

MAYOR RICHARD S. CLAIRE
VICE MAYOR JEFF IRA

MINUTES
1017 MIDDLEFIELD RD

COUNCIL MEMBER JIM HARTNETT
COUNCIL MEMBER DIANE HOWARD
COUNCIL MEMBER COLLEEN M. JORDAN
COUNCIL MEMBER BARBARA PIERCE
COUNCIL MEMBER IRA RUSKIN

REDWOOD CITY, CA

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING/
JOINT STUDY SESSION with PLANNING
COMMISSION & ARCHITECTURAL
REVIEW COMMITTEE

March 27, 2003
7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Hartnett, Howard, Pierce, Ruskin, Vice Mayor Ira, Mayor Claire

Council Members Absent: Jordan, Vice Mayor Ira

Planning Commission
Members Present: Garcia, McCoy, Paulson, Piulle
Radcliffe, Seybert, Chairperson Foust

Architectural Review
Committee Members
Present: Gee, Howard, Spotorno, Frank (8:00 p.m.)
Absent: Chairperson Gilman

Staff Present: City Manager Everett, City Clerk Howe, City Attorney Yamamoto, Interim Community Development Services Director Liedstrand, Community Development Services Manager Patterson, Community Development Services Manager Passanisi, Traffic Engineer Haygood, Economic Development Coordinator Webb; Associate Planner Ekas, Principal Planner Jany, Downtown Manager Moeller, Volunteer Balsamo

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Barbara Pierce, Council Member

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Concetto Raiti stated his complaint regards the work on Roosevelt, prior to the work he had two parking places (three after removing the fireplug) and now there are none. He stated that between his house, next door and across the street, they have lost seven parking spaces.

Council Member Ruskin stated that he had spoken with Ms. Humphrey and told her he would be speaking with City Manager Everett. He further stated that Mr. Everett now has a detailed understanding of the concerns and will be calling Ms. Humphrey and Mr. Raiti about the issue.

5. STUDY SESSION:

Joint Study Session to Review Concept Plans for Retail/Cinema Project
(Continued from March 3, 2003)

Redevelopment Manager Moeller gave the background stating that this is the second in a series of joint study sessions to review concept plans for the Retail/Cinema Project. On March 3, a presentation was made by the architect for the building elevations and site plan. This presentation pertained to the streetscape plan for the project with staff returning in approximately 30-40 days with revisions to the plans of the theatre and building based on input and comments received from the last meeting and this meeting. The architect and developer are in the process of preparing cost estimates on the proposed designs and revisions that might be incorporated based on the input received. This will provide a better grasp and handle on the costs of the construction and know that the proposal is within the budget established for the project.

Michael Freedman, of Freedman, Tung and Bottomley, presented the various concept plans for the streetscape for the Retail/Cinema project. Freedman and Community Development Services Manager Patterson summarized the circulation context as part of the overall deliberation and consideration of the streetscape.

Comments from the Council, Planning Commission and Architectural Committee Members included interest in Alternate 2B, cobbles with flat areas and flush tree grates, softer trees, possibly stanchions with planters, and no interest in palm trees.

Architectural Review Committee Alternate Nick Watry stated that accessing the underground parking structure off of Jefferson will not work. He presented an alternative parking plan/solution.

Consensus was for staff to consider the plan and report back. A request for an executive summary version of the plan was requested.

Public Comment:

John Anagnostou applauded the process and stated that people are stopping on Broadway in front of the Fox Theatre and dropping off patrons. He stated that he thinks Theatre Way should be lined with up lit palm trees as an inviting section of the town. From a liability standpoint, he further stated that one of the concepts he likes about Mr. Watry's plan is that nobody would be walking in front of the entrance of the parking structure.

Robert Baldwin stated that by having a drop off on Broadway, it brings very little inconvenience. Because Broadway is cooler and somewhat shaded, because the drop off is on that side, it creates theatre for Broadway that will create a downtown feel that is currently not present.

Alan Bygdnes stated that if going to the theatre, coming down Jefferson, after the underpass, he will need to make a left hand turn onto Middlefield. If no left hand turns off of Jefferson, he will need to go around the block, make a series of right hand turns and go down Theatre Way. Compounding the problem, will be additional stop signs, which is why he encouraged considering the alternative parking plan. His second concern regarded the problem with rats nesting in palm trees.

6. ADJOURNMENT – 10:00 p.m.

M/S Ruskin/Pierce to adjourn to the next regular meeting of the City Council on April 7, 2003. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote by those present.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia S. Howe, CMC
City Clerk