

CITY OF MESA

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD
STUDY SESSION

Held in the City of Mesa Council Chamber (Lower Level)
November 15, 2011 at 7:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Randy Carter, Chair
Beth Coons, Vice Chair
Chell Roberts
Vince DiBella
Lisa Hudson
Suzanne Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Brad Arnett

OTHERS PRESENT

John Wesley
Tom Ellsworth
Gordon Sheffield
Lesley Davis
Angelica Guevara
Debbie Archuleta
Margaret Robertson

Laura Hyneman

Chairperson Carter declared a quorum present and the meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

1. Review items on the agenda for the November 16, 2011 regular Planning & Zoning hearing.

The items on the November 16, 2011, agenda were discussed. No formal action was taken.

2. Hear a presentation regarding proposed changes to the Fiesta District:

Chris Scott and Rick Kreuzer gave a presentation on proposed changes to Fiesta District.

Mr. Krueuzer stated they had held a neighborhood meeting on November 1, 2011. He explained the district boundaries would be the Tempe Canal at the west, Extension at the east, the US 60 at the south and north of Southern on the north. They were trying to create an entertainment, urban atmosphere to attract people to the area. They were proposing to create a more pedestrian, bike friendly area by reducing the traffic lanes from 6 to 4, and increasing the size of the sidewalks and bike lanes. They would also be increasing the width of the landscape areas to create shade and make the pedestrian environment more attractive. They were proposing a 10' canal side trail just north of the US 60. They were proposing intersection enhancements, which would include colored asphalt treatments and entry monumentation. Placemaking on Southern from Alma School to Longmore; will have a paseo with small pocket parks, seating and water elements. There will also

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be a Village Green north of Southern along Stewart, which could be replicated in the future south of Southern as you enter the Mall.

Southern Avenue would be key to the district. Reducing the traffic lanes to 4 and creating larger landscape buffers would encourage pedestrian and bike traffic. They were working with SRP to wrap the 64 KV poles and provide smaller canopy trees under the poles.

They had done a traffic analysis that had determined that reducing the traffic lanes to 4 would still generate less traffic than the peak use in the late 1980's. They were also proposing to "bow" Longmore to take advantage of the parking west of the mall, and provide an enhanced landscape area between Longmore and the MCC campus to the west.

The priority would be the entry monumentation, enhanced intersections, fixtures and furnishings, and the paseo from Longmore to Alma School. The initial upgrades should take 2 years.

Boardmember Suzanne Johnson stated she had been to the neighborhood meeting, and asked what comments they had received at that meeting. Mr. Kreuzer stated the comments had been very positive. He stated there was not as much opposition to the lane reductions as they had expected.

Chair Randy Carter asked what the second phase would be. Mr. Kreuzer stated that would be up the private sector, to see where the interest would be. Chair Carter was concerned that they not over burden the developers with infrastructure costs. He stated that this was a great plan.

It was moved by Chell Roberts and seconded by Lisa Hudson that the study session be adjourned at 8:44 in order to conduct a public hearing on the General Plan Amendment.

Vote 6 – 1

3. Conduct a Public Meeting on the following General Plan Amendments:

- a. GPM11-01 2100 West 8th Street. Located west of Dobson Road and south of the Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway (170± acres). District 1. Minor General Plan Amendment to adjust the boundaries of the existing the Mesa 2025 General Plan Land Use designations of Parks (P) and Mixed Use Residential (MUR) on the site. This request will facilitate the development of a stadium, team training facility, City recreation fields, and commercial development on the site (PLN2011-00276)

Staffmember, Tom Ellsworth provided an overview of the project adding that staff is recommending approval of the resolution.

There was no one present to discuss the item.

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The study session resumed.

4. Planning Director's Updates:

The Planning Director explained that the cases from the October meeting had been introduced by City Council.

5. Other Business:

None

6. Minutes – submit any corrections, additions, deletions.

None.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Wesley, Secretary
Planning Director

NOTE: Audiotapes of the Planning & Zoning Study Sessions are available in the Planning Division Office for review.