



City Council Economic Development Subcommittee

MINUTES

Conference Room A
City Hall, 501 Primrose Road – Burlingame, California
Thursday, May 18, 2017 – 8:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Council Member (CC) Keighran and Council Member (CC) Colson

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Economic Development Specialist (EDS) Cleese Relihan, City Manager (CM) Lisa Goldman, Sustainability Coordinator (SC) Sigalle Michael, and Community Development Director (CDD) William Meeker

Also in Attendance: Kent Putnam and Matthew Putnam (Putnam Automotive Group), Juan Loredó (DBID), and Angeline Stafford (DBID)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Auto Dealerships:

Kent Putnam noted the difficulty of hiring employees (particularly service workers) given the high cost of housing in the area. Employees must commute great distances for work. He would like to pursue the opportunity to provide short-term housing for employees needing it. He currently provides flexible schedules to reduce commute times. He suggested permitting buildings up to 85-feet in height on California Drive. CC Colson and CDD Meeker described the State's recent efforts to compel the production of more housing units. The Home for All initiative was also described as a means for the City to have productive conversations about housing.

CC Colson asked how dormitory housing units would be treated with respect to housing impact fees? CDD Meeker posited that given that the units are ancillary to the primary commercial use of the property in question, the fee would likely be based upon the commercial fee rate.

EV Chargers on Broadway:

SC Michael provided an overview of the EVGo Supercharger stations proposed for Parking Lot Y in the Broadway Commercial District. There would be no cost to the City. Initially, three chargers would be installed, followed by three additional chargers at a later date. Three parking spaces would be eliminated with the first phase of installation. The concept will be presented to the Broadway BID at this evening's meeting. She is seeking a letter of support from the group. EVGo is willing to pay a lump sum for the loss of parking revenue. There are approximately 500 electric vehicles within Burlingame. It is her position that all new multi-family developments should be required to have charging stations.

Burlingame Avenue DBID:

Juan Loredó and Angeline Stafford noted that "Fall Fest" will be held the last weekend in October. They provided an overview of other DBID activities that are being undertaken.

CM Goldman noted that the parking structure proposed as part of the affordable housing development involving Parking Lots F and N in Downtown Burlingame will help to alleviate some of the parking shortage since the structure will add to the supply of spaces.

The Subcommittee asked what the City can do to assist the businesses in being successful? Loredo noted that the DBID would like to hold more events, but the City needs to streamline its permitting process. CM Goldman suggested having Captain Bob Boll from BPD speak to the DBID regarding the process for issuance of event permits.

Stafford noted that businesses are having difficulties finding employees due to the cost of housing in the area. There is a need to look at affordable housing options for service workers. Staff noted that the City Council will be discussing housing policies in the fall.

Stafford stated that public transit/commuter incentives should be promoted. CM Goldman suggested contacting www.commute.org for information on such programs.

Loredo spoke about the uptick in robberies Downtown, particularly at the Apple Store. He suggested more of a Police presence in the area as a deterrent.

Loredo also suggested that the City look into ways to limit the number of chain stores within the commercial districts as a means of encouraging more small businesses in the commercial areas.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Potential Job Fair at Burlingame High School.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Meeker
Community Development Director