

ACTION AGENDA SPECIAL MEETING
Joint Work Session Visalia City Council & Planning Commission
Visalia Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia, Visalia, CA
Monday, April 5, 2010 - 3:00-6:00 p.m.

	<u>City Council</u>		<u>Planning Commission</u>	
Call to	Mayor:	Bob Link - present	Chairperson:	Lawrence Segrue - present
Order	Vice Mayor:	Amy Shuklian - present	Vice-Chair:	Adam Peck - present
3:10 p.m.	Council Member:	Warren Gubler - present	Commissioner:	Terese Lane - present
	Council Member:	Mike Lane - present	Commissioner:	Vincent Salinas - present
	Council Member:	Steve Nelsen - present	Commissioner:	Roland Soltesz - present

[Track 1](#)

PUBLIC COMMENTS – This is the time for members of the public to comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Visalia City Council/Planning Commission. The Council and Commissioners ask that you keep your comments brief and positive. Creative criticism, presented with appropriate courtesy, is welcome. The Council/Commissioners cannot legally discuss or take official action on items that are introduced today. In fairness to all who wish to speak, each speaker from the public will be allowed three minutes. Please begin your comments by stating and spelling your name and providing your street name.

Mayor Bob Link commented that he was disappointed in the headlines in the Visalia Times Delta regarding today's meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS

Councilmembers and Commissioners introduced themselves – all were present.

WORK SESSION ITEMS

1. Overview of Community Development Department .

Mike Olmos, Assistant City Manager, presented an overview of the Community Development Department and introduced staff members. The Community Development Department consists of the following divisions: Planning, Building, Engineering, and Administrative Services.

[Track 2](#)

2. Highlights of City Long Range Planning Projects including the General Plan Update and South East Area Specific Plan.

Paul Scheibel, Planning Services Manager, reviewed the projects that the Planning Division is currently engaged in. The most notable is the General Plan Update which is an estimated 3-year effort. Other long-range projects include the Housing Element Update, South East Area Specific Plan, West Highway 198 Scenic Open Space Corridor, annexations of city-owned properties, Business Research Park land use amendments, Historic Preservation Advisory Committee, AB 32 and SB 375 implementation, Mooney Corridor Focused Study, and offsite subdivision signage. Additional projects are the Walmart expansion and EIR, County referred annexations, Sierra Village Development Plan, East Downtown Master Plan, Medical Marijuana Ordinance, nightclub entertainment in restaurants, downtown retail zone district update and General Plan Update follow-up tasks.

[Track 3](#)

3. West Visalia/Highway 198 Scenic Open Space Corridor

Paul Bernal, Senior Planner, presented the discussion on the West Visalia/Highway 198 Corridor, including 5 staff recommendations. Councilmembers and Commissioners discussed the need to move forward on formulating a strategy for addressing an open space concept plan and land development opportunities for the West 198 scenic corridor.

The following members of the public spoke: Greg Collins, former City Councilmember; Darlene Mata, Visalia Community Forum; Mike Lane Sr., Engineer.

The following actions were taken:

1. (Salinas/Nelsen 9-1 Shuklian-No) Authorize staff to proceed with incorporating the 1,100 acre area referred to as the West Visalia Highway 198 corridor (refer to Exhibit "A" of the staff report for those properties bounded by the red border and expanded to include areas south of Walnut to Visalia Parkway) into the comprehensive General Plan update process.
2. (Segrue/Gubler 9-1 Shuklian-No) Affirm the 200-foot setback area for properties currently within the City limits located on the north side of Highway 198, east of Shirk Street.
3. (Nelsen/Salinas 10-1) Direct the Parks and Recreation Commission to study and make recommendations to the General Plan Update Review Committee on a detailed boundary area for the open space component of the West Highway 198 Corridor for properties currently under County jurisdiction.
4. (TLane/Soltesz 9-1 Shuklian-No) Authorize the Parks and Recreation Commission to develop an open space corridor design for the 200-foot setback area inside City limits including the City owned 16 acre property and for those properties under City jurisdiction to serve as a model for future development of the open space setback corridor. This may necessitate hiring a landscape architect to assist the Parks and Recreation Commission and staff in this design effort. The Council would authorize the use of park impact fees to pay for design efforts.
5. (Nelsen/Gubler 4-1 Shuklian-No *Council only vote*) Once the plan in the previous recommendation is developed, the Council authorize staff to prepare a proposal to sell excess land from the City owned 16 acres (outside of open space/park features) and use monies generated from these sales to develop the 200-foot setback corridor on the City owned property (see Exhibit "C" of the staff report).

[Track 4](#)

4. Review of the existing Business Research Park policy ordinance and uses.

Andrew Chamberlain, Senior Planner, presented the discussion and recommendations on the Business Research Park and responded to Council and Commission questions and comments.

Stephen Peck, Mangano Co., spoke in support of the recommendations.

(MLane/Shuklian 10-1) Remove requirement for BRP projects to be processed through Planned Development (PUD) section of Zoning Ordinance and have them subject to the conditional use permit process; remove requirement for architectural review by the City Council; simplify architectural review standards.

[Track 5](#)

5. Discuss City Council review of land division map decisions.

Mike Olmos, Assistant City Manager, reviewed the process for revising Ordinance 2006-18 to make the City's planning entitlement processes more streamlined and business friendly. The ordinance revision is expected to be submitted to Council for action by June 2010. Councilmembers and Commissioners discussed the pros and cons of the ordinance. This was an informational item only at this time and no action was taken.

3:30 p.m.
Adjourned

Adjourn Joint Work Session of the Visalia City Council and Planning Commission.

Submitted by Donjia Huffmon, CMC, Chief Deputy City Clerk.

Upcoming Council Meetings - Note: Meeting dates/times are subject to change, check posted agenda for correct details.

- Monday, April 5, 2010, Regular Session 7:00 p.m., Visalia Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia
- Monday, April 12, 2010, 4:00 p.m. Work Session; Special Session 7:00 p.m. Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia
- Monday, April 19, 2010, 4:00 p.m. Work Session; Regular Session 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers 707 W. Acequia
- Monday, April 26, 2010, 5:00 p.m. Joint Work Session with the Parks and Recreation Commission, Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia