



PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIONS

Special Meeting
September 19, 2005
7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025

CALL TO ORDER – 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Bims (Vice-chair), Deziel, Henry, Keith, Pagee (Chair), Riggs (*Absent*), Sinnott

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF – Chow, Murphy

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Richard Alexander, owner of Continental Catering on El Camino Real, spoke of his the hardship the demolition of the warehouse would have on his business and explained reasoning for his appeal of the Planning Commission decision to the City Council.

B. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Consideration of the excerpts for 441 El Camino Real from the July 11, 2005 Planning Commission Meeting. COMMISSION ACTION M/S Keith/Bims to approve as presented (6-0, Commissioner Riggs absent)

C. STUDY ITEM

1. General Plan Amendment, Rezoning, Conditional Development Permit, and Environmental Review/The Board of Trustees of the Leland Stanford Junior University/2825 Sand Hill Road: Request for a General Plan Amendment, Rezoning, and Conditional Development Permit to construct an approximately 165,000-square-foot hotel facility comprised of 120 guest rooms and related facilities, five extended stay villas, a restaurant, spa/fitness center, and approximately 100,000 square feet of office space in multiple buildings at a currently undeveloped property.
COMMISSION DISCUSSION: Following a presentation by the applicant, several members of the public addressed the Commission and either spoke in favor of the project or identified concerns for consideration. Each Commissioner also provided comments to the applicant. The Commission generally expressed support for the proposed mixed-use concept and design of the project with input and direction to the project applicants to consider and/or clarify the following elements of the proposed project:
 - Support of the proposed architectural style, mix of uses, layout of the site, heights of building;
 - Adequacy of the proposed number of parking spaces given the proposed mix of uses; encourage the use of underground parking;
 - Identify benefits of the project to make the findings for the conditional development permit;

- Support of the mix of natural and manicured landscaping; consider transplanting mature oak trees to the front entry of the site;
- Desire to improve pedestrian linkages both on site and to the site; improve and maintain the walkways on the opposite side of the project;
- Verify trip generation numbers by use with Environmental Impact Report;
- Desire to minimize adverse environmental impacts such as traffic, noise, and drainage (wetland); provide adequate mitigation measures;
- Support the use of high quality architectural detail and materials; clearly indicate the change in materials on the plan;
- Provide a comprehensive lighting plan that is sensitive to Interstate 280;
- Support amenities that can be used by the office, hotel guests and the public;
- Review of circulation and traffic impacts to get people to and from the site;
- Request for the preparation of a signage program that would not be visible from Interstate 280 and is sensitive to Sand Hill Road; the use of neon would be inappropriate;
- Request to further explore the idea of the shuttle and bike services;
- Clarify how the site is accessed via public transit;
- Desire to have a scaled model; and
- Desire to include additional information on the plans (a graphic scale on plans, the street frontage improvements and intersection on the site plan to provide context, provide a diagram showing the location of one and two-story buildings, prepare a diagram showing the heights of the proposed office in comparison to existing buildings)

D. COMMISSION BUSINESS, REPORTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Review of upcoming planning items on the City Council agenda.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:07 p.m.

Future Planning Commission Meeting Schedule

Regular Meeting	September 26, 2005
Regular Meeting	October 10, 2005
Special Study Meeting	October 17, 2005 - cancelled
Regular Meeting	October 24, 2005
Regular Meeting	November 7, 2005
Regular Meeting	November 14, 2005
Regular Meeting	December 5, 2005
Regular Meeting	December 12, 2005