

CITY OF FRESNO
DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION

SUMMARY OF MINUTES REGARDING FRESNO GENERAL PLAN POLICY E-1-0

August 9, 2010

SCHEDULED COMMUNICATION: AMENDING POLICY E-1-O OF THE 2025 FRESNO GENERAL PLAN AS IT RELATES TO SIDEWALK REQUIREMENTS ON PRIVATE STREETS

Ms. Mary Savala identified herself as representing the League of Women Voters in Fresno, California. She indicated that she was aware that the DAC had voted to endorse the proposed amendment to Policy E-1-o of the 2025 Fresno General Plan as it relates to sidewalk requirements on private streets. Ms. Savala stated that she wished to provide additional information and ask the Commission to reconsider its position. Ms. Savala provided background on the City's attempts to develop a compromise with stakeholders including the late Dr. Ed Eames, the Building Industry Association, and the League of Women Voters. She stated that the League objects to the exception of requiring sidewalks on short streets in gated communities of less than 200 feet or 10 residential units, and exempting two developments with tentative approval at Copper River Ranch. Ms. Savala spoke to mitigation requirements triggered by both the General Plan and the Copper River Ranch developments.

Member Sheppard asked if Ms. Savala had anything in writing from the San Joaquin Air Quality Board that spoke to the effects of having two sidewalks, versus one sidewalk for mitigating poor air quality. Ms. Savala indicated that she did not have documentation from the Air Quality Board but that she felt sidewalks were accepted mitigation effort for air quality.

After some discussion with the Secretary, Chair Hand indicated that this item was listed as a Presentation on the DAC agenda, not as an action item. He asked Secretary Kunz when the issue of Policy E-1-o of the 2025 Fresno General Plan was returning to Council for action. Secretary Kunz stated that it was scheduled to go to Council on August 26, 2010. Chair Hand stated that the minutes would

read that the following section of the policy was not considered or approved by the DAC:

- After the adoption of the 2025 Fresno General Plan, some planned developments were approved by the City of Fresno that had either no sidewalk, sidewalk on one side of the private street or sidewalks on both sides of the private street. The City of Fresno recognizes that developers may have prepared engineered infrastructure and other design improvement plans with the intent on developing projects as approved.

As such, in those cases where both a special permit and tentative (or vesting tentative) tract map which propose private street(s) have received final approval by the City of Fresno and all administrative appeal periods for those entitlements have expired, the developer shall be allowed to rely upon those prior approvals with regard to sidewalk requirements subject to the conditions of approval and associated exhibits for purposes of filing a final map. For the purpose of this policy, lots being further subdivided, or shown as outlots to be re-subdivided, shall be considered approved only when both the special permit and the tentative (or vesting tentative) tract map further subdividing those the lots or outlots are finally approved by the City of Fresno and all administrative appeal periods have expired.

Secretary Kunz stated that if this issue is not resolved at the August 26, 2010 City Council Meeting, she would place it as an action item on the September 13, 2010 DAC meeting.

May 10, 2010

PRESENTATION: PROPOSED REVISION TO FRESNO GENERAL PLAN POLICY E-1-O REGARDING REQUIREMENT FOR SIDEWALKS ON NEW SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS WITH PRIVATE STREETS

Israel Trejo, from Planning and Development, presented the proposed 2025 Fresno General Plan Policy E-1-o regarding sidewalks in new single-family

residential subdivisions. The plan requires sidewalks on both sides of the streets, but allows creativity through a Pedestrian Access Plan. Dead-end streets of 200' or less and single-loaded streets are the exception. Member Duarte requested that the proposal include requiring connectivity from accessible parking to all amenities.

ACTION ITEM: APPROVE PROPOSED REVISION TO FRESNO GENERAL PLAN POLICY E-1-0

Member Duarte made a motion to accept the proposal as presented with the addition of including connectivity between amenities to accessible parking. Member Young seconded the motion and it passed.

OCTOBER 12, 2009

DISCUSSION ITEM: REVIEW OF REQUIREMENT FOR SIDEWALK ON BOTH SIDES OF STREET IN ALL RESIDENTIAL STREETS.

Israel Trejo presented an updated Draft Sidewalk Policy to the DAC for their review and recommendation. The policy was discussed at length.

ACTION ITEM: IF APPROPRIATE, DEVELOP A POSITION STATEMENT. DECIDE IF THE DAC WISHES TO ADVISE THE CITY COUNCIL ON DAC'S POSITION ON DISCUSSION ITEM ABOVE.

Member Sheppard made a motion that the Draft Sidewalk Policy be accepted with the addition to 1a that all of the access plans or walkways would meet state and federal accessibility requirements and focus on the universal accessibility of the walkways. Member Bronson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the abstention of Member Randall.

MONDAY JULY 13, 2009

DISCUSSION ITEM: CITY OF FRESNO POLICY REGARDING SIDEWALKS IN PRIVATE, GATED COMMUNITIES

Darrell Unruh, Planning & Development Planning Manager, and Israel Trejo, Planning & Development Planning Planner III, presented the Initial Preliminary Draft Sidewalk Policy Implementation Guidelines and requested endorsement of

this policy by the DAC. Mr. Trejo provided information on sidewalk policies from other municipalities. Discussion ensued, during which Member Duarte expressed concerns regarding the safety of persons with disabilities sharing the path of travel with vehicles in these areas. Member Sheppard clarified that this was not an issue relevant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), but was a question of City policy. Member Taylor suggested that this item be tabled for a future meeting until questions regarding the exceptions could be addressed and the Commission could review additional information from Planning and Development Department.

ACTION ITEM: ENDORSEMENT OF CITY OF FRESNO POLICY REGARDING SIDEWALKS IN PRIVATE, GATED COMMUNITIES

Jeff Roberts, of Granville Homes, addressed the Commission and indicated that the City's interpretation of its General Plan has changed, stating most gated communities have been developed without sidewalks, and due to the traffic counts being lower in those areas, they are safe environments for pedestrians and vehicles to share the same path of travel.

Annette Carter spoke to Mr. Robert's presentation, and indicated that she has reviewed the draft policy, feels it is good and would approve it.

Member Taylor made a motion to table this item, Member Sheppard seconded the motion, and it carried.