

MINUTES

**DRAFT – Until Approved
by the RPC 11/13/2024
Prepared by:
Elida Luna**

Meeting Place: In-Person: 320 W. Temple Street, Room 150, Los Angeles, CA 90012 Virtual (Online): <https://bit.ly/ZOOM-RPC> Webinar ID: 858 6032 6429 Or call by phone: (669) 444-9171 or (719) 359-4580

Meeting Date: October 16, 2024 - Wednesday Time: 9:00 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Duarte-White, Louie, O'Connor, Moon, Hastings

Ex Officio Members:

Director of Public Works: Ms. Aracely Lasso, Senior Civil Engineer

County Counsel: Ms. Kathy Park, Deputy County Counsel

Planning Director: Ms. Susie Tae, Assistant Deputy Director, Current Planning Division

Forester and Fire Warden: Mr. Juan Padilla, Supervising Fire Prevention Engineer

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

1. The Land Acknowledgment Statement was led by Chair O'Connor representing the Third District. The County of Los Angeles recognizes that we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples. We honor and pay respect to their elders and descendants -- past, present, and emerging -- as they continue their stewardship of these lands and waters. We acknowledge that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multigenerational trauma. This acknowledgment demonstrates our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these ancestral lands. We are dedicated to growing and sustaining relationships with Native peoples and local tribal governments, including (in no particular order) the: Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council, Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, San Fernando Band of Mission Indians. To learn more about the First Peoples of Los Angeles County, please visit the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission website at lanaic.lacounty.gov.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Duarte-White representing the First Supervisorial District.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Motion/seconded by Commissioners Moon/Hastings – That the agenda for October 16, 2024, be approved.

At the direction of the Chair, the agenda was approved unanimously.

COUNTY COUNSEL REPORT

4. County Counsel stated for the record that while this is an online meeting, it is a public meeting the same as if it were held in person in the Commission’s hearing room and rules that allow for an orderly meeting shall apply. As such, when speaking on an agenda item, comments should address the item on the agenda and no other issues.

Similarly, if speaking during public comment, comments should be limited to issues related to the business of the Regional Planning Commission.

If speakers do not remain on topic, they may be reminded by the Chair or myself to do so. Failure to discuss issues not related to the agenda item, may result in the loss of the right to speak on the item or other items, if directed by the Chair. In addition, speakers should refrain from conduct that is disruptive of the meeting. Doing so also could result in the loss of the right to speak on the agenda item or any other items.

Disruptive conduct can include, but is not limited to, threats made against other speakers, the Commission or its members, or any others participating in the meeting, profane comments not related to the agenda item, or disorderly or contemptuous behavior leading to a disruption of the orderly progression and holding of the meeting.

In such cases, the Chair will advise that the behavior is disruptive and direct that the speaker’s microphone be disabled. That person may, however, continue to observe the meeting. Further, disruptive behavior communicated to the panelists of the meeting, which include the Commission and County staff, may result in the removal of that person from the meeting by disconnecting them from the online connection.

DIRECTOR/DEPUTY DIRECTOR

5. There were no reports given by the Assistant Deputy Director.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

6. Motion/seconded by Commissioners Hastings/Duarte-White – That the minutes for September 25, 2024, be approved.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL (Cont.)

At the direction of the Chair, the minutes were approved with Commissioners Hastings, Duarte-White, O'Connor, Moon favor and Commissioner Louie being recorded as abstaining.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Staff announced if you are joining us via telephone and want to provide comment on any of the agenda items, please send an email to comment@planning.lacounty.gov and provide the agenda item number, your first name, your last name, your email address, your phone number, and indicate if you are the applicant or not the applicant

All participants' microphones will be muted during the meeting unless you have signed up to provide comment. If you have signed up to provide comment, your microphone will be unmuted when it is time for you to speak, and staff will call your name.

PUBLIC HEARINGSMetro Development ServicesProject Approved

7. **Project No. PRJ2022-004635-(2). Planner: Melissa Reyes. Applicant: Bruce Evans. 1303 West Sepulveda Boulevard. South Bay Planning Area. a. Nonconforming Review No. RPPL2022014280. To continue the operation and maintenance of an existing nonconforming drugstore in the M-2-IP (Heavy Manufacturing – Industrial Preservation Overlay) Zone. b. Conditional Use Permit No. RPPL2022014272. To authorize the continued sale of a full line of alcoholic beverages for off-site consumption with a Type 21 California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control License at the existing nonconforming drugstore. This project is categorically exempt (Class 1 - Existing Facilities) pursuant to CEQA reporting requirements.**

Staff presented the staff report with testimony being followed by the applicant, Mr. Bruce Evans, in support of the project. No members of the public were present or virtual in opposition, no rebuttal was required. There was further discussion by the Commission regarding the hours for the sale of alcoholic beverages and the 10-year grant term for the CUP and staff addressed the Commissions questions.

For further action and discussion visit:

http://lacdrp.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=1

Motion/seconded by Commissioners Louie/Hastings – That the Regional Planning Commission close the public hearing and find that the project is categorically exempt Pursuant to state and local CEQA guidelines.

Motion/seconded by Commissioners Louie/Hastings – That the Regional Planning Commission approve Nonconforming Review No. RPPL2022014280 and Conditional Use Permit No. RPPL2022014272 subject to the findings and conditions. The appeal period for this item ends on October 30, 2024.

PUBLIC HEARINGS (Cont.)Coastal Development ServicesProject Denied

8. **(Recommended for Denial). Project No. R2014-00461-(3). Planner: Nathan M. Merrick. Applicant: Schmitz & Associates, Inc. 3300 Kanan Dume Road (Assessor's Parcel Number: 4465-002-023). Santa Monica Mountains Planning Area. a. Major Coastal Development Permit No. RCDP-201500099. To construct a 4,412-square-foot, 18-foot-tall, two-story, single-family residence; a 2,030-square-foot, 18-foot-tall, two-story, detached auxiliary building containing a guest house, a laundry room, a mudroom, a restroom, a garage, and a gym; and associated infrastructure, including a 1,550-foot-long driveway, a motor court, landscaping, hardscaping, retaining walls, an onsite wastewater treatment system, roof-mounted solar panels, two water wells, and two water tanks, in the R-C-20 (Rural Coastal – 20-Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) Zone. The project also proposes 5,800 cubic yards of grading, a 9,715-square-foot building site area, the removal of three native trees, and encroachments into the protected zones of 193 native trees. b. Variance No. RCDP-201500100. To authorize the project's proposed driveway length and the construction of an onsite wastewater treatment system within the dripline of an oak tree. This project is statutorily exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15270 (Projects Which Are Disapproved).**

Staff presented the staff report with testimony being followed by the applicant's representative, Mr. Don Schmitz, in support of the project and stated several reasons why the recommendation for denial was not warranted. The Commission opened the public hearing and took testimony from four (4) members of the public in support of the project. No members of the public were present or virtual in opposition, no rebuttal was required.

There was further discussion by the Commissioners and staff regarding: 1) weighing scenic resource impacts against other impacts and biological impacts; and 2) The ERB's role in the land use and zoning entitlements process. Staff stated that the avoidance of biological resource impacts takes precedence over other development standards, including those related to visual impacts. Staff indicated that the Woolsey Fire did not result in changes to the underlying habitat values existing prior to the Woolsey Fire. Lastly, Staff stated the ERB's role is to comment on a project's consistency with the biological resource standards of the SMMLCP.

The Commission asked County Counsel about takings and County Counsel stated that Staff's presentation and materials addressed the projects relation to the SMMLCP.

For further action and discussion visit:

http://lacdrp.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=1

Motion/seconded by Commissioners O'Connor/Duarte-White – That the Regional Planning Commission close the public hearing and find that the project is categorically exempt Pursuant to state and local CEQA guidelines.

PUBLIC HEARINGS (Cont.)

Motion/seconded by Commissioners O’Connor/Duarte-White – That the Regional Planning Commission deny Major CDP No. 201500099 and Variance No. 201500100, without prejudice subject to the findings. The appeal period for this item ends on October 30, 2024.

At the direction of the Chair, with no further questions for staff, the Commissioners accepted the update.

PUBLIC COMMENT

9. Public comment pursuant to Section 54954.3 of the Government Code.

There were no requests by members of the public to address the Commission.

CONTINUATION OF REPORTS

10. Possible Call for Review of Decisions by Hearing Officer, pursuant to Section 22.240.010.B of the Los Angeles County Code.

There were no items Called up for Review by the Commission.

11. Commission/Counsel/Director Reports

There were no reports given by Commission/Counsel/Director.

ADJOURNMENT

A recording of the testimony received and the discussions held at this meeting and a copy of all findings and resolutions acted upon by the Commission are on file in the Department of Regional Planning.

The Commission adjourned at 10:15 a.m. to Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at Meeting Location: Hall of Administration Building at 500 W. Temple Street, Board of Supervisors Hearing Room 381-B, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Elida Luna, Commission Secretary

ATTEST

APPROVE

Pamela O’Connor, Chair

Susie Tae, Assistant Deputy Director
Advance Planning Division