MINUTES

HUNTINGTON BEACH PLANNING COMMISSION WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2009
CENTRAL LIBRARY, MADDY ROOM
7111 TALBERT, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA 92648

8:00 AM – CENTRAL LIBRARY, MADDY ROOM

A. CALL PLANNING COMMISSION WORKSHOP TO ORDER:

	P	P	P	P	P	P	A
ROLL CALL:	***Speaker,***	***Mantini,***	***Farley,***	***Shier***	***Burnett,***	***Scandura,***	***Livengood,***	***Delgleize***

Commissioner Delgleize arrived at 8:05 AM.

Planning Manager Herb Fauland recommended moving Item No. 3 prior to Item No. 2 due to staff availability.

THE MINUTES WILL REFLECT ITEMS IN THEIR ORIGINAL ORDER.

AGENDA APPROVAL – APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION

STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Scott Hess, Herb Fauland and Linda Wine were present.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE

C. Workshop Discussion Items

1. Downtown – Enforcement of Alcohol/Bars
- **Ken Small, Chief of Police and Herb Fauland, Planning Manager**

Chief of Police Ken Small gave a brief overview of the item. He reported that 72% of all arrests in Huntington Beach in 2008 were alcohol related.

Chief Small said that the Police Department has been working with the Economic Development Department and will be recommending the Police Department's disapproval of new ABC (Alcohol Beverage Control) Licenses. He also spoke of a recommended revised fine schedule associated with violations, which would include a suspension of a business's entertainment permit with the third violation. He also said that the city currently employs ten foot officers and a sergeant in the downtown area.

Commissioner Speaker said that he has concerns with the definition of a bar versus a restaurant. Director of Planning Scott Hess noted that this issue would be addressed in the updated Downtown Specific Plan.

Deputy Fire Marshal Jeffrey Lopez spoke regarding fire issues in downtown bars and restaurants and noted that a revised overcrowding policy was being drafted.

2. CEQA Overview

- **Mary Beth Broeren, Planning Manager**

Planning Manager Mary Beth Broeren gave an overview of CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Statutes. She provided definitions and timelines for Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations and Mitigated Negative Declarations.

3. Circulation Element Update – Traffic Issues

- **Mary Beth Broeren, Planning Manager and Bob Stachelski, Transportation Manager**

Planning Manager Mary Beth Broeren and Transportation Manager Bob Stachelski discussed the traffic analysis process.

4. Undergrounding of Utilities

- **Steve Bogart, Acting Principal Civil Engineer and Tony Olmos, Civil Engineer**

Due to staff commitments, the discussion of Undergrounding Utilities was moved forward from Item No. 6 to Item No. 4.

Acting Principal Civil Engineer Steve Bogart and City Engineer Tony Olmos gave an overview of the item and provided the Planning Commission and staff with a handout titled "Undergrounding of Utilities."

5. Beach & Edinger Corridors Specific Plan Update

- **Mary Beth Broeren, Planning Manager and Rosemary Medel, Associate Planner**

Planning Manager Mary Beth Broeren and Associate Planner Rosemary Medel gave a brief overview of the project and provided the Planning Commission with a map of the Beach and Edinger Corridors. They discussed the areas of redevelopment focus, which include Murdy Commons, the intersection of Beach Blvd. and Ellis Avenue and the intersection of Beach Blvd. and Warner Avenue.

General discussion ensued regarding possible redevelopment sites and upcoming projects within the Beach and Edinger Corridors.

6. Lunch

7. Downtown Specific Plan Update
- **Herb Fauland, Planning Manager**

Planning Manager Herb Fauland gave a brief overview of the project and discussed the Downtown Specific Plan, the Downtown Parking Master Plan, and the City Council's Goals and Objectives.

8. Planning Commission Development Review Process
- **A. Zucker Report Update**
- **B. Planning Commission Project Review Process**
  - **Herb Fauland, Planning Manager**

Planning Manager Herb Fauland gave a brief update on the Zucker Report.

Mr. Fauland also discussed the Planning Commission Project Review Process and provided the Planning Commission with a handout. Mr. Fauland noted that General Plan Conformance entitlements have a 40 day timeline restriction. He said this may make it difficult for these projects to conform to the Planning Commission's current schedule of one study session, one public hearing and one extra meeting included in case of delays.

9. Entitlement Processing – The Economy's Impact on Entitlements
- **Herb Fauland, Planning Manager**

Due to lack of time, this item was not presented or discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 1:20 PM to the next regularly scheduled meeting of March 10, 2009.

APPROVED BY:

Scott Hess, Secretary

Elizabeth Shier Burnett, Chairperson