LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PAM O'CONNOR
Chair
Supervisorial District 3

DAVID W. LOUIE
Vice Chair
Supervisorial District 2

YOLANDA DUARTE-WHITE
Commissioner
Supervisorial District 1

ELVIN W. MOON
Commissioner
Supervisorial District 4

MICHAEL R. HASTINGS
Commissioner
Supervisorial District 5

MINUTES

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 9, 2024 - Wednesday Time: 9:00 a.m.

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

Ex Officio Members:

Director of Public Works: Mr. Jose Suarez, Senior Civil Engineer

Mr. Christian Ascencio, Associate 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: Fernandeño 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 Moon representing the Fourth Supervisorial District.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Motion/seconded by Commissioners Moon/Hastings – That the agenda for October 9, 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 agendized 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 agendized 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. The Assistant Deputy Director stated that the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 2024-0054 entitled, "This ordinance amends Title 22 - Planning and Zoning of the Los Angeles County Code, to provide for the establishment of Short-Term Rentals pursuant to Division 3, Short-Term Rentals Registration of Title 7 - Business Licenses of the County Code." This ordinance shall take effect on November 7, 2024.

DIRECTOR/DEPUTY DIRECTOR (Cont.)

Mr. Dennis Slavin, Chief Deputy Director of Regional Planning introduced Dr. Scorza, the Inaugural Executive Director of Racial Equity for the Los Angeles County overseeing the Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion (ARDI) initiative. He brings years of experience to his role as a national expert on issues focused on poverty, education and public health. Currently, a lecturer in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, Dr. Scorza works to prepare students to apply community organizing to center community voice and change health policy.

Dr. Scorza served 14 years as the Executive Director and Founder of the Social Justice Learning Institute leading health, environmental, housing and educational justice. He was a Business Alliance for Local Living Economy Fellow, an Education Pioneers Fellow, and a former President of the Board of Education for the Inglewood Unified School District. He is a U.S. Navy Iraq-War Veteran and civic leader, he has been recognized as one of the 40 Emerging Civic Leaders under the age of 40 in 2018 and received the UCLA Recent Graduate Achievement Award in 2016.

Lastly, Dr. Scorza framed the work of this Department in our strategic planning effort for the last couple of years and it was his work that helped frame our success in that effort and we are grateful, Mr. Slavin welcomed Dr. Scorza.

Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI)

5(a). RPC Special No. RPPL2024004056-(1-5). Presenter: Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza, Executive Director, Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative. A presentation by Dr. Scorza on the Los Angeles County Racial Equity Strategic Plan, which outlines the County's vision, guiding equity principles, and strategic goals and implementation for closing racial disparities and helping achieve positive life outcomes for residents within LA County.

Dr. Scorza introduced himself and began with equity in the built environment in Los Angels County. In July 2020, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) passed a motion that created the Board's Eighth Board directed priority known as the Anti Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative. The Board's motion articulated an anti-racist agenda that would guide, govern, and increase the County's ongoing commitment to fighting racism in all its dimension. l

ARDI is committed to providing training and capacity building for each of our county departments. Making sure that they have the technical assistance needed to carry out the work that enables them to review their policies and programs through a lens of equity. Making sure that we are engaging with those whose lives we are impacting, the decisions we are making and that they are part of that process. The ability to use data is to determine whether or not the work we are doing is leading to the outcome that we seek. We focus on policy and analysis and development and supporting the infusion of equity in our programming and resourcing.

Understanding Structural Racism comprises of three pillars institutional, spatial and relational. Together, these three pillars form the essential structural foundations by which racism of the past and present operates to systematically produce gaps in life outcomes. They tend to operate in reinforcing ways such that institutional decisions shape the spatial environment, which, in turn, shapes the formation of social networks, which then influences role occupancy

DIRECTOR/DEPUTY DIRECTOR (Cont.)

and decision-making within institutions. The processes by which these structural pillars produce gaps in life outcomes can be referred to as exclusion, exploitation, and control.

Equity enables us to understand that people start form different places in their lives. Making sure we are upholding principals of equality in our society and balancing them out to meet those people's needs. The idea that differences matter, and that systems must be balanced to distribute resources and opportunities needed to reach equal outcomes by treating everyone justly according to their circumstances.

We developed the Countywide Racial Equity Strategic Plan, which shares what the County wants to do (life course outcomes) and how it's going to do it (strategies). Our role is to coordinate across the County to implement the plan in partnership with Departments and external stakeholders. The Strategic Plan will guide equity strategies in the County over the next decade. The process of selecting strategic goals are guided by the ARDI Board motion that initiated the planning process as week as the motion, "Establishing an Antiracist Los Angeles County Policy Agenda.," which calls for addressing disparate outcomes.

The Department of Regional Planning has a Strategic Plan for Equity:

- GOAL 1: Address racial inequities found in past and current planning and land use practice by building new systems and policies that embed equity
- GOAL 2: Make Los Angeles a safer, better place to live by proactively addressing climate change, housing crises, and other emergent challenges related to environmental justice
- GOAL 3: Earn a reputation as a community resource and trusted ally, partnering to design plans and policies that work for communities
- GOAL 4: Foster a work environment for all staff that promotes equitable professional development and personal growth while building a diverse staff that represents unincorporated LA County
- GOAL 5: Increase financial stability by expanding funding opportunities to support LA County Planning's services and activities.

For further action and discussion visit:
http://lacdrp.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=1

At the direction of the Chair, with no further questions for staff, the Commissioners thanked Dr. Scorza.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

6. Motion/seconded by Commissioners Moon/Hastings – That the minutes for September 18, 2024, be approved.

At the direction of the Chair, the minutes were approved unanimously.

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 toprovide 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 HEARING

Subdivisions

Project Approved

7. (Continued without opening the public hearing from 08/07/24). Project No. 04-035-(1). Planner: Alejandrina Baldwin. Applicant: Juanita and Arturo Barrera. 2027 Vallecito Drive and 2342 Via Cielo. East San Gabriel Valley Planning Area. a. Tentative Tract Map No. 060973. To create 10 residential lots on 12.35 gross (10.25 net) acres, within the A-1-1 (Light Agricultural-One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area). b. Conditional Use Permit No. RCUP-200800169. To authorize the development of eight new building pads within a non-urban hillside management area pursuant to the pre-2015 update of the County's Hillside Management Area Ordinance, and to allow over height retaining walls within required yards. c. Oak Tree Permit No. RPPL2021002541. To authorize the encroachment into the protected zone of nine non heritage oak trees. d. Environmental Assessment No. RPPL2021002622. To consider an MND with impacts to Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Noise, and Tribal Cultural Resources reduced to less than significant with mitigation measures pursuant to CEQA reporting requirements.

Staff presented the staff report with testimony being followed by the applicant, Mr. Arturo Barrera and Mr. Richard Dell, Principal Architect, in favor of the project. The Commission opened the public hearing and took testimony from two (2) community members expressing their concerns regarding past ordinance changes meant to prohibit subdivisions under 15 acres, 4-6 oak trees being removed without an oak tree permit, development of a septic system without permits, drainage and heavy flooding, hazard of Lot Nos. 1 and 2 sliding off the slope, overall Project Site drainage, ability of retaining walls to retain slopes, and increase of traffic along the existing two-lane public street. Mr. Barrera and Mr. Dell rebutted and stated that there were no oak trees removed, that all oak trees had been tagged, one oak tree expired, and another two oak trees were in decline. They also mentioned that there was a traffic study conducted which concluded that there were no significant traffic impacts, and that Public Works only required an offer of dedication for street widening. Lastly, the Applicant and their team mentioned that the Project will result in less drainage runoff from the Project Site to the neighboring properties, and that a Hydrology Study was approved, and that runoff was reduced and mitigated.

Commissioner Hastings asked staff to explain the use of mitigation banks, and staff responded by explaining that they are used to mitigate impacts to sensitive species and habitat when that mitigation cannot occur within the property in question. In this case, the Project is required to

PUBLIC HEARING (Cont.)

provide a minimum of 70% open space on-site, and that the Project has provided about 76% of the Project Site as preserved open space.

Commissioner Moon asked Mr. Barrera if he would be selling the residential lots, and, if so, if they could set-aside two units for affordable housing through a covenant. Mr. Barrera stated that he was not able to set-aside affordable units because it does not work for the Project.

For further action and discussion visit:
http://lacdrp.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=1

Motion/seconded by Commissioners Duarte-White/Louie – The Regional Planning Commission close the public hearing and adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program pursuant to state and local CEQA guidelines.

Motion/seconded by Commissioners Duarte-White/Louie – The Regional Planning Commission approve Tentative Tract Map No. 060973, Conditional Use Permit No. 200800169, and Oak Tree Permit No. RPPL2021002541 subject to the findings and conditions.

At the direction of the Chair, the item passed with Commissioners Duarte-White, Louie, O'Connor, Hastings in favor and Commissioner Moon being recorded as No. The appeal period for this item ends on October 21, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT

8. 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

9. 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.

10. 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 10:33 a.m. to Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

Elida Luna, Commission Secretary

ATTEST

Pamela O'Connor, Chair

APPROVE

Susie Tae, Assistant Deputy Director
Current Planning Division