



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Commission Motion No. 18270

CEQA Findings

HEARING DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2011

Date: January 27, 2011
Project Name: **Parkmerced Mixed-Use Development Program**
Case Number: 2008.0021EPMTZW
Initiated by: Seth Mallen, Parkmerced Investors, LLC
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Recommendation: **Adopt CEQA Findings**

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ADOPTING PROJECT APPROVAL FINDINGS UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) TO ALLOW THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARKMERCED MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ("PROJECT"), BEING ALL OF ASSESSOR'S BLOCKS 7303-001, 7303-A-001, 7308-001, 7309-001, 7309-A-001, 7310-001, 7311-001, 7315-001, 7316-001, 7317-001, 7318-001, 7319-001, 7320-003, 7321-001, 7322-001, 7323-001, 7325-001, 7326-001, 7330-001, 7331-004, 7332-004, 7333-001, 7333-003, 7333-A-001, 7333-B-001, 7333-C-001, 7333-D-001, 7333-E-001, 7334-001, 7335-001, 7336-001, 7337-001, 7338-001, 7339-001, 7340-001, 7341-001, 7342-001, 7343-001, 7344-001, 7345-001, 7345-A-001, 7345-B-001, 7345-C-001, 7356-001, 7357-001, 7358-001, 7359-001, 7360-001, 7361-001, 7362-001, 7363-001, 7364-001, 7365-001, 7366-001, 7367-001, 7368-001, 7369-001, and 7370-001, IN THE RM-1 (RESIDENTIAL MIXED, LOW DENSITY), RM-4 (RESIDENTIAL MIXED, HIGH DENSITY), & RH-1(D) (RESIDENTIAL HOUSE, ONE-FAMILY, DETACHED) DISTRICTS.

PREAMBLE

In determining to approve the Parkmerced Project ("Project") described in Section A, Project Description below, the San Francisco Planning Commission (hereinafter "Commission") makes and adopts the following findings of fact and decisions regarding mitigation measures and alternatives, and adopts the statement of overriding considerations, based on substantial evidence in the whole record of this proceeding and under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq., particularly Sections 21081 and 21081.5, the Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA ("CEQA Guidelines"), 14 California Code of Regulations Sections 15000 et seq., particularly Sections 15091 through 15093, and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administration Code.

FINDINGS

The San Francisco Planning Commission hereby incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein the findings for the Project approval of the Parkmerced Mixed-Use Development Program (hereinafter the "Project") attached hereto as **Exhibit A** pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, California Public Resources Code, Sections 21000 et seq. ("CEQA"), the Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA, Title 15 California Code of Regulations Sections 15000 et. seq. ("Guidelines"), and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code ("Chapter 31"), entitled Environmental Quality:

A. Project Description

The Parkmerced Mixed-Use Development Program is a long-term (20-30 year) mixed-use development program to comprehensively replan and redevelop the Parkmerced Project Site—the "Project" identified in the Final EIR. The Project would increase residential density, provide a neighborhood core with new commercial and retail services, modify transit facilities, and improve utilities within the development site. A new site for a Pre-K-5 school and/or day care facility, a fitness center, and new open space uses, including athletic playing fields, walking and biking paths, an approximately 2-acre farm, and community gardens, would also be provided. About 1,683 of the existing apartments located in 11 tower buildings would be retained. Over an approximately 20-year period of phased construction, the remaining 1,538 existing apartments would be demolished in phases and fully replaced, and an additional 5,679 net new units would be added to the Project Site, resulting at full build-out in a total of about 8,900 units on the Project Site.

The Project includes construction of (or provides financing for construction of) a series of transportation improvements, which include rerouting the existing Muni Metro M Ocean View line from its current alignment along 19th Avenue. The new alignment, as currently envisioned and analyzed in the Final EIR, would leave 19th Avenue at Holloway Avenue and proceed through the neighborhood core in Parkmerced. The Muni M line trains would then travel alternately along one of two alignments: trains either would re-enter 19th Avenue south of Felix Avenue and terminate at the existing Balboa Park station, or they would terminate at a new station, with full layover and terminal facilities, constructed on the Project Site at the intersection of Font Boulevard and Chumasero Drive.

The Proposed Project also includes a series of infrastructure improvements, including the installation of a combination of renewable energy sources, such as wind turbines and photovoltaic cells, to meet a portion of the Proposed Project's energy demand. In addition, stormwater runoff from buildings and streets would be captured and filtered through a series of bioswales, ponds, and other natural filtration systems. The filtered stormwater would then either percolate into the groundwater that feeds the Upper Westside groundwater basin and Lake Merced or be released directly into Lake Merced.

Amendments to the San Francisco Planning Code and the San Francisco General Plan are also proposed as part of the Proposed Project. The Planning Code amendments would change the Height and Bulk District Zoning Map and would add a Special Use District (SUD) applicable to

the entire Project Site, which would include an overlay of density and uses within the SUD. A Development Agreement is also proposed as part of the Project, as well as adoption of the *Parkmerced Design Standards and Guidelines*, which contain specific development guidelines.

The Final EIR also evaluated a Project sub-variant, which would construct a right-turn ingress along 19th Avenue between Crespi Drive and Junipero Serra Boulevard at Cambon Drive. This new access location would provide ingress for southbound vehicles only and would not provide access out onto 19th Avenue.

B. Planning and Environmental Review Process

The Project Sponsor applied for environmental review on January 8, 2008. The Department determined that an Environmental Impact Report was required and provided public notice of the preparation of such on May 20, 2009, and held a public scoping meeting on June 8, 2009. The Department published a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on May 12, 2010. The Commission held a public hearing to solicit testimony on the DEIR on June 17, 2010. The Department received written comments on the DEIR for 61-days, beginning on May 12, 2010. The Department published the Comments and Responses on October 28, 2010. The DEIR, together with the Comments and Responses document, constitute the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Parkmerced Mixed-Use Development Program. The Commission certified the FEIR on February 10, 2011, in Motion No. 18629.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.*, (CEQA), Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15000 *et seq.* (CEQA Guidelines), and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, the Planning Commission has reviewed and considered the FEIR, which is available for public review at the Planning Department's offices at 1650 Mission Street.

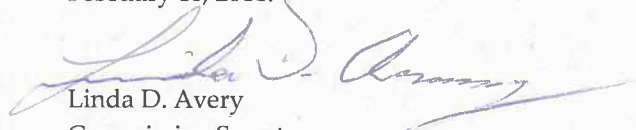
Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162, the Commission finds that the proposed actions before this Commission are within the scope of the project analyzed in the FEIR and (1) that no substantial changes are proposed in the Project and no substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which this Project will be undertaken that would require major revisions to the FEIR due to the involvement of any new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects and (2) no new information that was not known and could not have been known shows that the project will have any new significant effects not analyzed in the FEIR or a substantial increase in the severity of any effect analyzed or that new mitigation measures should be included that have not. The Commission further finds that an addendum to the FEIR is not required due to any changes in the Project or the Project's circumstances.

The public hearing transcript, a copy of all letters regarding the FEIR received during the public review period, the administrative record, and background documentation for the FEIR are located at the Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, San Francisco. The Planning Commission Secretary, Linda Avery, is the custodian of records for the Planning Department and the Planning Commission.

DECISION

That based upon the Record, the submissions by the Applicant, the staff of the Department and other interested parties, the oral testimony presented to this Commission at the public hearings, and all other written materials submitted by all parties, the Commission hereby adopts the CEQA Findings attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, which are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

I hereby certify that the Planning Commission ADOPTED the foregoing Motion on Thursday, February 10, 2011.


Linda D. Avery
Commission Secretary

AYES: Commissioners Antonini, Borden, Fong, and Miguel

NAYS: Commissioners Moore, Olague, and Sugaya

ABSENT:

ADOPTED: February 10, 2011