

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL
TRINIDAD PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2011**

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Becker, Johnson, Vanderpool
Commissioners Absent: Fraser
Council Liaison: none
Staff: Planner Parker, Caldwell

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved.

III. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Commissioner Johnson clarifies his comments at the 03/16/2011 meeting regarding vacation rentals. When describing vacation rentals near his property on Baker Ranch Road, he was misinterpreted. He does not own vacation rentals, nor has he ever owned vacation rentals in Trinidad. He will reiterate this at the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. General Plan Update:** Discussion of the Draft Circulation Element, Figures, Background Reports, General Plan Update

Staff reviews the General Plan and Circulation Element.

Commissioner Comments

Pg 6: investigate the calculation of how many miles per year a person drives in Trinidad.

Pg 3: is there any benefit to designating roads as scenic?

Parker explains that the roads aren't designated scenic because the county elected not to participate and it is considered a disadvantage under the California Environmental Quality Act because it requires more process to pass projects on scenic roads.

Pg 4: Where is the Climate Action Plan that is referenced? Does it have to be updated?

Parker replies that it is State-dictated and we have parts of it completed. Planner Parker also imagines that Trinidad has reduced their emissions in accordance with AB32 regulations. She now has access to the City website, she'll put reference documents up.

Commissioner Johnson would like the Council and the public to understand that there are multiple documents required for the City, and they need to be reviewed or updated. He suggests preparing a comprehensive list of all these documents complete with update/review information so the City Council has list of General Plan tasks when it comes time to do the Budget.

If transportation is the fastest-growing source of GHG emissions, the issue (or not) of parking and how to tie it to temporary events and pavement management are discussed.

There are a few areas where the multiple, specific programs can be combined into a policy or a single large program with many facets. These include the five programs on page 21, five programs under 8.4, and the 4 programs under 5.3.1.

Commissioner Johnson has discussed a Capital Improvement Plan with Steve Albright, but there is no clear plan. Bits and pieces of it are embedded in the budget process. It is the responsibility of the City Manager and Engineer.

The difference between wheelchair accessible and ADA compliant is defined. Edwards Street will never be ADA compliant.

Pg 15: The Planning Commission should be named lead in program 6.2.3.

The General Plan is updated by the Planning Commission and sent to the City Council for review and input. Changes are made and the final draft is adopted. The General Plan should be reviewed every five years.

The text in the General Plan is more for background information for the policies. Some of the wording, such as not encouraging additional growth in Trinidad in the Public Services section, is a relic of the older General Plan, and may address past issues. The Planning Commissioners suggest referencing that as “smart growth” or “regulated growth limited by constraints.” There have been comments in public meetings regarding keeping the “small village atmosphere”—a common thread throughout the General Plan.

The Stormwater Plan is referenced in the General Plan; however it's old, has not been updated, and is incomplete. Storm drain pipelines need mapping. Hopefully this will be funded through Proposition 84.

Parker spoke about the City's parcel that was once planned for a bus turn-around and the church right-of-way that was planned for parking.

The information from the maps should all be dated. Streetlights should be included for the harbor and museum. Is the parking at the harbor considered public? The bike racks should be double-checked.

In CIRC 10.4, when referencing the BMP handbook, revision date should be replaced with “by the most current version of...”

V. STAFF REPORT

Planner Parker fancies that it's time for a Planning Commission annual review. Getting copies of the General Plan to the Planning Commission is a priority and Commissioner Becker may be able to help. Commissioner Johnson will speak with the City Manager about appointing a 5th person to the Planning Commission and how this can be done if the person lives outside of City limits.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.

Submitted by:

Sarah Caldwell

Secretary to the Planning Commission

Approved by:

Richard Johnson

Planning Commission Chair