

WEST LOS ANGELES AREA PLANNING COMMISSION
OFFICIAL MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022
(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 accordance with Government Code Section 54953, subsections (e)(1) and (e)(3), and in light of the State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020 relating to COVID-19 and ongoing concerns that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees and/or that the State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person, the West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission’s March 2, 2022 regular meeting was conducted via telephone and/or videoconferencing.

The meeting was called to order by Commission Vice President Lisa Waltz Morocco at 4:30 p.m., along with Commissioners Alexis Laing, Esther Margulies, and Adele Yellin in attendance.

Also in attendance were Juliet Oh, Senior City Planner on behalf of the Director of Planning; Oscar Medellin, Deputy City Attorney; Cecilia Lamas and Alice Inawat, Commission Executive Assistants; Denise Otero, Administrative Clerk.

ITEM NO. 1

DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE HOLDING MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCE

Motion Required. Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54953(e)(1)(B)-(C), (e)(3)(A) and (e)(3)(B)(i), a determination that the COVID-19 State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person and possible Commission action.

MOTION:

Commissioner Margulies moved to adopt the resolution under which the Commission finds that holding meetings in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioner Laing seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Margulies
Second: Laing
Ayes: Yellin, Waltz Morocco

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 2

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSION BUSINESS

- Juliet Oh, Senior City Planner, on behalf of the Director of Planning, reported on two items of interest:
 - Provided an updated regarding Housing Element. For inquiries about the process or updates, please email the housing policy team at housingelement@lacity.org.
 - The department's annual report is available on the planning website. We go through our annual progress, achievements, changes in our department (such as the new online application system), and policy initiatives that have moved forward.
- Oscar Medellin, Deputy City Attorney, had no report.
- Commissioner Requests:
 - Commission Vice President Waltz Morocco requested the SB 9 be shortened to highlight key points for the public.
- Commission Vice President Waltz Morocco moved to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2022 and February 16, 2022. Commissioner Margulies seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Waltz Morocco
Second: Margulies
Ayes: Laing, Yellin

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 3

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PRESENTATION

There were no Neighborhood Council presentations.

ITEM NO. 4

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No speakers addressed the Commission during general public comment.

ITEM NO. 5

RECONSIDERATIONS

There were no requests for reconsiderations.

ITEM NO. 6

DIR-2020-4144-BSA-1A

CEQA: N/A

Plan Area: Bel Air-Beverly Crest

Related Case: DIR-2020-4145-BSA-1A

Council District: 5 – Koretz

****Last Day to Act: 03-02-22**

PUBLIC HEARING HELD

PROJECT SITE: 627 North Carcassonne Road

IN ATTENDANCE:

Charles Rausch, Associate Zoning Administrator, representing the Department of City Planning; Winter King, representing the Appellant/Applicant; Louis Hsieh, Owner; Benjamin Reznik, representing the Owner; and Daniel Skolnick on behalf of Council District 5, representing Councilmember Paul Koretz

MOTION:

Commissioner Margulies moved to put forth the actions below in conjunction with approval of the following Project with modifications, if any, incorporating Commissioner's Yellin's comment regarding the importance of developers following the rules, as stated on the record:

A Building and Safety Appeal (BSA) for the proposed construction of a new single-family dwelling with attached garage, pool/spa, site retaining wall and associated site grading.

1. Deny the appeal, sustain the Planning Director's Determination dated April 23, 2021;
2. Grant in part, deny in part, and dismiss in part, pursuant to Section 12.26 K of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, an appeal that the Department of Building and Safety erred or abused its discretion in issuing Building Permits Nos. 14010-30000-03040, 14010-10001-03040, 17030-20000-00378, 17030-20000-00190, 17020-20000-00101 and 17047-20000-00090, all for a new single-family dwelling with attached garage, pool/spa, site retaining wall and associated site grading; and
3. Adopt the Findings.

Moved: Margulies
Second: Laing
Ayes: Yellin
Nays: Waltz Morocco

Vote: 3 – 1

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 7

DIR-2020-4145-BSA-1A

CEQA: N/A

Plan Area: Bel Air-Beverly Crest

Related Case: DIR-2020-4144-BSA-1A

Council District: 5 – Koretz

****Last Day to Act: 03-02-22**

PUBLIC HEARING HELD

PROJECT SITE: 10701 West Bellagio Road

IN ATTENDANCE:

Charles Rausch, Associate Zoning Administrator and Juliet Oh, Senior City Planner, representing the Department of City Planning; Winter King, representing the Appellant/Applicant; Dale Goldsmith, representing the Owner; and Daniel Skolnick on behalf of Council District 5, representing Councilmember Paul Koretz.

MOTION:

Commissioner Margulies moved to put forth the actions below in conjunction with approval of the following Project with modifications, if any, incorporating Commissioner's Yellin's comment regarding the importance of developers following the rules, as stated on the record:

A Building and Safety Appeal (BSA) for the proposed construction of a new single-family dwelling with attached garage, pool/spa, site retaining wall and associated site grading.

1. Deny the appeal, sustain the Planning Director's Determination dated April 23, 2021;
2. Grant in part, deny in part, and dismiss in part, pursuant to Section 12.26 K of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, an appeal that the Department of Building and Safety erred or abused its discretion in issuing Building Permits Nos. 14010-30000-03038, 09030-10000-04612, 14030-30000-06886, 16030-20000-05687, 15020-30001-00336, 15020-30000-00336, and 16047-20000-01381, all for a new single-family dwelling with attached garage, pool/spa, site retaining wall and associated site grading; and
3. Adopt the corrected Findings.

Moved: Margulies

Second: Yellin

Ayes: Laing

Nays: Waltz Morocco

Vote: 3 – 1

MOTION PASSED

There being no further business to come before the West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission. Commission Vice President Waltz Morocco adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Lisa Waltz Morocco (Electronic Signature)

Lisa Waltz Morocco, Vice President
West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission

Alice Inawat (Electronic Signature)

Alice Inawat, Commission Executive Assistant
West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission

ADOPTED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

APR 13 2022

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION OFFICE