

**APPROVED MINUTES
WEDNESDAY JUNE 9, 2021
SARATOGA PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

Chair Kausar called the virtual Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. via teleconferencing through Zoom. Prior to Roll Call, the Chair and Community Development Director explained that the Planning Commission meeting was conducted pursuant to provisions of the Brown Act and a recent Executive Order issued by the Governor to facilitate teleconferencing to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission at public meetings. Ordinarily the Brown Act sets strict rules for teleconferencing. The Governor's Executive Order has suspended those rules. The Executive Order does require that public agencies continue to notice meetings in advance and provide members of the public an opportunity to observe the meeting and offer public comment. The Planning Commission met all the applicable notice requirements and the public is welcome to participate in this meeting. Information on how the public can observe the meeting and provide public comment was also shared. Additionally, the Chair explained that votes would be taken through roll call.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair Anjali Kausar, Vice Chair Herman Zheng, Commissioners Clinton Brownley, Jojo Choi, Cheriell Jensen and Razi Mohiuddin

ABSENT: Commissioner Sunil Ahuja

ALSO Debbie Pedro, Community Development Director

PRESENT: Christopher Riordan, Senior Planner
Christina Fusco, City Arborist

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action Minutes from the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of May 12, 2021.

Recommended Action:

Approve Minutes of Regular Planning Commission Meeting of May 12, 2021.

MOHIUDDIN/JENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 12, 2021 MEETING. MOTION PASSED. AYES: BROWNLEY, CHOI, KAUSAR, MOHIUDDIN, ZHENG. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: AHUJA. ABSTAIN: NONE.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS: NONE

REPORT ON APPEAL RIGHTS

1. NEW BUSINESS

1.1 General Plan Conformity FY 2021-2022 Capital Improvement Program

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution No. 21-012 finding the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects proposed for Fiscal Year 21-22 conform to the Saratoga General Plan.

CHOI/JENSEN MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-012 FINDING THE CIP PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR FY21-22 CONFORM TO THE SARATOGA GENERAL

PLAN. MOTION PASSED. AYES: BROWNLEY, CHOI, JENSEN, KAUSAR, MOHIUDDIN, ZHENG. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: AHUJA. ABSTAIN: NONE.

2. PUBLIC HEARING

2.1 Application PDR15-0018/ARB15-0051/VAR21-0003; 14701 Ambric Knolls (503-55-019); Edick Lazari (Applicant) – The applicant is requesting Design Review approval for a new 5,063 square foot two-story single-family residence and a variance to locate the residence on an area of the site with a slope more than 40%. Twenty-four protected trees are proposed for removal. The site is zoned R-1-40,000 with a General Plan Designation of Residential Very Low Density (RVLD). Staff Contact: Christopher Riordan (408) 868-1235 or criordan@saratoga.ca.us.

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution No. 21-011 approving the project subject to conditions of approval included in Attachment 1.

MOHIUDDIN/BROWNLEY MOVED TO **APPROVE RESOLUTION 21-011 APPROVING APPLICATION PSP20-0002.** MOTION PASSED. AYES: BROWNLEY, KAUSAR, MOHIUDDIN, ZHENG. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: AHUJA. ABSTAIN: NONE.

2.2 (Continued to July 14, 2021) Application PDR20-0009/ARB20-0043/VAR21-0002/GRE21-0001; 22551 Mount Eden Road (503-13-117); Tom Sloan AIA (Applicant) – The applicant is requesting Design Review approval for a new 4,733 square foot two-story single-family residence with a 930 square accessory dwelling unit. The project also includes requests for variances for 1) retaining walls with heights more than five feet and greater than three feet in the front setback area, 2) a reduction in the width of the front setback area from 70’-7” to 30 feet, and 3) to locate the residence on an area of the site with slopes more than 40%, and a grading exception for the combined cut and fill to exceed 1,000 cubic yards. No trees are proposed for removal. The site is zoned Hillside Residential (HR) with a General Plan Designation of Residential Hillside Conservation (RHC). Staff Contact: Christopher Riordan (408) 868-1235 or criordan@saratoga.ca.us.

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution No. 21-009 approving the applications for Design Review, Variances, Grading Exception, and City Arborist clearance – no trees are proposed for removal.

JENSEN/CHOI MOVED TO **CONTINUE THE ITEM TO JULY 14, 2021 WITH DIRECTION FOR STAFF TO PROVIDE MEASURE A TEXT TO COMMISSIONERS, REQUEST PROJECT GEOLOGIST TO ATTEND NEXT MEETING AND PROVIDE INFORMATION ON HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENTS.** MOTION PASSED. AYES: BROWNLEY, CHOI, JENSEN, ZHENG. NOES: KAUSAR, MOHIUDDIN, ABSENT: AHUJA. ABSTAIN: NONE.

2.3 Amendment to the Tree Regulations/ZOA20-0004. Amendments to Article 15-50 (Tree Regulations) of the Saratoga City Code to allow the removal of qualifying tree species within the Wildland Urban Interface Area, waive the permit fees, and exclude problematic tree species from being used as replacement trees following a removal. Staff Contact: Christopher Riordan (408) 868-1235 or criordan@saratoga.ca.us.

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution No. 21-010 recommending the City Council approve the attached proposed changes to Article 15-50, Tree Regulations (Zoning) of the Saratoga City Code.

MOHIUDDIN/ZHENG MOVED TO **ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-010 RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE TREE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT AND SUGGEST ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS RELATED TO FIRE SAFTEY IF DIRECTED BY CITY COUNCIL.** MOTION PASSED. AYES: BROWNLEY, CHOI, KAUSAR, MOHIUDDIN, ZHENG. NOES: JENSEN. ABSENT: AHUJA. ABSTAIN: NONE.

3. DIRECTOR ITEMS: NONE

4. COMMISSION ITEMS

Chair Kausar announced that the Saratoga 4th of July celebration will take place this year at Kevin Moran Park and there will be a band playing. Look for more details coming soon about the event.

5. ADJOURNMENT

JENSEN/CHOI Moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted:
Frances Reed, Administrative Analyst
City of Saratoga