



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Planning Commission

02/24/2021

6:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of California Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, issued on March 17, 2020, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City of Santa Clara has implemented methods for the public to participate remotely:

- Via Zoom:
 - o <https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/91729202898>
 - Webinar ID: 917 2920 2898 or
 - o Phone: 1(669) 900-6833
- Via the City's eComment (available during the meeting)

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Public Comments prior to meeting may be submitted via email to PlanningPublicComment@SantaClaraCA.gov no later than noon on the day of the meeting; and also before and during the meeting via eComment.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ZOOM WEBINAR: Please follow the guidelines below when participating in a Zoom Webinar:

- The meeting will be recorded so you must choose 'continue' to accept and stay in the meeting.
- If there is an option to change the phone number to your name when you enter the meeting, please do so as your name will be visible online and will be used to notify you that it is your turn to speak.
- Mute all other audio before speaking. Using multiple devices can cause an audio feedback.
- Use the raise your hand feature in Zoom when you would like to speak on an item and lower when finished speaking. Press *9 to raise your hand if you are calling in by phone only.
- Identify yourself by name before speaking on an item.
- Unmute when called on to speak and mute when done speaking. If there is background noise coming from a participant, they will be muted by the host. Press *6 if you are participating by phone to unmute.
- If you no longer wish to stay in the meeting once your item has been heard, please exit the meeting.

6:00 PM REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order

Chair Saleme called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Statement of Values**Roll Call**

Present 5 - Vice Chair Nancy A. Biagini, Commissioner Priya Cherukuru, Commissioner Qian Huang, Commissioner Yuki Ikezi, and Chair Lance Saleme

Absent 1 - Commissioner Ricci Herro

A motion was made by Commissioner Biagini, seconded by Chair Saleme to excuse Commissioner Herro.

Aye: 5 - Vice Chair Biagini, Commissioner Cherukuru, Commissioner Huang, Commissioner Ikezi, and Chair Saleme

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Herro

DECLARATION OF COMMISSION PROCEDURES

Secretary Cherukuru read the Declaration of Commission Procedures.

CONTINUANCES/EXCEPTIONS

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Commissioner Cherukuru, seconded by Commissioner Biagini to approve the consent calendar.

Aye: 5 - Vice Chair Biagini, Commissioner Cherukuru, Commissioner Huang, Commissioner Ikezi, and Chair Saleme

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Herro

1.A [21-333](#) Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2020 Meeting

Recommendation: Approve the Planning Commission Minutes of the October 28, 2020 Meeting

Commissioner Huang abstained from voting on Item 1.A as he was not a Commissioner at the time of the meeting.

Aye: 4 - Vice Chair Biagini, Commissioner Cherukuru, Commissioner Ikezi, and Chair Saleme

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Herro

Abstained: 1 - Commissioner Huang

1.B [21-31](#) Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2021 Meeting

Recommendation: Approve the Planning Commission Minutes of the January 27, 2021 Meeting

A motion was made that this item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Vice Chair Biagini, Commissioner Cherukuru, Commissioner Huang, Commissioner Ikezi, and Chair Saleme

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Herro

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

2. [21-236](#) Study Session on the Draft El Camino Real Specific Plan

Lesley Xavier, Principal Planner provided a PowerPoint presentation. **Alessandra Lundin, City Consultant, Raimi and Associates** participated in the meeting.

An overview of the City's El Camino Real Specific Plan was provided.

Several Commissioners commented on a dislike for projects that are 'glass boxes' and would like better designs. **Commissioner Cherukuru** expressed excitement for the upcoming project and would like the desired outcome to acknowledge the cultural diversity that represents the City and noted that there is no representation of public art in the presentation.

Commissioner Huang expressed concern for the height of projects and requested that there be a height limit on the north side to limit shadows on resident projects behind buildings.

Chair Saleme commented that he would like to see a mixture of architectural styles in the project and had questions on the gaps in the bike lane barriers and inquired if these could be a problem for ADA or mobility limited persons. He also inquired as to whether there would be a shuttle for the project area and suggested that developers contribute to this. **Principal Planner Lesley Xavier** replied that street cleaning is something that remains to be figured out for the bike lane barrier area and addressed seasonal identity questions noting that there could be specific lighting and seasonal banners to resolve this issue.

Commissioner Ikezi expressed concern regarding connections to BART and train stations. **Commissioner Biagini** expressed support for the project and reaffirmed previous comments regarding inclusion of community art; recognition of cultural diversity and some type of shuttle for the area.

Public Speakers (5):

Sindhu Saggeri
Carolyn Zhang
Public Speaker
Tom Qualia
Councilmember Anthony Becker

Meeting went into recess at 8:17 p.m. and reconvened at 8:24 p.m.

Commissioner Cherukuru inquired if there are provisions for projects already in the pipeline. **Planning Manager Reena Billiot and Assistant**

City Attorney Alexander Abbe replied that this issue is being addressed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cheurkuru, seconded by Commissioner Ikezi to close public hearing.

Aye: 5 - Vice Chair Biagini, Commissioner Cherukuru, Commissioner Huang, Commissioner Ikezi, and Chair Saleme

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Herro

REPORTS OF COMMISSION/BOARD LIAISON AND COMMITTEE:

1. Announcements/Other Items

Commissioner Cherukuru requested that next year the Commission be reminded of the upcoming Joint Venture Silicon Valley State of the Valley before the event is held.

Commissioners Huang, Biagini, and Saleme, expressed interest in attending the League of California Cities Planning Commissioner Academy taking place in late March. Registration will take place and a retroactive vote to expend funds will take place at the next meeting. Staff will contact Commissioner Herro regarding the training.

2. Commissioner Travel and Training Reports, Requests to attend Trainings

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORTS:

1. Planning Commission Budget Update

2. Upcoming Agenda Items

Planning Manager Reena Brilliot provided updates and noted there are no items for the March 10 meeting and inquired if the meeting could be canceled due to this information. Commissioners concurred the meeting should be canceled.

Chair Saleme commented that he would like to possibly have a Planning Commission dinner meeting with the Council on this date if available.

3. City Council Actions

Development Review Officer/Staff Liaison Gloria Sciara provided updates.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Commissioner Cheukuru, seconded by Commissioner Biagini to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The March 10, 2021 meeting will be canceled. The next regular scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 14, 2021.

Aye: 5 - Vice Chair Biagini, Commissioner Cherukuru, Commissioner Huang, Commissioner Ikezi, and Chair Saleme

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Herro

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If a member of the public submits a speaker card for any agenda items, their name will appear in the Minutes. If no speaker card is submitted, the Minutes will reflect "Public Speaker."

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