



MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 29, 2020

FROM: Guido F. Persicone, Planning Services Manager, AICP

VIA: Jon Biggs, Community Development Director

TO: City Council

SUBJECT: OBJECTIVE STANDARDS-CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONS

After publication of the objective zoning standards staff report, several questions were asked by the City Council. Below are the questions and the city staff response.

City Council Questions	City Staff Response
Study Session - The project schedule indicates that this is to be a study session with City Council <u>and</u> Planning Commission. The agenda does not indicate that it is a joint study session.	The agenda will be re posted per the Brown Act as a special meeting.
Will planning commissioners be included in the study session?	Yes
If not, how have they been involved up to this point?	City staff have briefed the Commission on this project and members of the body were included in the list of stakeholders.
Were any individuals on the planning commission included as stakeholders in the interviews? How many?	Yes. Sally Meadows and Phoebe Bressack
<p>Zoning Districts Slides - The two slides in the presentation labeled Zoning Districts include the Loyola Corners Specific Plan but do not include the Sherwood Gateway Specific Plan</p> <p>Sherwood Specific Plan¹:</p>	<p>This was an oversight by the consultant. This information will be included in the August presentation to the City Council.</p> <p>Yes, the slides titled “El Camino Real Inconsistent Pattern shows areas near and in the CN zoning district.</p>

¹ Sherwood Specific Plan link:
https://www.losaltosca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community_development/page/39021/sherwood_gateway_specific_plan.pdf

<p>Why was it excluded?</p> <p>Was Sherwood triangle included in the micro-scale analysis (& just not included in the presentation)?</p> <p>Have other CN districts been included in the micro-scale analysis phase (& just not included in the presentation)?</p>	
<p>Downtown Vision - The Downtown Vision Plan is an aspirational document but not an adopted plan in the same sense as other documents are. Council has not adopted specific recommendations in that plan (e.g. proposed parking standards).</p> <p>Does the consulting team understand this?</p> <p>Is this document unduly influencing their perspective?</p>	<p>Yes, the consultant team is aware this is an aspirational document and no it has not unduly influenced the process, it is one of 30 documents reviewed by the team.</p>
<p>Interviews conducted - Participation in the survey/interview was completely voluntary yet confidentiality appears to have been promised</p> <p>What is the rationale for treating the interviews as confidential?</p> <p>Who made the decision to do so?</p> <p>What specifically was promised to participants with confidentiality? Their name; The ability to link individual names to comments made</p> <p>What consideration was given to transparency and people’s ability to trust in the process?</p> <p>If Council were to determine that “confidentiality” is not appropriate for this project, can we unwind this?</p> <p>Question 1 of the interview does not directly relate to how stakeholders were identified. What that intentional?</p> <p>At minimum, before tomorrow’s study session, could staff provide the identifier used when selecting the individual stakeholders (eg. Local architect, city staff, community member, downtown business owner) and the number of</p>	<p>Guido F. Persicone, the Planning Services Manager felt it was appropriate to ensure stakeholders were given an opportunity to speak freely during this process. This was needed because several of the stakeholders are either architects, or commission members and some would be reluctant to really offer true input if they knew their comments could be attributed to an individual. This is a standard industry practice for the past 2 decades that Guido has followed on othe significant zoning code projects in other cities earlierr in his career. Included with this response is a list of stakeholders for the Council to review.</p> <p>The intent of the exercise was to hear the perspective of the whole community, rather than that of a particular field or group. The method follows protocols for human informant research and is aimed at getting the most sincere and candid responses. A list of stakeholders can be provided by type (resident, architect, etc.), but the process and survey were not designed to map the answers to all the questions back to the original stakeholder.</p> <p>The stakeholder interviews are one source of</p>

interviewees that represented each of those stakeholder groups? Then can you map the answers to question 1 to that?

information for the project and will be considered carefully with additional input received from individual Council members, the Planning Commission, and other participants through the public engagement process. Ultimately, the City Council will determine the final code changes.