



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

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Special Meeting  
February 08, 2010

The City Council of the City of Palo Alto met on this date in the Council Chambers at 6:01 p.m.

Present: Burt, Espinosa, Holman, Klein, Price, Scharff, Schmid, Shepherd, Yeh arrived at 6:30 p.m.

Absent:

## CLOSED SESSIONS

### 1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

City Designated Representatives: City Manager and his designees pursuant to Merit Rules and Regulations (James Keene, Kelly Morariu, Dennis Burns, Russ Carlsen, Lalo Perez, Sandra Blanch, Marcie Scott, Darrell Murray, Joe Saccio)

Employee Organization: Palo Alto Police Managers' Association (Sworn)

Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

### CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

City Designated Representatives: City Manager and his designees pursuant to Merit System Rules and Regulations (James Keene, Kelly Morariu, Dennis Burns, Russ Carlsen, Lalo Perez, Sandra Blanch, Marcie Scott, Darrell Murray, Joe Saccio)

Employee Organization: Palo Alto Peace Officers' Association

Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

### CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

City Designated Representatives: City Manager and his designees pursuant to Merit Rules and Regulations (James Keene, Kelly Morariu, Russ Carlsen, Lalo Perez, Sandra Blanch, Marcie Scott, Darrell Murray, Joe Saccio)

Employee Organization: Local 521, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) - SEIU Hourly Unit

Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

#### CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

City Designated Representatives: City Manager and his designees pursuant to Merit System Rules and Regulations (James Keene, Kelly Morariu, Russ Carlsen, Sandra Blanch, Darrell Murray, Marcie Scott, Lalo Perez, Joe Saccio)

Employee Organization: Local 521 Service Employees International Union

Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

#### CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

City Designated Representatives: City Manager and his designees pursuant to Merit System Rules and Regulations (James Keene, Kelly Morariu, Russ Carlsen, Sandra Blanch, Darrell Murray, Marcie Scott, Lalo Perez, Joe Saccio)

Employee Organization: Local 1319, International Association of Firefighters

Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

#### CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

City Designated Representatives: City Manager and his designees pursuant to Merit System Rules and Regulations (James Keene, Kelly Morariu, Russ Carlsen, Lalo Perez, Sandra Blanch, Marcie Scott, Darrell Murray, Joe Saccio)

Employee Organization: Palo Alto Fire Chiefs' Association

Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

#### CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

City Designated Representatives: City Manager and his designees pursuant to the Merit System Rules and Regulations (James Keene, Kelly Morariu, Russ Carlsen, Lalo Perez, Sandra Blanch, Marcie Scott, Darrell Murray, Joe Saccio)

Employee Organization: Unrepresented Employee Group Management and Professional Personnel and Council Appointees

Authority: Government Code section 54957.6(a)

The City Council reconvened from the Closed Sessions at 7:53 p.m. and Mayor Burt advised no reportable action.

## SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

2. Proclamation for the Pacific Skyline Council Boy Scouts of America 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Mayor Burt read the Proclamation into the record.

3. Selection of Candidates to be Interviewed for the Human Relations Commission for Two Terms Ending March 31, 2013, and One Unexpired Term Ending March 31, 2012.

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Espinosa moved, seconded by Council Member Yeh to interview all applicants for the Human Relations Commission openings.

**MOTION PASSED:** 9-0

## CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager, James Keene said ground breaking for the Bobcat Ridge at the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo would take place this week. The 1,000 square feet landscape habitat was expected to open in June 2010.

## ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Victor Ojakian, 526 Addison Avenue, spoke regarding the importance of developing Project Safety Net, a private security service, and encouraged donations to help support the project's ongoing services.

City Manager, James Keene, said donations could be made by logging onto the City's Project Safety Net website or writing a check to the City of Palo Alto Project Safety Net Fund.

Wynn Grcich, 30166 Industrial Parkway SW #296, Hayward, spoke regarding the toxic danger of fluoridation. She asked if the City belonged to the International Council for Local and Environmental Initiative (ICLEI) and followed their protocol for land, water, and sustainability development.

Norman Carroll, 3061 Emerson Street, spoke regarding the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) service and raised concerns of how VTA addressed transportation issues in Palo Alto. He urged the Council not to support VTA.

Aram James, spoke regarding the Police Advisory Board meetings not being open to the public and asked that meetings be open and transparent for public participation.

Herb Borock, P.O. Box 632, raised concerns regarding procedures not being followed in amending a City contract pertaining to stimulus funds for the broadband project.

Michael Eager, 1960 Park Boulevard, spoke regarding a group of citizens who participated in the California Avenue Tree planting project. He said the group had drafted the plan that was used by Staff and not given the recognition they deserved at the planting event.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** Council Member Holman moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Espinosa to approve the minutes of January 11, 2010.

**MOTION PASSED:** 9-0

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Espinosa moved, seconded by Council Member Schmid to approve Agenda Item Nos. 4-11 and continue Agenda Item Number 12 to a date uncertain.

4. Approval of Amendment No. Four to Contract No. C3144644 with Huntsman Architectural Group in the Amount of \$92,270 for a Total Contract Amount of \$1,355,222 for Construction Administration for Architectural and Structural Work for the Civic Center Infrastructure Improvements Project - Capital Improvement Program Project PF-01002.
5. Approval of Amendment No. One to Contract No. C09128453 with WSP Flack & Kurtz, Inc. in the Amount of \$330,000 for a Total Contract Amount of \$550,000 for Construction Administration and Commissioning Services for the Civic Center Infrastructure Improvements Project - Capital Improvement Program Project PF - 10102.
6. Approval of Amendment No. One to Contract No. C08124310 with Cambridge CM, Inc. in the Amount of \$629,930 for a Total Contract Amount of \$1,199,210 for Construction Management Services for the

Civic Center Infrastructure Improvements – Capital Improvement Program Project PF-01002.

7. Appointment of 2010 Emergency Standby Council Members.
8. Approval of Amendment No. Three to Agreement with the Housing Trust of Santa Clara County to Provide a Contribution in the Amount of \$100,000 from the Residential Housing Fund for Fiscal Year 2009-10 to be Expended Through Fiscal Year 2013-14.
9. Approval of a Public/Private Partnership Joint Venture Agreement Between the City of Palo Alto and the Cardiac Therapy Foundation Concerning the Use of Gymnasium Facilities and Associated Fees for Facility Use at Cubberley Community Center for Jointly Supported Cardiac Therapy Programs.
10. Resolution 9039 entitled "Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Scheduling the City Council Vacation and Winter Closure in Calendar Year 2010."
11. Resolution 9040 entitled "Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Summarily Vacating a 12-Foot Wide Strip of a Public Utilities Easement at 780 Loma Verde Avenue."
- ~~12. Adoption of Two Resolutions to Incorporate a Side Letter Agreement with the Palo Alto Peace Officers' Association (PAPOA) to Provide a Supplemental Military Leave Benefit to Pay for the Differential Between Regular Salary and Military Pay to PAPOA Members Called to Involuntary Active Duty Amending: (1) Section 1601 of the Merit System Rules and Regulations Regarding the 2007-2010 Memorandum of Agreement and (2) the Compensation Plan for Police Non-Management Personnel (PAPOA) Adopted by Resolution No. 8779.~~

**MOTION PASSED:** 9-0

AGENDA CHANGES, ADDITIONS, AND DELETIONS

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Espinosa moved, seconded by Council Member Shepherd to continue Agenda Item Number 15 to March 8, 2010.

- ~~15. Public Hearing: Consider the Approval of Water Supply Assessment to Stanford Medical Center Facilities Renewal and Replacement Project  
(Item Continued from 2/1/10)~~

Council Member Klein advised he would not be participating in this item as his wife is on faculty at Stanford University.

**MOTION PASSED:** 8-0 Klein not participating

### ACTION ITEMS

13. Review of Destination Palo Alto Metrics and Direction to Staff to Pursue Transition to Participation in the San Mateo County Tourism Business Improvement District.

Director of Planning and Community Environment, Curtis Williams gave a presentation as outlined in Staff report CMR:138:10. He clarified the Staff report noted there was not a discernable trend between cities shown in the baseline metrics. The purpose of the metrics was to help determine as whether to move forward with Destination Palo Alto (DPA) or to do a year-to-year economic analysis. Staff felt the program was successful and continued to move in that direction. The program helped convince the hotels of the advantage in forming their own Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID.)

Ann LeClaire, President and CEO of San Mateo/Silicon Valley Convention and Visitor's Bureau (SM/SVCVB) spoke of a letter from the Board of Directors, dated December 18, 2009, proposing to change the hotels' contractual arrangement to a Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID). She said it would be a win-win situation if the Council opted to move forward with the proposal. The City would save money and SM/SVCVB would continue to mark Palo Alto as part of the area they represent. Hotels would be billed for the assessment and a small tourism fee would be passed on to the guests. Upon the Council approving the Resolution to join the TBID, the issue would then go to the City of Burlingame City Council, lead agency for the TBID, where public hearings would be held. A general manager from one of the hotels would be appointed as the voice for Palo Alto hoteliers. The top five hotels in Palo Alto had been approached regarding the assessment fee. They were the Westin, the Sheraton, the Crowne Cabana, the Garden Court and Dinah's. All five felt it would be beneficial and were willing to participate in the TBID program. The assessment for Palo Alto was approximately \$268,000 a year.

Mr. Williams said if the Council opted to go with the TBID, the next step would be to terminate DPA's contract in April or May 2010. Once the Resolution was adopted by the City of Burlingame, it would then be presented to the Council on March 8 with the room assessment of fifteen

cents to one dollar per room. The process would take 90 days. Under the agreement, SM/SVCVB would continue to support the Visitor's Center. The City's role for the next month would be to support the outreach to the hotels and prepare the Resolution of Consent to bring back to the Council on March 8. If the TBID proved to be successful and viable, the savings would be \$60,000 to \$120,000 for the current Fiscal Year.

Vice Mayor Espinosa asked what Staff's perspective on the recommended action was.

Mr. Williams said the hoteliers had been dealing directly with the SM/SVCVB for the past year and a half and Staff found it to be a profitable arrangement.

Council Member Shepherd needed clarification regarding the TBID's website set up.

Ms. LeClaire said the Palo Alto properties had been included in the SM/SVCVB's website and would not change. DPA's website was created with City monies to represent Palo Alto and accommodate the local calendar of events and would remain unchanged.

Council Member Shepherd asked how it differed as the Staff report noted a large cost savings for Palo Alto but a large drop in revenues for SM/SVCVB.

Ms. LeClaire said it was complicated since an assessment formula was used. The hotel tourism fee had flexibility based on projected occupancy. Guests would pay the tourism fee whether it was booked by the SM/SVCVB or not.

Council Member Scharff said \$187,000 was made in revenues in 2009, and the cost for DPA was \$240,000. DPA would be revenue positive with revenues of \$226,741 and a savings of \$60,000 to \$120,000 for 2010. If the \$60,000 were subtracted for both years, Palo Alto would not have a lost in revenues contrary to what was reported in the press.

Mr. Williams said that was correct.

Council Member Scharff said DPA started as a two-year pilot program with the idea the program would transition out at the end of the two-year period. The City successfully met its goal in providing the groundwork for the hotels.

Council Member Price asked whether the proposed room assessment fee was determined by the Board and revisited annually.

Ms. LeClaire said it was. She said hoteliers were asked what was palatable and what the traffic could bare when the initial assessment fee was set up. There had been two increases in the past nine years.

Council Member Price asked if Staff knew what the City of Berkeley was doing differently since the baseline data reflected Berkeley as doing better than other cities.

City Manager, James Keene, said the Shattuck Hotel recently had been renovated which improved the rooms.

Mr. Williams said Berkeley had business tours and a business convention/visitor's bureau type of an approach.

Council Member Yeh asked whether an analysis was done regarding the change in Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) and what was attributed to the smaller versus larger hotels.

Ms. LeClaire said smaller hotels were harder to track since they benefited from overflow, tour and travel, and film room nights for production crews. She said as a rule twenty percent of guests coming in for a convention booked outside of the room blocks looking for less expensive or closer accommodations and was difficult to track.

Council Member Yeh asked whether consideration was made for the smaller hotels, particularly those in the south part of Palo Alto, because guests opted to stay in neighboring towns due to the added cost.

Ms. LeClaire said that was a concern when the TBID was created but found it not to be an issue.

Council Member Yeh asked what Staff's envision was regarding the potential savings of \$60,000 to \$100,000.

Mr. Keene said the funding would help alleviate budget gaps the City was facing.

Council Member Holman said she was interested in a random and cross-section sampling on how the smaller hotels would respond to the TOT and their interests and fears in joining the program.



Ms. LeClaire said a letter outlining those questions had been drafted and ready to be sent to all hotels and motels.

Economic Development and Redevelopment Manager, Susan Barnes, said it was good to see what advantages DPA had brought forward. She said the DPA Committee would remain and the Convention Visitor's Bureau representing people from the Stanford Research Park, Stanford Shopping Center, hotels and the tourism industry would continue to convene and organize ongoing events.

Mayor Burt needed clarification regarding the room bookings captured in Table 1, Staff report CMR:138:10.

Ms. LeClaire said the Table represented group bookings only. It did not include leisure rooms, extended stays, and rooms coming from the California Welcome Centers.

Mayor Burt asked Ms. LeClaire if she would be able to give a conservative estimate on what the City would receive in TOT and Sales Tax Revenue beyond the \$226,741 estimated for 2010.

Ms. LeClaire said she was not able to provide an estimate.

Robert Moss, 4010 Orme Street, suggested going with the Staff recommendation and get the hotels to collect the fifteen cents to one dollar occupant assessment fee making the program worthwhile. He felt additional time and money should be directed in improving the Palo Alto Website so the public would be able to get the information that was being put out through the contract.

Herb Borock, P.O. Box 632, raised concerns regarding the formula used in receiving the funds. He needed clarification as to whether each hotel was responsible for a certain amount of money, regardless of the fee, or were the hotels guessing on what should be collected.

**MOTION:** Council Member Scharff moved, seconded by Council Member Klein to direct Staff to explore participation in the San Mateo County Tourism Business Improvement District operated by the San Mateo County/Silicon Valley Convention Visitors Bureau.

Council Member Scharff said effective in 2011 the City would be saving DPA's annual cost of \$240,000 with a savings of \$60,000-\$120,000 for the current year making DPA revenue positive for the two years.

Council Member Klein echoed Council Member Scharff's comments and that the City would be getting out of the hotel business.

Council Member Yeh said his focus was on the City saving the \$60,000 to \$120,000. He said his thoughts regarding the surplus was when the Council had voted for DPA, he interpreted it as a vote to support the business community. Although the City was facing a budget situation, the investment in the business community had sufficient returns on tax returns in the long-term. He supported the Motion.

Council Member Schmid asked what would happen to the hotels if the program did not work for them.

Ms. LeClaire said the TBID sends a notice out annually to all the properties asking if the program was working for them. All that was required was a vote from the Council to opt out if the program was not working and could be done at the end of each year.

Council Member Schmid asked how a hotel would determine whether the program was working.

Ms. LeClaire said it would be based on the hotel's amount of revenue contribution.

Mayor Burt said he supported the Motion.

**MOTION PASSED: 9-0**

**14. Approval of Preliminary Design for El Camino Real/Stanford Avenue Intersection Improvements and Streetscape Project.**

Director of Planning and Community Environment, Curtis Williams said the project was a prototype for the El Camino Real Master Planning Study and the ongoing Peninsula El Camino Real Grand Boulevard design concept. The City had received a grant from the Valley Transit Authority (VTA) to prepare the design and construction. In order to obligate the funds the design would need to be approved by CalTrans by the end of June 2010. Certain exceptions had to be made in the plan which required CalTrans' final approval. Improvements to the intersection had to be made since it was the primary route for three different schools with high pedestrian/bicycle traffic and an unsafe existing crosswalk situation. In 2008, the San Jose Mercury News identified the intersection as one of the dangerous intersections for cyclists in Palo Alto and in Santa Clara County.

Transportation Engineer, Shahla Yazdy gave a presentation as outlined in Staff report CMR:131:10.

Mr. Williams said Staff was asking for the Council to approve the proposed preliminary design for the intersection to submit to CalTrans for final approval to secure the funds. Construction was estimated to begin in Fall 2010. He said there were concerns regarding Barbeques Galore having trees in front of their establishment and other businesses did not. The reason for other businesses not having trees was because they had awnings extending almost to the curb leaving no allowances for trees. Another concern was the unsafe sidewalk. He clarified the sidewalk was 8 feet wide and there would be no problem in accommodating a tree and still have adequate room for the Americans with Disabilities Act's (ADA) requirement.

Planning and Transportation Commission (P&TC) Chair, Dan Garber said P&TC supported Staff's recommendation and explored the different issues Staff had and the impacts the intersection had to schools and bicyclists. Other topics explored were business visibility as well as bus routes. There were five amendments to the P&TC action: 1) Staff to develop a scheme for bicycle and pedestrian traveling eastbound on Stanford Avenue crossing the El Camino Real (ECR) to minimize the impact from vehicle traffic traveling eastbound on Stanford Avenue, 2) Study traffic impact traveling along Stanford Avenue eastbound heading towards ECR and if the design needed modification in order to eliminate backups onto Stanford Avenue, 3) Staff to work with Starbucks and adjacent businesses regarding the placement of trees as to not impede the visibility to the businesses, 4) Staff continue to work with Stanford University regarding the drainage concerns at the northwest corner, and 5) Staff to consider the head start timing for pedestrians and bicyclist on the signalization.

Tracy May, 2080 El Camino Real, spoke regarding the bus stop issue blocking Barbeques Galore, the slanted sidewalk in front of the store, and approval of having no trees due to public safety.

Cary Davis, 2080 El Camino Real, was in favor of the proposed improvements but objected to the two trees being placed in front of Barbeques Galore. He said when the trees are at full maturity it would create a visibility problem for the store. He felt his business was being treated unfairly since other businesses were able to get trees relocated or removed to accommodate existing issues. He spoke of the slanted sidewalk as being hazardous especially during wet season and a liability problem

waiting to happen. He is requesting the two trees be removed from the plan.

Penny Ellson, 513 El Capitan Place, speaking on behalf of the Palo Alto Council of PTA's Traffic Safety Committee, stated they were in support of the proposed plan. She spoke of the plan's advantages in solving school and bicycle safety problems. She urged the Council to move the project forward.

Michael Eager, 1960 Park Boulevard, spoke regarding the outreach for the proposed project. He said it was a complicated plan and expressed his disappointment in not having sufficient time at meetings to ask questions, lack of meeting notifications and up-to-date information. He spoke of a two-page document containing public comments and questions that were presented at a P&TC meeting which remained unanswered.

Dr. James Wolfe, Los Altos Hills, property owner of Starbucks raised concerns regarding the proposed placement of a tree and how it would completely obstruct Starbucks's signage. He was given the option of placing the proposed tree where a sycamore tree was located and found it to be an acceptable offer.

Michael Dillon, 259 Chico Avenue, Santa Cruz, Architect spoke of the disadvantages of placing a large oak tree near Starbucks. He said placement of a 70-foot by 70-foot oak tree at that location would create a safety issue, diminish daylight coming through the windows, and an outdoor patio being littered with debris from the tree with long-term adverse effect.

Cathy Blake, Porter Drive, Stanford University, Stanford Campus Landscape Architect spoke regarding the placement of a depressed drain that would require allowance for grading. She said grading was tricky and raised concerns that the grading allowance had not been included in the plans. She asked that Stanford be allowed to work on the grading and landscape configuration after approval and as the plan developed.

Mr. Williams confirmed Ms. Blake's comments were correct. He said the Architectural Review Board (ARB) had reviewed the landscaping details and made their final determination last Thursday but did not make it into this meeting's packet.

Ms. Blake said she supported the plan but wanted to make sure Stanford could participate in reviewing the grading issue.

Greg Tanaka, 2270 Princeton, President of the College Terrace Residents' Association requested the project's potential traffic delays be addressed before finalizing the project. He supported the plans and urged the Council to move forward to insure the City did not lose the funding.

William Robinson, 4164 Wilkie Way, member of Palo Alto Bicycle Advisory Committee (PABAC) spoke regarding the bulb-outs being placed at the intersection. He said bulb-outs contributed to pedestrian/cyclist safety and was the way to go for this and other intersections through Palo Alto.

Herb Borock, P.O. Box 632, suggested removing the bus shelter from the plans/drawings to avoid the possibility of getting included in the funding and end up getting placed where it does not belong. He said it should be clear as to whether planting of the trees created a signage problem or an idea for redeveloping the property.

Robert Moss, 4010 Orme Street, spoke regarding the time delay in turning right from Stanford Avenue to El Camino Real would take longer than 3 minutes. Turning delays could be mitigated by reducing the size of the bulb-outs on the corner closest to Starbucks. He said he was in favor of planting trees along the El Camino and if a tree placement was appropriate and approved the tree should be planted.

Vice Mayor Espinosa asked Staff to address the public speakers' concerns regarding the bus shelter, whether trees should be considered in the slanted sidewalk area, and the location of oak trees.

Mr. Williams said the originally proposed bus shelter was no longer in the plan. A sign where the bus shelter was is no longer there and SamTrans would be contacted to remove the poles. Both the Public Works arborist and the Planning arborist were comfortable in planting a tree at the slanted sidewalk area. The sidewalk would be graded flush to avoid potential trip hazards. The ARB said the signature oak trees were an entrance feature to the Stanford area and an important part of this concept.

Ms. Yazdy said the location of the oak tree was a concern to the owners and repositioned five feet to the west in order to clear the visibility of the signs. She said the bus shelter was included in the El Camino Master Plan Study and should have been removed from all photos and drawings.

Council Member Shepherd asked whether the matching gateway tree was still being planted.

Mr. Williams said it was still in the plans.

Council Member Shepherd asked if it was correct that the area in front of the former Scrapbook Store that had an awning would have no trees and Barbeques Galore had no awning would have trees.

Mr. Williams that was correct.

Council Member Shepherd asked if there was an Ordinance regarding the distance an awning could extend over the sidewalk.

Mr. Williams said it was a CalTrans encroachment into CalTrans' right of way.

Council Member Holman wanted to know how the drawing that was included in the packet differed from the one used in the presentation.

Ms. Yazdy said the planting material was the same. Staff went with a more rounded landscape which included the Manzanita and roses in the background since the ARB wanted to see less pavement.

Council Member Holman asked whether trees could be placed on the Oxford Avenue side since they could not be placed on the ECR side due to the awning issue.

Ms. Yazdy said the project limits indicated Stanford Avenue was allowed to have a hundred feet on each leg of intersection. Planting trees on ECR beyond Oxford Avenue would be outside the project limits.

Council Member Holman asked whether Staff had considered the possibility of using sandwich boards to help resolve the trees and visibility issues.

Mr. Williams said that was not discussed as it was not part of the project. It would be an Ordinance issue that would need to be discussed.

Council Member Holman addressed a public speaker's concerns regarding cars going west on Stanford Avenue near Starbucks as being hazardous and causing potential backups on ECR.

Ms. Yazdy said the movement of cars stopping to make the left turn did exist and Staff could revisit the situation to see if it could be eliminated.

Council Member Price said several intersections in Palo Alto could benefit from this kind of attention especially further south on the ECR. The proposal

for trees along the ECR was consistent with the El Camino Real Grand Boulevard design concept. She supported Staff's recommendation.

Council Member Scharff raised concerns regarding placement of the tree near Starbuck's and the potential of tree droppings onto the patio and obstruction of light into Starbucks.

Mr. Williams said the Valley Oak was not an evergreen and could start dropping a few leaves within 5 to 10 years. The branches would create shade but not densely clustered to cause an impact on the light from coming through.

**MOTION:** Council Member Scharff moved, seconded by Council Member Holman to: 1) Approve the proposed preliminary design for the intersection improvements at El Camino Real and Stanford Avenue, and 2) Direct Staff to submit the plans to Caltrans, with the following conditions:

- a. Modify the landscape plan to relocate the proposed trees so that they do not substantially impede the visibility of the adjacent businesses.
- b. Continue to work with Stanford University to ensure adequate drainage from the 100 year storm event at the intersection to the satisfaction of the City's Planning Director and Director of Public Works.
- c. Provide for a two second head start timing on signal phasing for pedestrians and bicyclists crossing El Camino Real, to the satisfaction of the satisfaction of the City's Planning Director.

Council Member Schmid said one of the highlights of the plan was the creation for pedestrians' space on the western side of the El Camino Real. It was a great step in moving forward and the hope for a retail block as Stanford housing gets established on the northwest corner.

Council Member Shepherd echoed Council Member Schmid's comments. She supported the Motion.

**INCORPORATION INTO THE MOTION WITH THE CONSENT OF THE MAKER AND SECONDER** to request Staff continue to work with the property owners to address tree concerns identified by the Planning & Transportation Commission.

**MOTION PASSED: 9-0**

**COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Council Member Yeh reported on attending the combined youth focus organizations meeting held, which was the first of three to be held. The next meeting will be held on February 27, 2010, at Mitchell Park Community Center

Council Member Klein requested Staff look into new microphones/speaker system for the Chambers and Council Conference Room. He and Vice Mayor Espinosa will not be going to Washington D.C. this week due to the weather.

Council Member Holman requested that Staff take steps to acknowledge the citizen volunteers who assisted with the tree planting on California Avenue.

Mayor Burt reported on attending two Peninsula Cities Consortium meetings on High Speed Rail recently.

Council Member Klein reported that Mayor Burt was a guest speaker on radio station KPFA this past Sunday morning, the topic was High Speed Rail.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.