

**MINUTES**  
**PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**  
**September 2, 2014**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of Highland was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Hamerly, in the Donahue Council Chambers, 27215 Base Line, Highland, California.

Present:      Chairman              Randall Hamerly  
                 Vice Chairman        John Gamboa  
                 Commissioners        Richard Haller  
                                              Mark Rush  
                                              Milton Sparks  
                                              Michael Stoffel

Absent:        Commissioner        Trang Huynh

Staff Present: Lawrence Mainez, Community Development Director  
                 Kim Stater, City Planner  
                 Sergio Madera, Associate Planner  
                 Brandy Littleton, Administrative Assistant III

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Hamerly.

**2.0 COMMUNITY INPUT**

Jaime Rodriguez, resident, stated that his house was flooded on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The owner of the home kicked Rodriguez and his family out of the home and was giving all of their belongings away on Craigslist, for free. Rodriguez's wife got help from the Red Cross by putting them in a hotel and they just moved into a house. Rodriguez asked why there was a flood and questioned whose fault it was. Rodriguez is still looking for help but he doesn't know where to turn.

Chairman Hamerly informed Rodriguez of the City of Highland Flood Assistance Program, Immanuel Baptist, and the University Church food programs.

City Planner Stater left the dais at 6:03 to provide her business card to Mr. Rodriguez and returned to the dais at 6:14.

### 3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

#### 3.1 Minutes of August 19, 2014, Regular Meeting

**A Motion** was made by Vice Chairman Gamboa and seconded by Commissioner Haller to approve the Minutes of August 19, 2014, as submitted.

Motion carried, 5-0-1, with Commissioner Huynh absent and Commissioner Stoffel abstaining.

### 4.0 NEW BUSINESS

#### 4.1 Accessory Sign Review (ASR 014-018) – A Request to Install a 24 Square Foot Freestanding Neighborhood Identification Sign at an Existing Apartment Complex Known as Casa Del Sol

Associate Planner Madera presented the staff report.

Joe Grosso, the applicant, discussed the materials used and how the sign will be built and maintained.

**A Motion** was made by Vice Chairman Gamboa and seconded by Commissioner Haller to:

1. Approve Accessory Sign Review Application (ASR-014-018) for a new freestanding identification sign, subject to Conditions of Approval; and
2. Adopt the Findings of Fact.

Motion carried, 6–0, with Commissioner Huynh absent.

### 5.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Development Director Mainez informed the Commission that the freeway sign item was pulled from the agenda and will be brought back on the September 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, for further discussion.

Chairman Hamerly questioned the light intensity language of the new ordinance compared to the ordinance presented to the Commission.

Community Development Director Mainez indicated that there was a comment and will be handled through the CEQA and Sign Program process but there are no standards. Existing signs in the area will be presented for light intensity comparison.

Commissioner Haller inquired about the RV parking item.

Community Development Director Mainez indicated that the item was approved with some changes to the temporary parking for vehicles without a motor.

Commissioner Stoffel asked about parking on the yard.

Community Development Director Mainez stated that you cannot park on the yard unless the surface is almost solid, like pavers or asphalt.

City Planner Stater informed the Commissioners that 40% of the front yard has to be landscaped so people cannot pave half the yard and park several RVs. It is meant to provide a spot next to the driveway where they can put down pavers, asphalt, gravel, etc. to park.

Commissioner Stoffel expressed that it is going to look amazingly horrible and asked why it came up.

Community Development Director Mainez explained that there was a lot of debate regarding paving of the front yard. While they were trying to establish acceptable locations to park an RV, it was taken a step further to determine the acceptable surface materials that RV can park on.

Commissioner Stoffel stated he can picture a beat up truck, in front of a house, on plastic pavers.

Community Development Director Mainez indicated that there is a different ordinance for non-operative vehicles compared to RVs. People may widen driveways, put asphalt, or pavers for RV parking. Decomposed granite and rock was not found to be an appropriate parking surface so the ordinance was modified to be stricter.

Chairman Hamerly explained that there are materials engineered that could help meet the regulations for impervious material coverage, as well as the regulations for RV parking.

Community Development Director Mainez stated that the City Council does not want gravel landscape surfaces, it must be paved, concrete, or pavers.

Chairman Hamerly asked if you can pave and exceed the allowable coverage if it is used for RV parking.

Community Development Director Mainez answered yes. Each case would need to be evaluated but, most likely, not in the front yard, maybe on the side of the driveway. Community Development Director Mainez indicated that there is a provision stating if the property owner has exhausted all options and they need a special permit to park in front of the house, that process is built into the

ordinance.

Commissioner Stoffel asked if there was opposition from RV storage facilities.

Community Development Director Mainez stated that is the first option he tells residents to explore.

City Planner Stater informed the Commissioners of vacant seats on the Community Trails Committee and the Historic and Cultural Preservation Board. City Planner Stater also indicated that the three (3) sections of the Harmony EIR that were to be recirculated were open for public comment last Friday. It is online and there is a hard copy at City Hall. Public comment will end in early October and the meetings will be rescheduled.

## 6.0 ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Hamerly declared the meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Submitted by:

Approved by:



Brandy Littleton, Administrative Assistant III  
Community Development Department



Randall Hamerly, Chairman  
Planning Commission