

AGENDA

**PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
STUDY SESSION ON THE
NEW GENERAL PLAN**

**November 12, 2008
7:00PM**



650-780-7233
City Council Chambers*
City Hall

1017 Middlefield Road
Redwood City
*Accessible to Disabled

1. ROLL CALL

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

This agenda category is limited to 15 minutes to be allocated for items not on the agenda as determined by the Chair. If you wish to address the Planning Commission under Oral Communications, please complete a Speaker's Card and give it to the Secretary.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR (NO ITEMS)

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine by the Planning Commission and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. The Consent Calendar category is limited to 15 minutes of comment to be allocated as determined by the Planning Commission Chair. If you wish to speak on items on the Consent Calendar, please complete a Speaker's Card.

5. NEW GENERAL PLAN

Project Description: Discussion of urban design and housing issues related to the New General Plan

Recommendation: Hear testimony and provide comments. No other decision or action is required at this time.

Project Contacts: Tom Passanisi, Principal Planner; 650-780-7237;
tpassanisi@redwoodcity.org;

6. MATTERS OF COMMISSION INTEREST

- *Future General Plan Meetings*

7. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the Planning Commission Meeting on November 18, 2008, at City Hall Council Chambers, 1017 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA 94063

City staff will provide agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related accommodation. Please send a written request to Tom Passanisi at Planning Services, City of Redwood City, P. O. Box 391, Redwood City, CA 94064 or email at tpassanisi@redwoodcity.org including your name, address, phone number and brief description of the requested materials and preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service at least 72 hours before the meeting.

ATTENTION

Speaker cards are on the rostrum. If you wish to speak, complete the card and give it to the Secretary.

Planning Commission agenda materials, released less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, are available to the public at the Planning Division, 1017 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA 94063

REPORT

To The Redwood City Planning Commission
From Planning Staff

November 12, 2008

Subject

New General Plan

Recommendation

Hear testimony and provide comments on two of the issues that will be addressed in the New General Plan, i.e. urban design and jobs/housing imbalance. No other decision or action is required at this time.

BACKGROUND

The City is preparing a bold and innovative New General Plan. As part of the effort, the General Plan consultant team has prepared various technical background reports which will be the foundation for the General Plan topics or elements. These reports include: Urban Design, Historic Resources, Economics, Housing, Sustainability, and other topics. One of the reports, Historic Resources, was previously reviewed by the Planning Commission on October 21.

At your meeting on November 12, Gerald Gast, General Plan consultant on urban design, will summarize the urban design technical report and request your feedback on the document. Copies of that report (along with the previously reviewed Historic Resources) are in a binder under separate cover. The consultant will also speak about street corridors and land use transition to adjacent neighborhoods; the relationship of urban design to land uses and other Elements; summarize the comments on neighborhoods made at the September 27 community forum; and discuss the general condition and observations of multi-family neighborhoods adjacent to the Downtown.

In addition to urban design issues, staff is preparing a fact sheet on jobs/housing issues as background material for future housing discussions which will be provided at the meeting. Staff will make a brief presentation on the document, with the understanding that there will be a comprehensive housing discussion in early December.

Also, in response to Planning Commission comments, a draft General Plan Land Use Map will be presented at the meeting showing the whole City. The map shows how the focus areas are connected and relate to each other.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Although this meeting is not a public hearing requiring formal public notice, staff did send out an electronic calendar of upcoming General Plan meetings (including this meeting date and topic) to the City's e-mail newsletter list and those individuals who have recently attended the General Plan meetings. Staff will hold future discussions with Boards,

Committee, and Commissions on these and other General Plan topics along with public hearings on the draft elements. Staff will distribute public notices to interested parties for those future meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

Hear consultant's report and comment as necessary.



Tom Passanisi
Principal Planner


Jill Ekas
Planning Manager

Attachments

- 1. Technical Report Binder under separate cover