

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
MONTEREY PARK PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
April 12, 2022**

The Planning Commission of the City of Monterey Park held a regular meeting of the Board in the Council Chambers, located at 320 West Newmark Avenue in the City of Monterey Park, Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Sam called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 6:30pm.

FLAG SALUTE:

Vice-Chairperson Choi called for the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

Planning Manager Jessica Serrano called the roll:

Board Members Present: Tammy Sam, Ricky Choi, Peter Fung, Jack Chiang

Board Members Absent:

ALSO PRESENT: Steve Sizemore, Interim Director of Community Development, Jessica Serrano, Planning Manager, Joaquin Vazquez, City Attorney, Okan Demirci, Transtech Engineer

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS: None

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

[1.] PRESENTATIONS: None

[2.] CITY OF MONTEREY PARK - CONSENT CALENDAR:

2-A APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JOINT MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, AND BOARDS OF MONTEREY PARK FROM MARCH 30, 2022

Action Taken: The Planning Commission approved the minutes from the joint meeting of the commissions, committees, and boards of Monterey Park from March 30, 2022.

Motion: Moved, by Commissioner Choi and seconded by Commissioner Fung, motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Sam, Choi, Fung, Chiang

Noes: Commissioners: None

Absent: Commissioners: None

Abstain: Commissioners: None

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Monterey Park is to provide excellent services to enhance the quality of life for our entire community

[3.] PUBLIC HEARING: None

[4.] OLD BUSINESS: None

[5.] NEW BUSINESS:

5-A DISCUSSION OF COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

- Planning Manager Serrano stated that there was one comment via email. The email complained about the intersection of Garvey and Atlantic. The metro bus stop signs must be considered to move a little further down the streets as they are too close to the intersection. This could create accidents and is a safety issue. This email was from Cindy Yee.
- Engineer Demirci gave a presentation on the Complete Streets Policy.
- Commissioner Choi inquired for more of an overview of the policy itself and if it is applied to just metro projects or does it involve all projects within the City's jurisdiction. Engineer Demirci stated this is a policy document for all projects with some exceptions. Engineer Demirci answered and gave clarification to the commissioners. This policy would apply to facilities in the public right-of-way. This does not encapsulate a private developer-planning type of case. Chairperson Sam stated that this complete streets policy will support a more walkable community. This would help the small businesses. Policies promoting more walkability are essentially more equitable to various types of people and incomes.
- Chairperson Sam asked if anyone from the public would like to comment. No one came forward. Discussion was opened up to the commission.
- Chairperson Choi would like to encourage community and business engagement with the development of this policy.
- Interim Director Sizemore answered Commissioner Fung's question about criteria or guidelines stating it would be a case-by-case basis. The complete street principles would serve as guidance according to Interim Director Sizemore. This policy is an umbrella policy that indicates that Monterey Park values complete streets. Chairperson Sam stated that policies may sound great but implementation gets watered down. Therefore, Chairperson Sam is proposing more concrete guidelines. Engineer Demirci stated that the design criteria would be applicable to the standards established by LA County and Cal Trans. Therefore, the design criteria will not really change because those facilities will be built in accordance to those criteria established by regional and state agencies.
- Commissioners are urging for more specific and concrete language in the policy. Chairperson Sam would like the Council to hash this policy out more. Engineer Demirci said that this policy can be considered as a living document. However, there is a time limit for the decision as it is a requirement for funding from Metro. This is associated to Measure M funding.

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- Planning Manager Serrano recommended to add a letter "C" that guidelines would have to be developed that are in line with the principles of this policy. The commission can make a recommendation that the City Council approve the proposal with the following addition. Engineer Demirci said that the initial game plan was to schedule this policy for City Council review at the next meeting due to the funding timelines.

- Commissioner Fung thought Planning Manger Serrano's recommendation would address his initial concern of a very general policy document. He has no reservations with moving this forward to City Council. Commissioner Chiang also agrees that Planning Manager Serrano's recommendation would be a good addition.

Action Taken: The Planning Commission motioned to recommend the Complete Street policy to City Council with the amendment to add subsection 3C and delete subsections C1-B and C1-C.

Motion: Moved, by Commissioner Chiang and seconded by Commissioner Fung, motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Sam, Chiang, Choi, Fung

Noes: Commissioners: None

Absent: Commissioners: None

Abstain: Commissioners: None

[6.] COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS AND MATTERS:

- Planning Manager Serrano, in response to Commissioner Fung, stated that there are projects that have deviated by the density as dictated by Land Use Element and zoning. A lot of those projects have invoked state law that has allowed for that to happen.

- Commissioner Chiang inquired about a hillside construction going on at Abajo and Garvey. Deputy Attorney Vazquez stated that the city is making remediation to that site, but cannot go into details as there is ongoing litigation on that site.

[7.] FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business for consideration, the Planning Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Steven Sizemore
Interim Director of Community Development

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