Potential Study Issues – AM

Andrew Miner, Principal Planner, said that a summary of the potential study issues proposed to be considered for 2011 has been provided. He said that this evening is an opportunity for members of the public to make recommendations to the Commission and for the Commission to introduce any new study issues to be considered for ranking. Mr. Miner said Planning-related study issues would be ranked by the Planning Commission later this fall and would be considered by City Council at the Study Issue Workshop in January 2011.

Comm. Sulser asked staff whether any affordable housing issues are being proposed as study issues this year. Trudi Ryan, Planning Officer, said the outcome of certain legal cases in process regarding affordable housing and Below Market Rate housing could affect Sunnyvale and other cities and it is better to place related potential study issues on hold for now. Ms. Ryan said there are action items related to housing that must be completed for the Housing and Community Revitalization Sub-Element, and these items will be done outside the study issue process.

Vice Chair Hendricks discussed with staff a previously proposed study issue from 2010, CDD 10-07 regarding signage for properties near freeways.

Chair Travis opened the public hearing.

Shannon Elarde, a Sunnyvale resident, requested that the Planning Commission sponsor a study issue regarding standalone firearms shops and asked the code be changed to require these establishments be at least 200 yards away from residential, schools, and pedestrian areas. She asked that there be outreach to the community to let them know the establishments are moving into the neighborhoods, and said the signage that goes on the buildings is also a concern. She said she would like the shops to be considered adult stores and not retail stores and that they preferably are located in industrial parks rather than residential neighborhoods.

Chair Travis closed the public hearing.

Comm. Sulser moved to sponsor a study issue regarding standalone firearms stores. Comm. Dohadwala asked staff for clarification about the study issue in the motion. Ms. Ryan said that the Sunnyvale Municipal Code does not differentiate the variety of retail establishments so a firearms store is considered retail. Ms. Ryan said that Ms. Elarde asked that a study be done to consider putting additional controls on standalone firearms sales. Ms. Ryan said this would not include establishments where firearms are sold within a larger business such as a sporting goods store. Comm. Hungerford seconded the motion.
Comm. Sulser said he shares Ms. Elarde's concerns and that he would like to see the study issue paper written up and considered.

Comm. Hungerford said he did not realize this issue existed and it seems worth exploring.

Vice Chair Hendricks said that he would not be supporting the motion and said it sounds like the concern is advertising in the window, and he does not see differentiating the standalone stores from the larger sporting goods stores.

**ACTION:** Comm. Sulser made a motion to propose a study issue to consider placing additional controls on standalone retail firearms stores. Comm. Hungerford seconded. Motion carried 6-1, with Vice Chair Hendricks dissenting.

Ms. Ryan said a study issue paper would be prepared and this would be included with other potential study issues considered and ranked in a meeting later this fall.