

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF JUNE 27, 2011

2009-0799 - Consolidate the 22 documents of the General Plan into one comprehensive General Plan. This project involves the rewriting and reorganizing of existing text and policies. (Negative Declaration) DO

Diana O'Dell, Senior Planner, presented the staff report. She said, to avoid confusion about Council approved actions and staff initiated actions, staff would be eliminating the word "action" from the general plan and the listed action statements would be numbered and considered sub-policies. She said this change would be reflected in the final version of the General Plan. She said the General Plan would be accessible primarily from the website. She said staff recommends adoption of the Consolidated Plan as proposed and the accompanying Negative Declaration. She said this item is scheduled to be considered by the City Council on July 26, 2011.

Comm. Larsson discussed with staff the five new policies being added to the General Plan shown in Attachment C, page 17, with staff explaining the new policies and the rationale for adding them.

Comm. Sulser said he is a fan of consolidating the General Plan and is amazed how small the final version is. He said in spite of the Plan's smaller size, it has most of what he needs. He said there were two things he would like to have added, which are a map of the Neighborhood Planning Areas, and a Heritage Preservation Resources List. He said overall this is a much more functional document.

Vice Chair Hendricks commented about the process that staff and the General Plan Consolidation Advisory Committee went through to consolidate the General Plan. He said that the Plan on the website has search capability, and that this on-line tool is a far better way for users to look for information. He said even the paper copy that is sent to Sacramento is much more readable and that staff did a great job transcribing the information.

Comm. Hungerford commented that the Consolidated Plan is a really good tool that can be used as a map to access a huge amount of information. He said the links and the search capabilities within the on-line version allow a user to quickly get to the desired information.

Chair Travis opened and closed the public hearing.

Vice Chair Hendricks moved for **Alternative 1, to adopt the Negative Declaration; adopt the newly consolidated General Plan and direct staff to proceed with a reorganization of the Council Policy Manual. Comm. Hungerford** seconded the motion.

Vice Chair Hendricks said he cannot say enough good things about this consolidation. He said that he recommends to City Council to adopt and bring forward this document as a working tool that turns the General Plan into usable information. He said this consolidation could be a good start in looking at how other documents can be made more usable.

Comm. Hungerford said that he thought Comm. Sulser's earlier comments were very good and asked staff if the documents Comm. Sulser referred to could be added. Staff said that a Neighborhood Planning Area Map could be added, and recommended that maybe a link or reference to the Heritage Preservation Resources List be added to accommodate future updates of the document. **Comm. Hungerford offered a Friendly Amendment to add to the General Plan a Neighborhood Planning Area Map, and a link or reference to an on-line Heritage Preservation Resources List. The Friendly Amendment was acceptable to the maker.** Comm. Hungerford commented that proceeding with reorganization of the Council's Policy Manual is a wonderful idea.

Comm. Chang said he would be supporting the motion. He commented that the goals and policies are very streamlined and that they are followed up with action items. He said this document is a good step-by-step approach.

Comm. Larsson said he would be supporting the motion and that he agrees with his colleagues about the structure and organization of the documents. He said he wanted to add kudos regarding the visual layout of the documents as the layout leads the user's eye to the critical points. He said this document is a pleasure to use.

Trudi Ryan thanked Planning Commissioners Glenn Hendricks, Chuck Hungerford, Brandon Sulser, and former Planning Commissioner Larry Klein for serving on the advisory committee.

ACTION: Vice Chair Hendricks made a motion on 2009-0799 to recommend to City Council to adopt the Negative Declaration, adopt the newly consolidated General Plan and direct staff to proceed with a reorganization of the Council Policy Manual with modifications: to add to the General Plan a Neighborhood Planning Area Map, and a link or reference to an on-line Heritage Preservation Resources List. Comm. Hungerford seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

APPEAL OPTIONS: This item is scheduled to be considered by City Council at the July 26, 2011 City Council meeting.