



**Minutes
Development Review Commission
STUDY SESSION
April 12, 2022**

**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 Michael DiDomenico
Vice Chair Steven Bauer
Commissioner Philip Amorosi
Commissioner Michelle Schwartz
Alt Commissioner Linda Spears
Alt Commissioner Rhiannon Corbett
Alt Commissioner Charles Redman

City Staff Present:

Ryan Levesque, Deputy Director, Community Development
Suparna Dasgupta, Principal Planner
Steve Abrahamson, Principal Planner
Lee Jimenez, Senior Planner
Lily Drosos, Planner I
Joanna Barry, Administrative Assistant II

Absent:

Commissioner Scott Summers
Commissioner Don Cassano
Commissioner Barbara Lloyd

Chair DiDomenico began the Study Session at 5:30 p.m.

Review of March 22, 2022 Minutes

- Item #1 - Study Session Minutes
- Item #2 - Regular Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Amorosi noted a correction that needed to be made to the spelling of his name.

Review of April 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda

- Item #3 – BIG D SMOKE LLC (PL220050) – to be heard
The Commission was advised that staff has been unable to reach the applicant since March 30, 2022.
- Item #4 – PRIEST & 3RD (PL210288) – to be heard
A question was raised in pre-session if the commercial space would be in place of the live/work unit or in addition to it. Mr. Huellmantel advised in would be addition to that space.

PRESENTATION:

Historic Preservation Plan

Presenter: Zachary Lechner, Historic Preservation Officer – Community Development

Mr. Zachary Lechner, Historic Presentation Officer, went over the rationale and objectives of the Historic Preservation Plan Update. The original plan was used to see what was working or what needed to be added or changed. He stated there are a lot of additions in this new version of the plan. They incorporated feedback into the draft plan from the public, Arizona State Museums, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and the four southern tribes. A public survey was conducted from April through May of 2021, and public meetings were held April 26, 2021 and October 20, 2021. There were multiple meetings with Tribal representatives in 2021. They consulted with the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) throughout 2021 and received preliminary approval by the HPC in November 2021. A consultation was had with the Tempe Historic Preservation in August 2021. Comments were also solicited from relevant City agencies in February 2022. The plan was sent to the SHPO for review in March 2022. The draft plan, incorporating ongoing revisions based on 2021/2022 feedback, was available for public comment in April 2022. A presentation of the revised plan was given that same month in a meeting of Four Southern Tribes Cultural Resource Work Group.

Mr. Lechner proceeded to go over the main components and goals of the plan. At the same time the draft plan was being put together, the City coordinated with Archeological Consulting Services (ACS) to conduct two inventories. One was an inventory of historical resources between roughly 1868-1960 within the urban core of the City of Tempe. The second inventory of historical resources was done for post-1961-1975.

Another item that had been setup to occur at the same time of the Historic Preservation Plan Update was the Blanket Archeological Monitoring, Discovery, and Treatment Plan. This is being carried out by Logan Simpson and is an effort to identify archeological sites, prehistoric canals, and Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs). The plan aims to provide a consistent approach to the treatment of Tempe's archeological cultural resources to streamline the historic preservation consultation process by identifying a set of approved field and research methods for monitoring and discovering situations for the city. Due to the pandemic, this has been delayed so it is not finished at this time.

From April 12th – May 4th they will make updates to the draft plan as necessary and will then present it, along with the inventories, to the Tempe Historic Preservation Commission for action. It will then be presented to the City Council on May 26th for adoption by resolution. If this is delayed for any reason, they have a backup date of June 9th to present to the City Council.

Commissioner Amorosi asked how they plan to deal with a property owner who does not care if their site is historic and wants to tear it down and build something new. Mr. Lechner stated they are trying to figure out ways to make the language in the plan a little more robust, but unfortunately their hands are somewhat tied by the City ordinance on what they can or cannot do.

Commissioner Redman appreciates the effort in updating the document. He noted it appears the main goal is to align it with current government mandates but that the real meat and potatoes portion the is missing is the educational portion. He stated that if we are preserving these cultural resources, he hopes we are making it so that Tempe students and children can learn about where they grew up. He asked if there was any portion of the document that addresses this. Mr. Lechner stated that the Historic Preservation Office is now taking on more of an outreach role, not only in general but also sharing with the people of Tempe what cultural resources that are here.

Announcements: NONE

The Study Session adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Prepared by: Joanna Barry, Administrative Assistant II

Reviewed by: Suparna Dasgupta, Principal Planner

