

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION

CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA

September 21, 2023 at 6:30 P.M.

AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS, JR. COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET
SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened at: 6:30 pm

Commissioners Present: Mark Gallatin (Chair), Conrado Lopez (Vice-Chair), Kristin Morrish and William Cross

Commissioners Absent: Jeremy Ding

Staff Present: Matt Chang (Planning Manager), Braulio Madrid (Associate Planner) and Mackenzie Goldberg (Assistant Planner)

Please Note: These Minutes are a summary of the meetings and are not a fully transcribed record.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved, 3-0.

DISCLOSURE OF SITE VISITS AND EX-PARTE CONTACTS

Chair Gallatin drove by all the locations on the agenda.

Commissioner Cross joined the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. **Public Comments – General (Non-Agenda Items)**

None.

PRESENTATION

2. **Slow Street Project on Mission Street (Public Works Department)**

Presentation:

Public Works Director Ted Gerber presented the Slow Street Project and the reconfiguration of the parklets along Mission Street. Mr. Phillip Burns with the Arroyo Group gave the presentation on the Slow Street Project. Chair Gallatin, Vice-Chair Lopez, Commissioners Cross and Morrish provided feedback.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

3. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2023
4. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 16, 2023

Approved with corrections, 4-0.

CONTINUED ITEM

5. 1808 Diamond Avenue, Project No. 2449-COA – A Certificate of Appropriateness for a 1,395 square-foot two-story addition with a 380 square-foot rear balcony to an existing one-story, 1,229 square-foot one-story single-family residence with a two-car garage located at 1808 Diamond Avenue (APN: 5319-021-020). In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under Section 15301, Class 1 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15331, Class 31 (Historical Resource Restoration/Rehabilitation).

This item was continued from the regularly scheduled July 20, 2023 Cultural Heritage Commission meeting.

Recommendation:

Finding the project exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15301 and 15331. Approve the Certificate of Appropriateness, subject to the Conditions of Approval.

Staff Presentation:

Associate Planner Madrid presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Questions for Staff:

Chair Gallatin inquired regarding the east side elevation. Staff noted the correction to the drawing.

Applicant Presentation:

Mr. Kenneth Rojas, Designer for the project was available to answer questions.

Questions for Applicant:

Chair Gallatin thanked the Designer for the corrections that were made regarding the concerns the Commission had in July, when the project was previously presented.

Public Comment:

None.

Commission Discussion:

The Commission moved to approve the project as submitted.

Decision:

Commissioner Morrish moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Lopez, to approve the project as presented with Conditions of Approval.

Chair Gallatin asked Staff for a Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Cross	Yes
Commissioner Morrish	Yes
Vice-Chair Lopez	Yes
Chair Gallatin	Yes

Motion carried, 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

6. **541 Prospect Avenue, Project No. 2513-COA** – A request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for a first-story interior remodel with a 484 square-foot second-story addition and a new proposed rear deck and pergola to an existing one-story 1,207 square-foot, single-family residence located at 541 Prospect Avenue (APN: 5317-036-031). In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under Section 15301, Class 1 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15331, Class 31 (Historical Resource Restoration/Rehabilitation).

Recommendation:

Finding the project exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15301 and 15331. Approve the Certificate of Appropriateness, subject to the Conditions of Approval.

Staff Presentation:

Associate Planner Madrid presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Questions for Staff:

Chair Gallatin made a comment regarding the submitted Historic Resource Assessment provided by the applicant's consultant, specifically the historic resource code.

Application Presentation:

None.

Public Comment:

None.

Commission Discussion:

The Commissioners commended the Applicant and the Architect for following the Secretary of Interior's Standards and the City's Design Guidelines on this project and remarked that it was a job well done.

Decision:

Commissioner Morrish moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross to approve the project as submitted with Conditions of Approval.

Chair Gallatin asked Staff for a Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Cross	Yes
Commissioner Morrish	Yes
Vice-Chair Lopez	Yes

Chair Gallatin

Yes

Motion carried, 4-0.

7. **827 El Centro Street, Project No. 2562-NID/COA** – A request for a Notice of Intent to demolish a 655-square-foot single-family residence located at 827 El Centro Street (APN: 5315-019-027). Projects submitted to the Planning Division that include the demolition of buildings constructed at least 45 years prior to date of the application are required to be evaluated by the Cultural Heritage Commission to determine if the property could potentially meet national, state, or local criteria for historic designation. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the project qualifies for the Categorical Exemption under Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption and Class 3, Section 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures).

Recommendation

Finding the project exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15303. Determine that the structure located at 827 El Centro Street does not meet the national, state, or local criteria for historic designation and the project may proceed through the City's development application process.

Staff Presentation:

Assistant Planner Goldberg presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Questions for Staff:

None.

Applicant Presentation:

None.

Questions for Applicant:

None.

Public Comment:

A written public comment was submitted in support of the project.

Applicant Rebuttal:

None.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioners had no comments to make and continued to move to approve the project as submitted.

Decision:

Vice-Chair Lopez moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to approve the project as submitted. Vice-Chair Lopez motioned to find the project exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15303. Determine that the structure located at 827 El Centro Street does not meet the national, state, or local criteria for historic designation and the project may proceed through the City's development application process.

Chair Gallatin asked Staff for a Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Cross	Yes
Commissioner Morrish	Yes
Vice-Chair Lopez	Yes
Chair Gallatin	Yes

Motion carried, 4-0.

ADMINISTRATION

8. Comments from Council Liaison:

None.

9. Comments from Commissioners:

Chair Gallatin mentioned that he attended a virtual workshop in July hosted by the California Preservation Foundation interpreting National Park Service Guidance as well as webinars on the Secretary's Interior's Standards relating to preservation issues.

10. Comments from Subcommittees:

None.

11. Comments from Staff:

Planning Manager Chang reported that the Public Works Director Gerber appreciated the valuable input from Commissioners and also mentioned the upcoming Public Works Community Meetings.

Planning Manager Chang updated the Commission on the General Plan and Downtown Specific Plan project including a meeting in front of the City Council.

Chair Gallatin inquired if any planners attended the American Planning Association (APA) Conference in Fresno. Planning Manager Chang informed the Commission that four (4) planners did attend the conference. Associate Planner Madrid and Assistant Planner Goldberg shared what they learned from the APA Conference.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm to the next regular meeting of the Cultural Heritage Commission on October 19, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

APPROVED,



Mark Gallatin
Chair, Cultural Heritage Commission

12-21-23

Date