

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF MAY 12, 2008**2008-0481 - Adoption of Work Plan for Update of Land Use and Transportation Element (Study Issue) GC**

Gerri Caruso, Principal Planner, presented the staff report.

Comm. Klein referred to page 9 of the report regarding making the LUTE (Land Use and Transportation Element) more web interactive and asked how that would be done. Ms. Caruso said that the plan is to research what other communities are doing and what companies are offering. She said staff would compile a list of recommendations, confer with our IT (Information Technology) Department, return to the Commission with a list of options, and determine if there is interest to fund the options. Comm. Klein referred to Attachment B, page 1, Policy R1.4 and page 4, Policy C3.1 and asked about these two items referring to level-of-service at intersections. Staff explained that the first policy refers to regional intersections and the second policy refers to all other intersections in the City.

Comm. Hungerford referred to page 10 of the report and asked staff to clarify the distinction between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2. Ms. Caruso said that an outside environmental consultant would always prepare the EIR (Environmental Impact Report). She added that in Alternative 1 staff would create more of the supporting documents than in Alternative 2, and with Alternative 2 that City Council would decide whether the work would be done by an outside consultant with staff only managing a smaller amount of the work.

Comm. Simons referred to page 7 of the report regarding Community Participation and asked staff to comment. Ms. Caruso said that some of the outreach would be held specifically with neighborhood and outside groups, other outreach would be held specifically with Commissions with discussion, and then hearings would be held when the document is presented formally to the Commissions. Comm. Simons discussed different types of outreach that have occurred in the past. He said the Commission also had meetings where the Commission could attend and could not speak on the issue as they would eventually be voting on the issue. He said he found it useful for the Planning Commission to be involved in the process. **Trudi Ryan**, Planning Officer, said that if the Commission has a recommendation on the outreach, that this is a good time to provide the recommendation. Comm. Simons said he thinks the Planning Commission and Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) should be involved in the outreach meetings.

Vice Chair Rowe commented further about Comm. Hungerford's question regarding the Alternatives on page 10 of the report and asked if the staff would

coordinate the parceling out of parts of the project to outside consultants. Ms. Ryan said staff's recommendation is that staff will do most of the work and that some of the technical work would be prepared by outside consultants. Ms. Ryan said that staff is budgeted for a certain amount of policy work and if the Council would like staff to do more than budgeted for, then additional budget would need to be allocated.

Comm. Hungerford asked if the LUTE would be coordinated with the San Francisco Bay Area Regional Plan update, "Change in Motion". Ms. Ryan said that the Transportation staff coordinates a lot of the City's activity with the regional congestion management agency which is the VTA (Valley Transportation Authority). Comm. Hungerford commented that he recently read an article regarding transportation congestion, pricing, etc. and he hoped similar points would be taken into consideration while staff is looking at our Element.

Chair Sulser closed the public hearing.

Vice Chair Rowe moved to adopt the Work Plan for update of the Land Use and Transportation Element as submitted and direct staff to return with separate budgets for advanced web design for an interactive LUTE and an EIR budget in fall 2008 with management and coordination of the LUTE to be done by staff. Comm. Simons seconded the motion and asked for a Friendly Amendment that the Planning Commission and BPAC be involved in the community meetings and that the Commissioners be invited to attend the meetings to gain input from the community with the meetings co-chaired by the two chairs, coordinating with staff on how to run the meetings. Vice Chair Rowe asked for clarification from Comm. Simons. Comm. Simons clarified that the Commissioners would be invited to meetings, that they would not be making comments, and would attend to receive input from the public. He said the two chairs would work with staff in coordinating the meetings and the Planning Commission and the BPAC would be involved in the collection of the information. Ms. Ryan confirmed that the Friendly Amendment would be that the Planning Commission and BPAC would convene some of the community meetings and the protocols for conducting the meetings would be discussions with the two chairs and staff. **Vice Chair Rowe accepted the Friendly Amendment.**

Vice Chair Rowe said that staff did a wonderful job identifying what needs to be done.

Comm. Simons said the reason he brought up the Commissioners' attendance to the outreach meetings was he felt one of the best things he did while on the Planning Commission was his involvement with the Downtown Plan outreach meetings. He said he likes that the Planning Commission and the BPAC would be in attendance as a group at an official City meeting, and he would like to set

up this meeting attendance in the beginning so there would be no issues related to the Brown Act.

ACTION: Vice Chair Rowe made a motion on 2008-0481 to adopt the Work Plan for update of the Land Use and Transportation Element as submitted and direct staff to return with separate budgets for advanced web design for an interactive LUTE and an EIR budget in fall 2008 with management and coordination of the LUTE to be done by staff with the modification: that the Planning Commission and Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commissions be invited to and convene community meetings with the purpose of receiving input from the community and with the protocols for conducting the meetings decided through discussions with the two chairs and staff. Comm. Simons seconded. Motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

APPEAL OPTIONS: This recommendation will be forwarded to City Council for consideration at the June 10, 2008 City Council meeting.