



DRAFT

**BENICIA PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**City Hall Council Chambers
Monday, June 30, 2014
7:00 P.M.**

I. OPENING OF MEETING

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present: Commissioners Cohen-Grossman, Oakes, Sherry, Smith,
Sprague, and Young

Absent: Chair Dean (excused)

Staff Present: Amy Million, Principal Planner/Recording Secretary
Kat Wellman, Contract Attorney

C. Reference to Fundamental Rights of Public

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On motion of Commissioner Sherry, seconded by Commissioner Young, the agenda was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Cohen-Grossman, Oakes, Sherry, Smith, Sprague and
Young

Noes: None

Absent: Chair Dean

Abstain: None

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

A. WRITTEN

Andres Soto, resident, reported that the community group "Benicia for Safe and Healthy Community" hosted a workshop at the Benicia public library last Saturday and 65 people attended. He provided a general overview of the information reviewed and thanked the Commission for holding this workshop.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

A. WORKSHOP ON THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND REVIEWING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Kat Wellman provided a brief introduction to her presentation then continued with a PowerPoint presentation on California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and tips for reviewing a draft environmental impact report (DEIR).

The Commission asked various clarifying questions regarding the definition of project description, making findings, mitigation measures, and expected timeframes.

Ms. Wellman provided additional information on the process from taking a DEIR to a Final EIR.

Public comment was opened.

Dana Dean expressed appreciation that the Commission was holding this workshop. She commented that the decision on projects based on social and economic impacts is a tricky area. She also commented on mitigation and whether the project has inconsistency with an adopted land use plan. She mentioned that the timeframe for preparation of an EIR is one year unless waived by the applicant.

Kathy Kerridge asked a question on the timing for completing the Final EIR after the end of the public comment period. Staff confirmed CEQA guidelines state 45-days.

V. COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

None.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Oakes adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.