

EAST LOS ANGELES AREA PLANNING COMMISSION
OFFICIAL MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2022
(VIA TELECONFERENCE)

MINUTES OF THE EAST 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 “**EAST LOS ANGELES**”, 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 East Los Angeles Area Planning Commission’s November 9, 2022 meeting was conducted via telephone and/or videoconferencing.

Commission President Jacob Stevens called the regular meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with Commission Vice President Denise Campos, Commissioners Seamus Garrity, Lyric Kelkar, and Sarah Rascon in attendance via Teleconference Webinar.

Also in attendance were Jane Choi, Principal City Planner, Nashya Sadono-Jensen, Planning Assistant, Olga Ruano, City Planner, Oscar Medellin, Deputy City Attorney, Commission Office staff participation included Eva Bencomo, Commission Executive Assistant, and Marcos G. Godoy, Administrative Clerk.

ITEM NO. 1

DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE HOLDING MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCE

Commission President Jacob Stevens 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 Seamus Garrity seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Stevens
Second: Rascon
Ayes: Campos, Garrity, Kelkar

Vote: 5 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 2

DIRECTOR’S REPORT AND COMMISSION BUSINESS

- Jane Choi, Principal City Planner, had two items to report. The first update is on November 3, 2022, the City Planning Commission approved a recommendation that the City Council adopt an ordinance to establish a hillside construction regulations supplemental use district overlay in various hillside communities within the Northeast Los Angeles commute plan area. This ordinance imposes standards

which has but not limited to limitations on grading qualities, hauling amounts, and imposes conditions on hauling. The next step after the Determination Letter is issued is for the proposed ordinance to move to the Planning and Landuse Management Committee of the City Council, and then to the full City Council for adoption.

The second update is regarding tour online meetings. As we already established our ability to meet as a Brown Act body, under AB361 and the Governor's State of Emergency Declaration. The Governor has recently announced that the Emergency Declaration will be sunseting on Tuesday, February 28, 2023. This means that starting Wednesday, March 1, 2023, all Brown Act meetings will be held in person. The City Planning staff is working on the details of this transition and will be providing more details as they become available. We wanted to make sure that all of the Commissioners are aware of this change.

- Oscar Medellin, Deputy City Attorney, a brief report regarding the appeal and court challenge. We were waiting for the Court's final decision which we received. The Court's decision is an order to the Commission to supplement its findings in order to comply with the applicable law. Deputy City Attorney Oscar Medellin will advise the Commission soon with a recommendation for the Commission to consider. We are looking at perhaps mid-December or early January.
- The Commission had no items of interest.
- Commissioner Sarah Rascon moved to approve the Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2022. Commissioner Seamus Garrity seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Rascon
Second: Garrity
Ayes: Campos, Kelkar, Stevens

Vote: 5 – 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-2021-10882-SPP-HCA-1A

CEQA: ENV-2021-10883-CE

Plan Area: Northeast Los Angeles

Council District: 1 –Hernandez

****Last Day to Act: 10-02-22**

PUBLIC HEARING Required

PROJECT SITE: 4487-4497 East Bend Drive

IN ATTENDANCE VIA TELECONFERENCE:

Nashya Sadono-Jensen, Planning Assistant and Olga Ruano, City Planner, representing the Planning Department; Needra Jenkins representing the Bend Drive Safety Coalition, Appellant, and Karen Tang Representing Bonita and Yong Lee, Applicant.

MOTION:

Commission President Stevens moved to put forth the actions below, in conjunction with the approval of the following Project:

Construction, use, and maintenance of a new single-family dwelling with an attached garage.

1. Determine based on the whole of the administrative record that the Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15303, Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures – One single-family residence or a second dwelling unit in a residential zone), and there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 applies;
2. Deny the partial appeal and sustain the Planning Director's determination dated August 15, 2022;
3. Adopt the Conditions of Approval; and
4. Adopt the Findings.

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

Moved: Stevens
Second: Garrity
Ayes: Campos, Kelkar, Rascon

Vote: 5 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ADOPTED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

FEB 08 2023

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION OFFICE

There being no further business before the Commission, President Jacob Stevens adjourned the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Jacob Stevens

Jacob Stevens, President
East Los Angeles Area Planning Commission

Cecilia Lamas (Electronic Signature due to COVID-19) for

Eva Bencomo, Commission Executive Assistant
East Los Angeles Area Planning Commission