

# MINUTES

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## REGULAR MEETING LANCASTER ARCHITECTURAL AND DESIGN COMMISSION

October 10, 2008

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Parker called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Cook led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

### ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioners Donlon, Hall, Harvey and Stallworth, Vice Chair Cook and Chairman Parker.

ABSENT: Commissioner Wiley.

Also present were the following: Brian Ludicke (Planning Director), Silvia Donovan (Principal Planner), Chris Aune (Assistant Planner), Tess Epling (Recording Secretary) and an audience of 1.

### CONSENT CALENDAR

#### 1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 19, 2008.

It was moved by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Vice Chair Cook to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of September 19, 2008.

AYES: Commissioners Donlon, Hall, Harvey and Stallworth, Vice Chair Cook, Chairman Parker.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: Commissioner Wiley.

**CONTINUED ITEM****2. ESTABLISHMENT OF DATE AND TIME FOR REGULAR ARCHITECTURAL & DESIGN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Silvia Donovan presented the staff report.

It was moved by Vice Chair Cook and seconded by Commissioner Donlon to adopt Resolution No. 08-01 establishing the date and time for regular Architectural and Design Planning Commission meetings.

AYES: Commissioners Donlon, Hall, Harvey and Stallworth, Vice Chair Cook, Chairman Parker.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: Commissioner Wiley.

Commissioner Wiley arrived at this point and his presence at the meeting was noted and acknowledged.

It was moved by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Vice Chair Cook and Commissioner Donlon to reconvene the meeting in the City Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

AYES: Commissioners Donlon, Hall, Harvey, Stallworth and Wiley, Vice Chair Cook, Chairman Parker.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: None.

The meeting was reconvened in the City Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at 4:15 p.m. It was moved by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioners Wiley and Stallworth to reconvene the meeting.

AYES: Commissioners Donlon, Hall, Harvey, Stallworth and Wiley, Vice Chair Cook, Chairman Parker.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: None.

**3. DESIGN TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS****4. NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE CITY OF LANCASTER**

Items 3 and 4 were incorporated into 1 session.

Chris Aune conducted a PowerPoint presentation of single family developments within the city, illustrating various architectural design elements, including landscaping, walls, façade articulation, and mass. Discussion ensued regarding walkable neighborhoods, including connectivity between housing and other uses, safety, and design features, such as porches, balconies, reduced and/or varying building setbacks, and reduced street widths. Photos of Commissioner Cook's Summerland trip showed residences with lush landscaping through the use of xeriscaping techniques that still achieves water conservation.

Staff and commissioners discussed the implications of reduced street widths on parking and safety. Brian Ludicke stated that street width reductions would require discussion with Engineering and Fire Departments to ensure coordination on issues such as parking and safety. Further discussion on xeriscaping ensued, as well as the inclusion of landscaping in the design guidelines. Discussion also included the benefits of courtyards and paseos, improved streetscapes, lighting and perimeter walls. Considerations were given to de-emphasizing the garage, ensuring that it does not always face the street.

Commissioners indicated that the mayor has charged the commission to facilitate in creating a "distinct visual look for Lancaster," which they felt can be achieved through unique design. Reference was made that the aerospace history should be incorporated into the design. Chuen Ng mentioned that efforts have been made to create an identity for Lancaster through a City branding campaign. Vern Lawson of Redevelopment can expound more on the subject at a future meeting. Chuen referenced the commission's responsibilities in light of the General Plan, and cited the draft General Plan policy document, in Plan for Physical Development, Goal 19, which states; "the achievement of an attractive and unique image for the community by creating a sustainable, cohesive and enduring built environment."

Chairman Parker introduced David Sinclair, who was a member of the General Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee (GPCAC), and described their efforts to comb through the verbiage of the General Plan goals and objectives to ensure that "sustainable" would be included.

Vice Chair Cook asked if monthly meetings provide enough time to learn and perform the Commission's tasks. Chairman Parker responded that the body may consider having special meetings in the future. Staff indicated that residential design standards are a priority, and in the near future, representatives from the BIA and other homebuilders will be invited to present to the commissioners. Guidelines for multi-family residences will also be discussed in the future. Staff will provide an outline for future meetings.

### **PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS**

At 5:55 p.m., Chairman Parker indicated that it was time for public business from the floor (non-agendized items). It was moved by Vice Chair Cook and seconded by Commissioner Stallworth to open the session for public business from the floor (non-agendized items).

AYES: Commissioners Donlon, Hall, Harvey, Stallworth and Wiley, Vice Chair Cook, Chairman Parker.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

There was a speaker in the audience who wished to comment as follows:

David Sinclair, resident of Lancaster, commented that design standards provide guidelines for the City but they should be flexible enough to address various architectural styles. For example, in Valencia, slump stone walls are characteristic throughout the City, yet each individual subdivision is unique and looks different. Chairman Parker noted the uniqueness and distinctness of communities in Santa Clarita. Commissioner Stallworth commented that in Santa Clarita, there are two unique developments that are connected by paseos. Mr. Sinclair added that he hopes the City encourages the development of paseos in the future even if it requires allowing higher density. He stated that they should be encouraged.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Stallworth to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. to Friday, November 14, 2008, at 4:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City of Lancaster. The commissioners agreed that there was nothing further to discuss.

AYES: Commissioners Donlon, Hall, Harvey, Stallworth and Wiley, Vice Chair Cook and Chairman Parker.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: None.

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DIANA COOK, Vice Chair  
Lancaster Architectural and Design Commission

ATTEST:

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BRIAN S. LUDICKE, Planning Director  
City of Lancaster