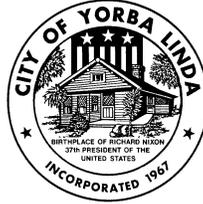


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CITY OF YORBA LINDA



Land of Gracious Living

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CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING MINUTES

STUDY SESSION

OCTOBER 13, 2009

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council and Planning Commission convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Travis Ranch Elementary School Multi Purpose Room, 5200 Via De La Escuela, Yorba Linda.

**ROLL CALL**

Council/Agency Members: Anderson, Horton, Rikel, Schwing

Council/Agency Members absent: Winder

Planning Commission Members: Abramowitz, Equitz, Lyons, Pickel, Wohlt

Staff Members: Adams, Brown, Harris, Raymond

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Schwing

**REPORT, DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION REGARDING THE TOWN CENTER SPECIFIC PLAN**

Eric Justison, RRM Design Group, welcomed everyone to the third Study Session on the Town Center Specific Plan.

Andrea Galvin, Galvin Preservation Associates, presented an overview of the Yorba Linda Historic Survey results and responded to questions from Council, Planning Commission and the public.

Heather Francine, Integrity Commercial Brokerage, gave a brief summary of the retail marketing efforts for the Town Center.

Eric Justison, RRM Design Group, provided a power point presentation including a review of public feedback from previous community workshops, a refinement of the Preferred Alternative Plan, the different Town Center districts and a circulation overview. Mr. Justison then asked for questions and comments from the public, City Council and Planning Commission.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS – ON THE ITEM ON THE AGENDA**

Louie Schirm, resident, spoke about using underground parking to avoid overflow parking on city streets. He also suggested expanding the library at its current location by closing off the intersection at Olinda Street and using that area for parking.

Ed Rakochy, resident, said that he likes the corner design and the fact that parking is more open. He also commented that the preferred plan would not provide enough room for a new library, a park, and a cultural arts facility.

Tom Lynch, resident, suggested not placing bicycle lanes on that portion of Lakeview Avenue but instead run them through the downtown area.

Mary Carbone, Traffic Commissioner, asked about trail systems and commented that the equestrian heritage in the community is very strong.

Jeanne Tamulinas, resident, is in support of walking and bike trails. She also said that sufficient parking would be necessary to support the cultural arts facility.

Karen Bigonger, resident, suggested a parking structure at Imperial Highway and Arroyo Street with a bottom and upper level that connects to Main Street. She also thought that a restaurant use for the corner of Imperial Highway and Yorba Linda Boulevard would be lovely.

Tom Watts, Parks & Recreation Commissioner, commented that the current library location is a very important geographical setting and a promontory point of entrance to the City and suggested developing it as part of the commercial district.

Don Cotello, resident, indicated that a restaurant or an entertainment type use is needed to draw people to the Town Center and that sufficient parking will be necessary.

Kristina Kazarian, resident, expressed her support for a new library. Ms. Kazarian said that as a library volunteer, she is aware of many of the constraints, including lack of space, appropriate meeting rooms and adequate elevator service.

Claudine Lynch, resident, stated that she preferred the current proposed plan to the previously submitted plan for the Town Center. She also suggested closing Olinda Way and expanding the library.

Julia Lawson, resident, remarked that the current proposed plan for the Town Center was the best plan to date. She indicated that the natural topography of the area is needed for an amphitheater and suggested a parking structure with levels.

Tom Scarlins, resident, said he was pleased with the idea of creating a destination for the Town Center. He said he would rather spend his money here than in other cities but stated that sufficient parking was needed. Mr. Scarlins also voiced his support for a cultural arts center.

Toni Tomol, resident, stated she volunteers at the library and suggested having a library for the east side of Yorba Linda and one for the west side.

Marilyn Adams, Library Commissioner, responded to the previous speaker's comment and mentioned that having branch libraries is financially draining to the main library and would be a significant challenge. She stated that according to a Needs Assessment from 2005, the library was in need of 11,000 additional square feet and at least 219 more parking spaces. Ms. Adams indicated that with over 1,000 people a day visiting the library, it is the main draw to the Town Center.

Nathaniel Behura, Traffic Commissioner, spoke about parking and traffic compatibility issues with the proposed cultural arts center and suggested that a traffic and circulation management plan be a part of any future traffic study.

Greg Gillaspy, resident, cautioned closing off the west entrance to Lemon Drive due to the emergency response vehicles that travel several times a day to the retirement home nearby. Mr. Gillaspy also noted that the fire station in the Town Center was the first firehouse in Orange County and it should be protected.

Sandee VanOyen, resident, said she attended a focus group for the Pacific Symphony at which she received a gift certificate for Charlie Palmers restaurant in South Coast Plaza. She pointed to this as a demonstration of the partnership between restaurants and a performing arts center and stated she is in support of a performing arts center for the City.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Schwing adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m. to the next regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Joint Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on October 20, 2009.

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Marcia Brown, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNCIL/RDA:

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