



TUESDAY, November 10, 2020
701 East Carson Street, Carson, CA 90745
6:30 p.m., Via Zoom

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Members:

Alex Cainglet	Uli Fe'esago	Ramon Madrigal (Vice-Chair)
Michael Mitoma	Chris Palmer	Ramona Pimentel (Chair)
Myla Rahman	Karimu Rashad	Daniel Valdez

Alternates:

Louie Diaz	Patricia Hellerud	Paloma Zuniga
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Staff:

Planning Manager Betancourt	Assistant City Attorney Jones
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"In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the Planning Department at 310-952-1761 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting." (Government Code Section 54954.2)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Pimentel called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Planning Commissioners Present: Cainglet, Fe'esago, Mitoma, Palmer, Pimentel, Rashad

Planning Commissioners Absent: Mitoma, Rahman, Valdez (excused)

Planning Commission Alternates Present: None

Planning Staff Present: Planning Manager Betancourt, Assistant City Attorney Jones, Associate Planner Bhatia, Assistant Planner Castillo, Recording Secretary Bothe, Typist Clerk Sandoval

3. ORAL COMMUNICATION FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

*The public may at this time address the members of the Planning Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Planning Commission. No action may be taken on non-agendized items except as authorized by law. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to no more than three minutes each, speaking once. *(see below) None.*

***DUE TO CORONA VIRUS COVID-19, NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ALLOWED INTO CITY HALL DURING THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING. THE MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIA REMOTE TELECONFERENCING USING THE ELECTRONIC “ZOOM” APPLICATION.**

Any members of the public wishing to provide public comment for the items on the agenda may do so as follows:

1. Live via Zoom Application. Members of the public wishing to provide public comment in real-time will be invited to join the Zoom meeting remotely to provide their public comment live with their audio/video presented to the Planning Commission. Members of the public wishing to do so must email planning@carson.ca.us, providing their real name and the phone number they will use to call in from, no later than 3:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting. For further details/requirements and meeting invite information, please email planning@carson.ca.us no later than 3:00 p.m. on the date of the hearing.
2. Email: You can email comments to Planning@carson.ca.us no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.
3. Telephone: You can record your comments at (310) 952-1720 no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.
4. Box outside of City Hall: You can provide hand-written comments by dropping off a note at the box located in front of City Hall (701 East Carson Street) no later than 3:00 p.m., on the date of the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.

NOTE: Members of the public wishing to observe the meeting live without providing public comment will be able to do so by watching it on the City's PEG television channel (Channel 35 on Charter or Channel 99 on AT&T for Carson residents) or via live streaming on the City's website, <http://ci.carson.ca.us/>.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A) Minutes Approval: October 13, 2020

Chair Pimentel moved, seconded by Commissioner Fe'esago, to approve the October 10, 2020 Minutes as presented. Motion carried, 5-0 (Palmer abstained; absent Madrigal, Rahman, Valdez).

5. PUBLIC HEARING

A) Site Plan and Design Review (DOR) No. 1836-20, Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 1104-20

Applicant's Request:

The applicant, New Singular Wireless (AT&T Mobility), is requesting consideration to approve Site Plan and Design Review No. 1836-20 and Conditional Use Permit No. 1104-20 for the installation of a major communication facility on an SCE tower and for installation of related ground-mounted equipment. The subject property is located at 16862 S. Avalon Boulevard.

Staff Report and Recommendation:

Associate Planner Bhatia presented staff report and the recommendation to ADOPT Resolution No. 20-2703, entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CARSON APPROVING SITE PLAN AND DESIGN OVERLAY REVIEW NO. 1836-20 AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 1104-20 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY ON A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON TOWER AT 16862 AVALON BOULEVARD."

Chair Pimentel opened the public hearing.

Victor Flores, representing the applicant, noted for Commissioner Mitoma that this project will not create any interference in reception.

Planning Manager Betancourt noted for Commissioner Fe'esago that while no other landscaping is being proposed, the applicant will be improving the public right-of-way by paving the road for vehicular traffic.

There being no further input, Chair Pimentel closed the public hearing.

Planning Commission Motion:

Chair Pimentel moved, seconded by Commissioner Fe'esago, to approve the applicant's request as presented, thus adopting Resolution No. 20-2703. Motion carried 6-0 (absent Madrigal, Rahman, Valdez).

5. PUBLIC HEARING

B) Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 1089-18

Applicant's Request:

The applicant, Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., is requesting to consider certification of an Environmental Impact Report and approval of Conditional Use Permit No. 1089-18 for a 0.5-mile hydrogen gas pipeline segment. The subject property is located at 23300 South Alameda Street.

Staff Report and Recommendation:

Assistant Planner Castillo presented staff report and the recommendation to ADOPT Resolution No. 20-2702, entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CARSON: (1) CERTIFYING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, ADOPTING A MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM, AND ADOPTING

A STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS; AND (2) APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 1089-18, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 0.5 MILE HYDROGEN GAS PIPELINE SEGMENT FOR AN EXISTING HYDROGEN PRODUCTION FACILITY AT 23300 SOUTH ALAMEDA STREET.” Assistant Planner Castillo highlighted the changes to the resolution and conditions of approval, noting the clarifying amendments do not change anything about the proposed project.

Chair Pimentel opened the public hearing.

Eric Guter, representing the applicant, highlighted the improvements to the pipeline that will connect this segment to an existing pipeline network which extends through several cities.

Commissioner Mitoma expressed his concern that having the native tribes’ monitoring/input into this project is excessive and not necessary, pointing out the digging will be done close to the drainage ditch that has already gone through this oversight process when it was constructed.

Luis Perez, representing MRS Environmental, explained that the state requires tribal overview through AB52, CEQA Tribal Consultation of Native American Tribes, which requires consultation with California Native American tribes on projects that are subject to CEQA review even though there is a low likelihood of finding any artifacts.

Commissioner Mitoma requested documentation to support this requirement, expressing his belief the City is asking for too much from this applicant. He questioned why this applicant is being required to provide landscaping.

Planning Manager Betancourt stated that all businesses along Alameda are required to provide similar landscaping improvements when they are proposing a project.

Commissioner Cainglet questioned this Commission’s authority to certify an EIR.

Assistant City Attorney Jones explained that the Planning Commission is the decision-making body and that it is within its jurisdiction to take CEQA action, followed by project approval.

Mr. Perez highlighted the steps taken to get an EIR before a certifying body such as this Commission, noting the City is the lead agency for this project; and he added that MRS Environmental has been brought onboard to provide the expertise for this extensive environmental review. He added that other responsible agencies will need to take action once Carson makes its determination.

There being no further input, Chair Pimentel closed the public hearing.

Planning Commission Motion:

Chair Pimentel moved, seconded by Commissioner Rashad, to approve the applicant’s request, with the amendments staff made to the resolution and conditions of approval, thus adopting Resolution No. 20-2702. Motion carried 6-0 (absent Madrigal, Rahman, Valdez).

6. PLANNING MANAGER'S REPORT

Following Planning Secretary Bothe's announcement she will be retiring in December, Planning Manager Betancourt added that Lucille Sandoval will be stepping in to work with the Planning Commission.

Planning Manager Betancourt encouraged each of the Commissioners to alert City staff early on if they are not able to participate in the December 8th Planning Commission meeting. He added that the December 8th meeting will be the last PC meeting for this year and that they anticipate having the next PC meeting on January 26, 2021.

7. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Commissioners wished Planning Secretary Bothe well in her retirement, thanked and commended her for her service to this Commission.

Commissioner Fe'esago announced that he lost a good friend this week, Charlie Phineas. He wished everyone a nice Thanksgiving celebration.

Chair Pimentel wished everyone a nice, safe Thanksgiving celebration

8. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:52 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Attest By:

Secretary