



*Chris Pattillo, Chair
Jim Moore, Vice Chair
Jahaziel Bonilla
Michael Coleman
Jahmese Myres
Adhi Nagraj
Emily Weinstein*

September 17, 2014
Special Meeting
Retreat

PLANNING COMMISSION RETREAT

ROLL CALL

Present: Rachel Flynn, Scott Miller, Robert Merkamp,
Darin Ranelletti, Aubrey Rose, Heather Lee,
Mark Wald, Celena Chen, Dan Rossi, Cheryl Dunaway.

WELCOME BY THE CHAIR

COMMISSION BUSINESS (NOTE: Order of Items May Change)

1. Director's Presentation on the Foundation of Planning and Creating a City Vision

Director Flynn gave a PowerPoint presentation and described the various changes to Oakland's structure ie. Specific Plans that were recently approved and the ones that are still active. Director Flynn asked Economic Development Staff Member Aliza Gallo to give a brief description of what the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is and how soon will it be available. She also explained there was a discussion on the Traffic Oriented District, pedestrian friendly areas and market rate affordable housing.

2. Review of Draft Planning Commission Reference Manual

Staff Member Robert Merkamp gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Planning Commission manual covering topics such as: Planning Commission roles in codes, zoning, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other materials ie. new tracking permit system, glossary of typical Planning terms and concepts.

For other questions or general information on the Oakland City Planning Commission, please contact the Community and Economic Development Agency, Planning and Zoning Division, at 510-238-3941.

♿ This meeting is wheelchair accessible. To request materials in alternative formats, or to request an ASL interpreter, or assistive listening device, please call the **Planning Department at 510-238-3941** or **TDD 510-238-3254** at least three working days before the meeting. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting so attendees who may experience chemical sensitivities may attend. Thank you.



3. **Discussion of How Staff Develops Reports and Report Format** – To be discussed at a later meeting, date to be scheduled.

4. **City Attorney's office Presentation:**

- A. **Conflict of Interest**

City Attorney Dan Rossi gave a PowerPoint presentation on the "conflicts of interest", which covered: The California Political Reform Act and governing code 1090 – Economic Interests.

The Planning Commission raised concerns about the definition of "conflicts of interest" as it relates to their role. They feel they may already be in violation and is very concerned about repercussions if any.

City Attorney Mark Wald explained that the laws are temporal and he doesn't think they have to be concerned about what happened in the past, just what happens from this day forward.

- B. **Due Process and Bias**

City Attorneys Heather Lee and Mark Wald gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on Ex Parte Communications of Conflicts of Interest.


The Planning Commission raised concerns about some Councilmembers and community groups becoming upset with them for not meeting with constituents. They also inquired about the number of Planning Commissioners that are allowed to meet with constituents.

City Attorney Mark Wald explained that if a quorum of Planning Commissioners serving on the same committee meet, it would be considered a public meeting and noticing is required. Since a Committee has three members, if two of the Committee members met outside of a scheduled hearing time to discuss an item, then a meeting would be considered to have occurred so Commissioners should not do so since such a meeting wouldn't have been noticed and the public wouldn't be able to attend.

5. **Additional Questions from the Planning Commission**

Due to the time constraints, item #3 will be discussed at a future meeting. Scheduled date to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT By 5:00 P.M.


ROBERT MERKAMP
Development Planning Manager
Planning and Zoning Division