

KINGS COUNTY GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

CITY MEMBERS

Dennis Tristao - Chair
Judy Horn

COUNTY MEMBERS

Joe Neves
Jim Gregory

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Alicia Jacobo
Doyle Davis
Vacant - Alternate

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Mark Pohle
Bob Lewis
Glen Estes

DISTRICT MEMBERS

Ronnie Silva
James Lohry
Louie Rodrigues – Alternate

AGRICULTURAL MEMBERS

Michael Miya
Craig Pedersen – Vice Chair
Charles Meyer - Alternate
Roger McVay – Alternate

Garry Curtis – City/Public Alternate

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

Jim Olivas
Jeff Stivers
John Bolze - Alternate

KINGS COUNTY

PLANNING AGENCY STAFF: Greg Gatzka (559) 582-3211 ext. 2682, Jerry James (559) 582-3211 ext. 2673

CALL TO ORDER: The Kings County General Plan Advisory Committee (KCGPAC) meeting was called to order by Chairman Tristao at 6:30 p.m., on September 20, 2007. The KCGPAC meeting was held in the Administration Multi-Purpose Room of the Kings County Government Center, located at 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., in Hanford, California. Roll call of members was conducted by Mr. Gatzka, and a quorum of appointed committee members were in attendance.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim Gregory, Dennis Tristao, Alicia Jacobo, Doyle Davis, James Lohry, Craig Pedersen, Jim Olivas, Jeff Stivers, Mark Pohle, Bob Lewis, and Glen Estes

COMMITTEE ALTERNATES PRESENT:

John Bolze, Garry Curtis

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joe Neves, Judy Horn, Ronnie Silva, Michael Miya

COMMITTEE ALTERNATES ABSENT:

Louie Rodrigues, Charles Meyer, Roger McVay

STAFF PRESENT:

Bill Zumwalt, Greg Gatzka

VISITORS PRESENT:

None

COMMITTEE & COUNTY STAFF INTRODUCTIONS:

Mr. Gatzka informed the Committee that some Committee Members had inquired about having a self introduction session. Chairman Tristao then asked staff to begin introductions and each person in attendance was given an opportunity to introduce themselves.

COMMITTEE & COUNTY STAFF ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

Mr. Gatzka gave a brief overview of the roles for both Committee Members and Alternates. In addition, he also discussed the roles of County Planning Staff in updating the County's General Plan and responsibilities to this Committee.

APPOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mr. Gatzka informed the Committee that a permanent vacancy still exists in the City Member category, and that Alexis Beiter has withdrawn her appointment as Community Member Alternate due to a change in her work schedule. Mr. Gatzka informed the Committee the vacancies and options available to the Committee to move Alternates as a full Member is a permanent vacancy exists. He also explained that

Alternates may be applied in Membership categories that they qualify for. The Committee discussed the options and the following actions were taken:

1. Motion was made and seconded (Pedersen/Davis) to move Judy Horn from City Alternate to City Member. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Motion was made and seconded (Pedersen/Davis) to permanently assign Garry Curtis to serve as the City Alternate as well as Public Alternate. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Motion was made and seconded (Davis/Estes) to temporarily appoint John Bolze as District Alternate. Motion carried unanimously.

UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded (Pedersen/Pohle) to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2007 meeting. The motion carried unanimously, with two abstentions.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

NEW BUSINESS

A. General Plan Process

Mr. Zumwalt presented a brief overview of the General Plan Update process, and Committee Members asked questions about various planning related topics. Questions were asked about the timing and nature of the environmental review process, the Quay Valley project, Regional Housing numbers, and approval processes. Mr. Zumwalt indicated that a copy of the General Plan Guidelines would be sent to each member and indicated that the preference was to send it on CD. Garry Curtis asked to have a hard copy sent, and Mr. Zumwalt confirmed that that would be done.

B. Kettleman City Community Plan

Mr. Gatzka handed out a preliminary County Draft of the Kettleman City Community Plan and Land Use Map, and informed the Committee that two chapters (4 and 6) still needed to be refined into an adoptable format. Mr. Gatzka presented a few of the recommended changes that staff had come up with that were slightly different than the University study document recommendations. Mr. Gatzka informed the Committee that an agricultural buffer is recommended rather than just a tree planting strip to provide added protection to the community while also adding open space and pedestrian pathways. He also indicated that considerable clean up of the land use designations was done to create consistency between the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance. Committee members discussed the benefits of the agricultural buffer with staff and Committee Members who are also representatives of the community, and directed staff to add an additional buffer along the north edge of the proposed new growth areas.

Pedestrian safety issues were discussed in regards to State Highway 41. Members offered suggestions on possible improvements and other approaches to increase safety for residents. Committee Member Pohle indicated that Safe Routes to School Grants may be available. Committee Member Stivers suggested that the roadway pavement be modified to add ridges in certain spots to grab the attention of highway travelers. Mr. Gatzka acknowledged these options as possible alternatives that staff would look into.

Chairman Tristao inquired with staff as to when the draft would be complete. Mr. Gatzka informed the Committee that it would be ready the week of September 24th. Committee

members expressed interest in receiving the draft plan as soon as possible. Mr. Gatzka indicated that the request could be accommodated. The Chairman then directed staff to mail the completed draft to all members the following week, and that at the next meeting the Committee would go over each chapter and recommendation.

MISCELLANEOUS

A. Member Comments – None

B. Staff Comments – None

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

A. Next scheduled regular meeting is October 18, 2007, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory R. Gatzka, Deputy Planning Director