

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Concurrent Special Committee Meetings of the Sacramento City Council, Redevelopment Agency of the City of Sacramento, Housing Authority of the City of Sacramento and the Parking Authority of the City of Sacramento.

COMMITTEE NAME: LAW AND LEGISLATION

MEETING DATE: January 19, 1993

MEETING TIME: 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: 915 I STREET, 2ND FLOOR, COUNCIL CHAMBER

I HEREBY CALL Special Meetings of the Sacramento City Council, Redevelopment Agency of the City of Sacramento, Housing Authority of the City of Sacramento, and Parking Authority of the City of Sacramento be conducted concurrently with the Council committee meetings listed below, which are incorporated herein by reference. The Special Meetings are called to permit Members who are not on the listed committees to attend the meetings and participate in the discussions. In the event five (5) or more members of the City Council are present at a Committee meeting, only those items listed on the agenda can be acted on or discussed.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Heather Fargo.

PRESENT: Committeemembers Fargo, Pane, Pannell.

Chair Fargo informed the Committee and the audience that Agenda Items 2 (SB 49 relating to hazardous substance liability) and 5 (an ordinance amending Article I of Chapter 45 of the Sacramento City Code relating to trees) have been postponed to a later date.

1. Legislative update from Ken Emanuels, the City's Legislative Advocate.

Recommendation of Staff: File item.

MINUTES:

Ken Emanuels, the City's Legislative Advocate, gave an update of the State budget and how it will affect the City. He explained that it was not good news, and that it could get worse. He said that the State is looking to 1995-96 for revenues to return to pre-recession levels. He pointed out that the Governor has said that the state will not issue IOUs as it did last year, and that the Governor will definitely not sign any budget that extends the one-half percent sales tax. In conclusion, Mr. Emanuels said there would probably not be any more changes for the next six weeks or so, at which time he will come before the Committee or Council with an update.

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4. ITEM CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE.

the motion, and it was unanimously supported and will be forwarded to full Council with this recommendation.

6. An ordinance amending Chapter 40 of the Sacramento City Code relating to subdivision regulations.

Recommendation of Staff: Recommend support and forward to Council.

Committee Action: Supported, with amendment, and forwarded to Council.

Voting Record:

Moved:	Pannell
Seconded:	Pane
Ayes:	Pannell, Pane
Noes:	Fargo

MINUTES:

Will Weitman, Principal Planner, Planning and Development Department, presented this item to the Committee. Mr. Weitman explained that an ad hoc committee was formed, consisting of Public Works staff, Planning staff, and the City Attorney's office, and that it took over a year to get this ordinance all together. He said the purpose of the revision was to update the current subdivision regulations and streamline the map process by conferring final approval authority for tentative maps to the Planning Commission.

Chair Fargo expressed her concern that the Council would no longer review tentative maps. Mr. Weitman explained that one of the major concerns of the City Council is subdivision design, and that the Planning Commission would respect that concern. He said staff is working on finalizing the guidelines for residential subdivisions.

Gary Stonehouse, Planning Director, explained that this proposed ordinance would delegate authority to the Planning Commission rather than the Council, since the Planning Commission is more sensitive to this issue. It was questioned whether neighborhood associations had been notified of this proposed ordinance. Committee-member Pane said that neighborhood associations usually don't get involved in this type of issue.

Deputy City Attorney Rich Archibald said there could be an appellate-type procedure which would allow certain items of interest go to the Council. There was considerable discussion.

ITEM CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE.

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6. ITEM CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE.

Chair Fargo said she would like to see issues of neighborhood development taken care of before going to the Planning Commission, and that she doesn't feel ready to support this ordinance yet. Pane asked whether she felt the Council should see every tentative map, and she said yes, so they can recognize concerns early.

Committeemember Pannell expressed his concern that the Council be asked to decide whether a plan is going to be stucco or whatever, and that he doesn't want to go through every subdivision that is built. It was noted that design guidelines are being prepared at this time. Mr. Weitman explained that this proposed ordinance would speed up the process by eliminating one step and saving approximately five weeks.

Committeemember Pannell moved to support the ordinance amending the subdivision ordinance. Chair Fargo stated that she would like to postpone this item for awhile to see some neighborhood association input. Pannell said he felt that anything which would help move projects through the process faster would mean more jobs for the City, and that this Committee could vote on the proposed ordinance now and it could go to Council for further discussion. Pane seconded the motion to support this ordinance, saying he felt it really should go to Council. He told Chair Fargo that if she had any personal concerns about not being able to see these projects, there could be a request from a City Council member to the Planning Commission to bring the matter before the Council. It could be an additional policy option. It was agreed that an appellate-type procedure should be added to the ordinance.

Diane Guzman, Planning and Development Director said staff would like to develop a procedure whereby City Council members can request seeing certain projects, and also a procedure to let Council members know when a project is coming up. She said it is important that we get on with some of these changes in the Planning projects.

The vote was 2 to 1 in support of the ordinance amending the subdivision ordinance with the addition of a 30-day appellate-type procedure for projects to come to the City Council for reconsideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

Heather Fargo
HEATHER FARGO, Chair

Judy Sanders
JUDY SANDERS, Secretary