AGENDA NO. 5

Approved by PC on _____
Approved by CC _____

CITY OF OCEANSIDE

Planning Commission
FY 2010-2011 Work Plan

I MISSION STATEMENT

The Oceanside Planning Commission shall guide, encourage and promote responsible development as it relates to the physical, environmental, social, economic, cultural and safety needs of the community.

II COMPOSITION/ROLE

The Commission is composed of seven members: Robert Neal, Chairperson; Tom Rosales, Vice Chair; and Commissioners Louise Balma, Stan Bertheaud, Dennis Martinek, Jay Scrivener and Claudia Troisi. As stated in City Council Policy No. 300-021, adopted on May 21, 1997, the members of the Planning Commission have the knowledge and experience as citizens of Oceanside to represent the community as a whole in their decisions and recommendations. The Council Policy also includes standards of ethical conduct for the Planning Commission. These standards require the advancement of the public interest; the importance of independence in judgment; openness; and fairness.

III STRUCTURE

The Planning Commission serves under provisions of local ordinance and state law. Its secretary is the City Planner, and principal staff support is provided by the Development Services Department/Planning Division.

From time to time various adhoc sub committees are appointed by the Chair to work on specific issues. In addition, two Commission members serve on the Redevelopment Design Review Committee (RDRC). The Chairperson of the Commission also serves as the Planning Commission representative on the Oceanside Mobilehome Park Financing Authority.

IV GENERAL GOALS AND TASKS

The Planning Commission's primary goal is to consider land use requests and study land use issues in light of the City of Oceanside's General Plan and its elements. The Commission is responsible for land use decisions and recommendations under the auspices of Federal, State, regional and local laws, ordinances and City policies.

The Planning Commission works to improve the quality of life for members of the Oceanside community and makes recommendations and decisions that contribute to the vision that will shape and define the City in the future.

The Commission works strongly and consistently for the enhancement of public participation and knowledge of the planning process.

To carry out its work the Commission conducts approximately 45 public hearings annually on land use applications for Development Plans, Conditional Use Permits, Tentative Maps, Zone Changes and other discretionary actions. The Commission also forms adhoc sub committees to consider planning matters that would benefit from early input from the Commissioners and holds public study sessions that serve as educational forums for community members, staff and Commissioners on planning related issues. The Commission meets 24 to 28 times a year.

V SPECIFIC GOALS AND TASKS

1. The Planning Commission shall conduct public hearings and make land use decisions and/or recommendations to the City Council on project applications.

2. The Planning Commission shall hear all sides of any issue before it, by providing a complete opportunity for all interested parties to be heard in a public meeting.

3. The Commission shall conduct an in-depth review and complete public discussion of all projects it hears prior to making any decisions or recommendations.

4. The Commission shall review, affirm and adopt all of the findings required by State law and local regulation for the actions it takes on any projects either for or against.

5. The Commission shall consider all of the environmental documentation provided with a project and make findings based on the mitigation of any negative impacts based on the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

6. The Commission shall continue to place and support conditions on projects to ensure that potential impacts are mitigated appropriately.

7. The Commission shall continue its practice of in-depth review of the architecture, design and landscaping of all development projects to insure their compatibility with and enhancement of the surrounding neighborhoods and the overall community.

8. The Commission shall provide input to the Community Development Commission (CDC) on projects within the Downtown Redevelopment project area as requested by the City Council/CDC through the Redevelopment Design Review Committee (RDRC).

9. During the coming year the Planning Commission is anticipated to discuss and provide input and recommendations on the following projects and work tasks:

a) Planning Efforts

i. Medical Marijuana Moratorium/ Zoning Text Amendment - The Planning Commission will hold public workshops/ study sessions to discuss issues related to the medical marijuana moratorium and any potential zoning text amendment associated with the moratorium action, on an as needed basis.

b) Community Education - The Planning Commission will hold:

i. Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) – Presentation/workshop on the Oceanside Municipal ALUCP, adopted by the Airport Land Use Commission on January 25, 2010.

ii. California Green Building Standards Code Update - Presentation/workshop on Green Building Codes, effective January 1, 2011 and related considerations in future planning.

iii. Water 101 – Presentation/workshop on water availability, infrastructure upgrade needs and associated potential impacts on anticipated development.

iv. SB375 Update - Presentation/workshop on status of SANDAG's regional 'Sustainable Communities Strategy" or "Alternative Planning Strategy" and related considerations in future planning.

c) Completed projects City tour