydia Mather, Anna Menedjian, by Commission President Mark Dierking.

Commissioner Rebecca Beatty was absent.

Also present were Christine Saponara, Senior City Planner, representing the Director of Planning, Parissh Knox, Deputy City Attorney, Rafael Vega, Commission Executive Assistant, and Yasmin Moran, Senior Administrative Clerk.

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**ITEM NO. 1**

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORT AND COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- **Directors Report:** Christine Saponara, Senior City Planner, reported on the following:
  - As of the new fiscal year, the Department’s budget has grown to include 500 approved positions, 458 of which are currently funded, 12 positions receiving partial funding, and 45 positions being held vacant for salary savings. Of the 458 positions, 377 are currently filled, In the coming weeks, the Department will be hiring up to 30 new Planning Assistants and 5 people in various administrative capacities, while promoting up to 3 Planning Assistants to City Planning Associates, and up to 23 Planning Associates to City Planners. The current vacancy rates for the Department overall is approximately 17% with vacancy rates of 21% for Citywide Planning and 19% for both Project Planning and Community Planning. Of the 338 planner positions in the Department, 277 are filled with the remaining 67 vacant and available to be filled subject to the partial-year funding and salary savings requirements noted above.
  - Citywide Planning statistics on for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 from July 1 – September 2: Applications Completed: 1,726 ; Entitlements: 398; Customers Served: 16,751; Housing Units Proposed – 8,012
- **Advance Calendar:** There were no requests from the Commission
- **Commission Requests:** Commissioner Dierking requests an explanation pertaining to the conversion of traffic studies from LOS to VMT and the role it will play in the case load for the South Valley Area Planning Commission.

- **Approval of the Minutes:** Commissioner Bishop moved to approve the Minutes of August 22, 2019. Commissioner Menedjian seconded the motion, and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Bishop  
Seconded: Menedjian  
Ayes: Mather, Dierking  
Absent: Beatty

**Vote: 4 – 0**

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**ITEM NO. 2**

**NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

There were no presentations by Neighborhood Council representatives.

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**ITEM NO. 3**

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no speakers.

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**ITEM NO. 4**

**RECONSIDERATIONS**

There were no requests for reconsideration

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**ITEM NO. 5**

**DIR-2018-3554-BSA-1A**

CEQA: N/A

Plan Area: Sherman Oaks – Studio City  
Toluca Lake – Cahuenga Pass

Council District: 4 – Ryu  
Last Day to Act: 09-29-2019

**PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED**

**PROJECT SITE:** 3565 North Knobhill Drive

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

David Weintraub, Zoning Administrator, and Christine Saponara, Senior City Planner, representing the Department, and John Whipple, Chief Inspector, Los Angeles Department of Building & Safety; Jeffrey A. Cohen, Appellant, representing himself.

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**MOTION**

Commissioner Bishop put forth the actions below in conjunction with the denial of the following Project:

An existing single-family dwelling with an eight foot by eight foot storage shed.

1. Deny the appeal and sustain the Planning Director's determination dated June 28, 2019, pursuant to 12.26 K of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, to deny an appeal from the determination by the Department of Building and Safety, that it did not err or abuse its discretion in issuing Order to Comply numbers A-4206226 and A-4438474 requiring the location of the storage shed use be discontinued.
2. Adopt the Findings.

Commissioner Mather seconded the motion, and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Bishop  
Seconded: Mather  
Ayes: Menedjian, Dierking  
Absent: Beatty

**Vote: 4 - 0**

**MOTION PASSED**


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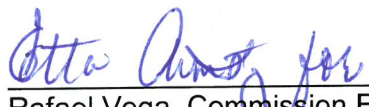
There being no further business to come before the South Valley Area Planning Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

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CITY PLANNING DEPT.  
AREA PLANNING COMMISSION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Dierking, President  
South Valley Area Planning Commission

  
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Rafael Vega, Commission Executive Assistant  
South Valley Area Planning Commission

**ADOPTED**  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

JAN 09 2020

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
COMMISSION OFFICE