



Community Development Department

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 3, 2019
El Cerrito City Hall
Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Roll Call: Chair: Carl Groch; Board Members: Wenlin Li, Patrick Riley, and John Thompson. Boardmember Ben Chuaqui had an excused absence.

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Motion to elect Ben Chuaqui as Chair and Wenlin Li as Vice Chair: Thompson; second: Riley.

Vote:

Ayes: Groch, Li, Riley, Thompson

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Chuaqui

2. Comments from the Public

Cordell Hindler of Richmond addressed the Board regarding the proposed Hotel at San Pablo Ave and Cutting Blvd.

Buddy Akacic addressed the Commission regarding the architecture of new development.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2019 meeting: Li; second; Riley.

Vote:

Ayes: Li, Riley, Thompson

Noes: None

Abstain: Groch

Absent: Chuaqui

4. Board Member Communication/Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Nothing was reported.

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION

To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, call Sean Moss, Staff Liaison at (510) 215-4330 (voice) at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability.

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5. Public Hearing: 921 Kearney Street – Tier II Design Review

Application: PL17-0107
Applicant: Charles Oewel, 921 Kearney LLC
Location: 921 Kearney St
APN: 503-233-032 and 503-233-007
Zoning: Transit-Oriented Mid-Intensity Mixed Use (TOMIMU)
General Plan: Transit-Oriented Mid-Intensity Mixed Use (TOMIMU)
Request: Design Review Board consideration of Tier II Design Review, pursuant to the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan,, for a new 5-story building containing 69 residential units.
CEQA: This project has been found to be within the scope of the program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared for the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15168 and 15182. The project description for the program EIR adequately includes this project for the purposes of CEQA.

Acting Planning Manager, Sean Moss presented the staff report and answered questions from the Board.

The applicant, Charles Oewel and the project architect, Jo DeCredico presented the project and answered questions from the Board.

The public hearing was opened.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

- Cordell Hindler, Richmond
- Howdy Goudey, El Cerrito
- Gina Calicura, 808 Kearney St
- Michael Ely, El Cerrito
- Lisa Martinengo, El Cerrito
- Tiffany (no last name given), 916 Kearney St
- Janice Woo, 6410 Waldo St

The public hearing was closed.

Motion to deny Tier II Design Review, pursuant to the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, for a new 5-story building containing 69 residential units at 921 Kearney Street: Thompson; second: Riley.

Vote:

Ayes: Groch, Li, Riley, Thompson

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Chuaqui

6. Staff Communications

Staff updated the Board regarding an appeal of the Boards approval of the Polaris Apartments project and upcoming agenda items.

7. Adjournment

9:42 p.m.