

OFFICIAL
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission Minutes
Wednesday, September 2, 2020
(VIA TELECONFERENCE)

MINUTES OF THE WEST LOS ANGELES 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. TO LISTEN TO THE AUDIO FILE: SELECT “**ABOUT**”, “**COMMISSIONS, BOARDS & HEARINGS**”, FILTER BY “**WEST LOS ANGELES AREA PLANNING COMMISSION**”, LOCATE THE COMMISSION MEETING DATE AND SELECT THE “**AUDIO**” BUTTON.

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID19, the City Planning Commission meeting was conducted telephonically.

The meeting was called to order by Commission President Michael Newhouse at 4:35 p.m., along with Commission Vice President Waltz Morocco and Commissioners Esther Margulies and Adelle Yellin in attendance. Commissioner Heather Rozman was absent.

Also in attendance were Melissa Alofaituli, Senior City Planner and Michelle Singh, Senior City Planner on behalf of the Director of Planning; Oscar Medellin, Deputy City Attorney; James K. Williams, Commission Executive Assistant II; Denise Otero, Commission Office Staff.

ITEM NO. 1

DIRECTOR’S REPORT AND COMMISSION BUSINESS

Election of Officers:

MOTION:

Commissioner Waltz Morocco moved to nominate Commissioner Newhouse as President of the West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Margulies and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved:	Waltz Morocco
Seconded:	Margulies
Ayes:	Newhouse, Yellin
Absent:	Rozman

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

MOTION:

Commissioner Newhouse moved to nominate Commissioner Waltz Morocco as Vice President of the West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yellin and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved:	Newhouse
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Seconded: Yellin
Ayes: Margulies, Waltz Morocco
Absent: Rozman

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

Director's Report:

Michelle Singh, Senior City Planner, reported on the following items of interest:

- The Westside Planning team will be holding virtual Office Hours Sessions throughout the month of September for the Westside Community Updates. These sessions allow the community to speak directly with the Planners overseeing the various Plan Updates.
- **Advance Calendar:** There were no changes to the calendar.
- **Commission Requests:** There were no Commission requests.
- **Approval of the Minutes:**

MOTION:

Commissioner Newhouse moved to approve the minutes of August 19, 2020 The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yellin and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Newhouse
Seconded: Yellin
Ayes: Margulies, Waltz Morocco
Absent: Rozman

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 2

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

There were no presentations by Neighborhood Council representatives.

ITEM NO. 3

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

One speaker addressed the Commission.

ITEM NO. 4

RECONSIDERATIONS

There was a request to reconsider case DIR-2018-1485-CDP-MEL-1A heard on August 19, 2020. There was no motion made to reconsider the item.

ITEM NO. 5

APCW-2020-2929-SPE-DRB-SPP

CEQA: ENV-2020-2930-CE

Plan Area: Westwood

Council District: 5 – Koretz

Last Day to Act: 09-04-20

PUBLIC HEARING HELD – AUGUST 19, 2020

PROJECT SITE: 1000 South Glendon Avenue

IN ATTENDANCE:

Dylan Sittig, City Planning Associate, Elizabeth Gallardo, City Planner, Melissa Alofaituli, Senior City Planner and Michelle Singh, Senior City Planner representing the Planning Department; Brett Engstrom, Engstrom Planning representing the Applicant Rich Adachi, Trader Joes; Daniel Skolnick, Planning Deputy representing Council District 5.

MOTION:

Commissioner Newhouse put forth the actions below in conjunction with the approval of the following project:

An existing grocery store seeks to convert the existing corner entrance at the corner of Glendon Avenue and Weyburn Avenue into an exit-only door. The primary entrance will be located along the parking garage access path, in lieu of the requirement for it to be located along the building's frontage.

1. **Determine**, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301 Class 1 (existing facilities) and that there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 applies
2. **Approve**, pursuant to Section 11.5.7 F of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), a Specific Plan Exception from the Westwood Village Specific Plan Section 10(b) to allow the change of a ground floor patron door to an exit only door in lieu of the requirement to have the primary entrance along the building's frontage;
3. **Approve**, pursuant to LAMC Section 11.5.7 C, a Specific Plan Project Permit for compliance with the requirements of the Westwood Community Design Review Board to allow the change of a ground floor patron door to an exit only door in lieu of the requirement to have the primary entrance along the building's frontage;
4. **Approve**, pursuant to LAMC Section 16.50, Design Review for compliance with the requirements of the Westwood Community Design Review Board to allow the change of a ground floor patron door to an exit-only door in lieu of the requirement to have the primary entrance along the building's frontage;
5. **Adopt** the Conditions as modified by the Commission; and
6. **Adopt** the Findings as amended.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yellin and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Newhouse
Second: Yellin
Ayes: Margulies, Waltz Morocco
Absent: Rozman

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

There being no further business to come before the West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission
Commissioner Newhouse adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

ADOPTED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

OCT 21 2020

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION OFFICE

Michael Newhouse (Electronic Signature)

Michael Newhouse, President
West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission

J. Williams

James K. Williams, Commission Executive Assistant II
West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission