

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION  
OF THE CITY OF LA HABRA

August 14, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Rojas called the Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of La Habra to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** LED BY COMMISSIONER BERNIER

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** ROJAS  
SURICH  
BERNIER  
MAHECHA  
MANLEY

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** NONE

**OTHERS PRESENT:** DIRECTOR: KIM  
PLANNING MANAGER: LUI  
ASSISTANT PLANNER: O'TOOLE  
SECRETARY: V. LOPEZ  
CITY ATTORNEY: ROBERTO

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Rojas asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to speak on any item not listed on the agenda. There were none.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Chair Rojas explained the Consent Calendar procedures. She asked if there were any members of the public or any Commissioners that wished to have any item removed. There were none.

Chair Rojas called for three separate motions for the items on the consent calendar. The votes are as follows:

1. **PROCEDURAL WAIVER:** Waive reading in full of resolutions and ordinances and approval and adoption of same by reading title only.

Moved by Vice Chair Surich, seconded by Commissioner Mahecha. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Approve the minutes of June 22, 2023.

Moved by Commissioner Mahecha, seconded by Commissioner Manley. Motion passed 4-0-1, with Commissioner Bernier abstaining.

3. Approve the minutes of July 10, 2023.

Moved by Vice Chair Surich, seconded by Commissioner Bernier. Motion passed 3-0-2 with Chair Rojas and Commissioner Manley abstaining.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA, MAKING THE REQUIRED FINDINGS AND APPROVING SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT 23-01 TO CONDUCT A LARGE SPECIAL EVENT THAT INCLUDES A PUMPKIN PATCH AND ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES AT 777 SOUTH BEACH BOULEVARD, AS PER THE APPROVED SITE PLAN AND SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS, AND MAKING THE DETERMINATION THAT THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15304(E), CLASS 4: "MINOR ALTERATIONS TO LAND" AND SECTION 15601(B)(3) OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT GUIDELINES.

Vice Chair Surich recused herself and stepped out of the room since the location of the event under consideration is near her home.

Chair Rojas asked if any correspondence had been received in regards to the item. Secretary Lopez said none had been received.

Assistant Planner O'Toole presented the staff report.

Chair Rojas asked if any of the Commissioners had any questions. There were none.

Chair Rojas opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone wishing to speak in favor of the project.

Jay Eyler, the applicant, said he would be happy to answer any questions from the Commission. He thanked staff and the Commission for their help and said he felt blessed for the relations with the City having put on this event for the past 22 years. Mr. Eyler hopes to relocate but hasn't made that decision yet.

Chair Rojas asked if there was anyone wishing to speak in opposition to the project. There were none.

Chair Rojas closed the public hearing and asked for a discussion or a motion.

Moved by Commissioner Mahecha and seconded by Commissioner Bernier, Approving Resolution No. 23-09 Entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA, MAKING THE REQUIRED FINDINGS AND APPROVING SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT 23-01 TO CONDUCT A LARGE SPECIAL EVENT THAT INCLUDES A PUMPKIN PATCH AND ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES AT 777 SOUTH BEACH BOULEVARD, AS PER THE APPROVED SITE PLAN AND SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS, AND MAKING THE DETERMINATION THAT THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15304(E), CLASS 4: "MINOR ALTERATIONS TO LAND" AND SECTION 15601(B)(3) OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT GUIDELINES.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: MAHECHA, BERNIER, ROJAS, MANLEY  
NOES: COMMISSIONERS: NONE  
ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONERS: SURICH  
ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

Vice Chair Surich was called back in to the room.

Commissioner Bernier said she took part in eight of the approvals for Mr. Eyler's events and has been taking her kids to this location for years. She thanked Mr. Eyler for being a part of the community for so many years.

**COMMENTS FROM STAFF**

Planning Manager Lui informed the Commission that staff had two items scheduled for the next regularly scheduled meeting. The first is a comprehensive sign code update and the second is a proposal for a Dunkin' Donuts drive-through restaurant.

**COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Bernier asked if Director Kim could give an update on what the Council passed regarding public art. Director Kim said the Council initiated a code amendment to create an art in public places program. Staff is working on an ordinance and anticipates that it will be presented to the Commission by the end of the year.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:43 p.m. to the Planning Commission meeting on August, 28, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica Lopez,  
Secretary