



**Minutes
Development Review Commission
STUDY SESSION
June 22, 2021**

**Minutes of the study session of the Development Review Commission, of the City of Tempe, was held in Council Chambers
31 East Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona**

Present:

Chair David Lyon
Vice Chair Michael DiDomenico
Commissioner Don Cassano
Commissioner Philip Amorosi
Commissioner Andrew Johnson
Commissioner Steven Bauer
Alt Commissioner Barbara Lloyd

City Staff Present:

Ryan Levesque, Deputy Director, Community Development
Suparna Dasgupta, Principal Planner
Steve Abrahamson, Principal Planner
Ambika Adhikari, Principal Planner
Diana Kaminski, Senior Planner
Joanna Barry, Administrative Assistant II

Absent:

Commissioner Scott Sumners
Alt Commissioner Michelle Schwartz
Alt Commissioner Linda Spears

Chair Lyon began the Study Session at 5:32 p.m.

Review of May 25, 2021 Minutes

- Item #1 - Study Session Minutes – 05/25/21
- Item #2 - Regular Meeting Minutes – 05/25/21

Review of June 22, 2021 Regular Meeting Agenda

- Item #3 – CAR-GRAPH INC. (PL210136) – on consent
- Item #4 – CARVANA (PL210061) – to be heard

Announcements:

Mr. Ryan Levesque, Deputy Director – Community Development, gave the Commission members an update on when DRC hearings will be able to be held in the Council Chambers again. Ms. Suparna Dasgupta, Principal Planner, indicated she would like to start the first Study Session back in the Council Chambers earlier so staff could go over the new equipment with the Commissioners.

Chair Lyon congratulated both Commissioners Michelle Schwartz and Barbara Lloyd for becoming regular Commission members.

PRESENTATION: Character Area Planning: Papago/North Tempe (Character Area 1) – Presented by Ambika Adhikari, Principal Planner, and Robbie Aaron, Planner II

Mr. Adhikari showed the Commission a map illustrating the planning status of the character areas. He then provided a statistical comparison from 2019 of Character Area 1 as compared to the City of Tempe. Population trends and key indicators based on area background from 2020 were also provided.

Kick-off meetings for Character Area 1 were held on March 15, 2021. Two public meetings were held on May 11, 2021 and two pop-up meetings are in June, one was held on June 14, 2021 and the second scheduled for June 26, 2021. There is a

Dotocracy survey that is currently open from May 11, 2021 to June 30, 2021. Mr. Adhikari went over the preferences and wish list items the public provided regarding what they would like to see in Character Area 1.

Between June and July 2021, presentations on Character Area 1 will be given to several Tempe commissions and advisory boards. In the fall/winter there will be a draft plan and public review (virtual and in-person), revisions, and then board and commission review. The City Council will decide on the final draft plan in winter 2021 or early 2022.

Commissioner Amorosi asked what residents meant by drainage area improvements in their comments. Mr. Adhikari advised that that these were general topics and as they finalize the plan, they will have more specifics on what the public is referring to specifically.

Chair Lyon stated that the presentation and work on this is excellent.

The Study Session adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Joanna Barry, Administrative Assistant II

Reviewed by: Suparna Dasgupta, Principal Planner

