



**Downtown Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Action Agenda**

**8:30 a.m., Thursday, January 26, 2017  
City Council Chambers  
809 Center Street**

**The Action Agenda is an unofficial reflection of meeting actions.**

**Call to Order 8:30 a.m.**

**Roll Call**

Chair Zach Davis, Vice Chair Dexter Cube; Commissioners: Casey Coonerty Protti, Matt Farrell, Deidre Hamilton, Patrick Prindle, and Robert Singleton

Present: Chair Davis; Commissioners Coonerty Protti, Farrell, Hamilton, Prindle, and Singleton

Absent: Vice Chair Cube

Staff: Jim Burr, Amelia Conlen, Marlin Granlund, Casey Hemard, Ron Powers, Shizue Shikuma

**Announcements**

*The Chair may announce and set time limits at the beginning of each agenda item.*

Introduction of new Commissioners – The two new Commissioners introduced themselves:

- Deidre Hamilton is a land use planner for over 40 years. Her office is located in downtown Santa Cruz.
- Patrick Prindle is an asset manager for MCM Diversified, Inc., and manages the Monterey Bay portfolio. He lives in the City of Santa Cruz.

**Oral Communications None**

**Presentations**

*1. Downtown Massing Study – Ron Powers, Principal Planner, Planning Department*

Ron Powers gave the Commission an overview and background of the Downtown Recovery Plan, which was first adopted after the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake. Then he spoke about what is currently being considered.

**General Business**

*2. Approval of Minutes December 1, 2016 Minutes\**

Recommendation: Motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2016 Downtown Commission Meeting as submitted.

Commissioner Coonerty Protti moved, seconded by Commissioner Singleton to approve the December 1, 2016 Downtown Commission Meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion passed. Ayes: Chair Davis; Commissioners: Coonerty Protti, Farrell, and Singleton. Noes: None. Disqualified: Commissioners Hamilton and Prindle (new appointees). Absent: Vice Chair Cube.

3. *Election of Officers for 2017\**

Recommendation: That the Downtown Commission elect a Chair and Vice Chair for 2017.

Background: The term of office is one year. Both Davis and Cube have filled the two-year term limit as Commission officers.

Commissioner Farrell nominated Commissioner Coonerty Protti for Chair. Commissioner Hamilton nominated Commissioner Singleton for Vice Chair.

Commissioner Farrell moved, seconded by Commissioner Coonerty Protti to close the nominations for both positions.

Motion passed: Ayes: Chair Davis; Commissioners: Farrell, Coonerty Protti, Singleton, Hamilton, and Prindle. Noes: None. Absent: Vice Chair Cube. Disqualified: None.

Chair Davis informed the Commissioners that they could elect the nominated offices by roll call or by voice vote. Members opted to do a voice vote.

*Election of Chair*

Motion passed: Commissioner Coonerty Protti was elected as Chair by the following vote.

Ayes: Chair Davis; Commissioners Farrell, Coonerty Protti, Singleton, Hamilton, and Prindle. Noes: None. Absent: Vice Chair Cube. Disqualified: None.

*Election of Vice Chair*

Motion passed: Commissioner Singleton was elected as Vice Chair by the following vote.

Ayes: Chair Coonerty Protti; Commissioners Davis, Farrell, Singleton, Hamilton, and Prindle. Noes: None. Absent: Vice Chair Cube. Disqualified: None.

4. *Taxi Stands Downtown\*, Casey Hemard, Principal Management Analyst, City Manager's Office*

Recommendation: Motion to recommend that the City Council approve a program to establish taxi stands in Downtown locations between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. within established guidelines per Municipal Code 10.44.080.

Background and review: Casey Hemard informed the Commission that after her presentation at the December 2016 Downtown Commission meeting, this item was presented to City Council on January 10, 2017. The taxicab industry is subject to various regulations in the City, e.g., background checks, fingerprinting, drug and alcohol tests. Transportation network companies (TNC), such as Uber, are not subject to these regulations at this time.

Chair Coonerty Protti opened the public comment period.

**Speaking to the Issue from the Floor**

- Chip, Downtown Association, voiced concern with the proposed hours of operation, that the 8:00 p.m. start time seems too early, whereas 10:00 p.m. is more reasonable. Also, the Downtown Association members need more information.

- Sharon Sweeney, Deluxe Cab, gave some historical background about the City's taxicab permitting process: background checks, drug and alcohol checks, etc. She also noted that loading zones normally are not taken up at night by visitor parking.
- Patrice Boyle, a downtown business owner, would like to see Uber be more active in Santa Cruz.
- Craig Hyder, is a former cab driver and is now an Uber driver and independent operator. Taxi stands are important so people will know where to find a taxi. Local taxis are subject to the City's restrictions (background checks, etc.), while Uber is not. This makes the taxis less competitive.

Chair Coonerty Protti closed the public comment period.

The two drivers were invited back to the podium to respond to questions from the Commissioners.

- Sharon Sweeney suggested turning loading zones to taxi stands later than 8:00 p.m. She said that this would be the most cost-effective for the City at this time; and to use the loading zone locations rather than the fire hydrant locations.
- Craig Hyder also said that a later start time for the stands is better. He noted that the taxi stand has to be located right where the bar crowd comes out. This helps keep everyone safer from drunk-driving incidents.

Vice Chair Singleton moved, seconded by Commissioner Farrell to approve an amended recommendation as follows: To recommend that the City Council approve a program to establish taxi stands in Downtown locations at 915 Cedar and 1132 Pacific and the motorcycle parking spaces on Pacific in front of the Metro, between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. within established guidelines per Municipal Code 10.44.080.

Motion passed: Ayes: Chair Coonerty Protti, Vice Chair Singleton; Commissioners Davis, Farrell, Hamilton, and Prindle. Noes: None. Absent: ,Commissioner Cube. Disqualified: None.

#### *5. Downtown Bike Lockers\*, Amelia Conlen, Transportation Coordinator*

Recommendation: Accept results of the Downtown Santa Cruz Bike Locker Survey and provide input on recommendations for downtown bike locker locations and replacement strategy.

Amelia Conlen gave a presentation regarding an overview and background of the Downtown Bike Lockers. Of a total of 112 lockers in the City, 14 are out of service. Utilization of the lockers is seasonal. The most frequently used lockers are at the Metro terminal. Amelia also discussed challenges for this program. The agenda report gives more detailed information about the research and findings.

Chair Coonerty Protti opened the public comment period.

- Warren West suggested installing stackable bike lockers.

Chair Coonerty Protti closed the public comment period.

Vice Chair Singleton moved, seconded by Commissioner Farrell to accept results of the Downtown Santa Cruz Bike Locker Survey, as well as the following recommendations:

- Replace the lockers at Lot 3
- Remove the Depot Park lockers
- Wait to replace the lockers at Lot 4 and the Library, pending what comes of the new Library plans
- Based on the survey responses, investigate new locations, such as Trader Joe's and North Pacific Avenue
- Have all new lockers accept BikeLink cards only

Motion passed: Ayes: Chair Coonerty Protti, Vice Chair Singleton; Commissioners Davis, Farrell, Hamilton, and Prindle. Noes: None. Absent: Commissioner Cube. Disqualified: None.

6. *2017 Draft Workplan\*, Marlin Granlund, Parking Program Manager*

Recommendation: Motion to approve Downtown Commission Work Plan for 2017 with comments.

1. a. Parking Garage Financing Ad Hoc Committee: Vice Chair Singleton, Lead; Commissioners Farrell and Prindle
2. Traffic and Transportation Issues: Commissioner Davis, Lead; Chair Coonerty Protti and Commissioner Hamilton
3. Attend meetings of downtown business and residential groups and report back:
  - Downtown Neighbors Association – Commissioner Cube
  - Downtown Association – Chair Coonerty Protti
  - Convention and Visitor's Council – Commissioner Davis
  - Downtown Management Corporation – Commissioner Prindle
  - Transportation/Public Works Commission – Commissioner Farrell
  - Sustainable Transportation Group – Vice Chair Singleton
4. Updates from City Staff and key stakeholders in the downtown business district as well as the general public:
  - May: Report on the Warriors parking are adjacent to the downtown district
  - Sept: One-year anniversary review of the Rangers in the downtown district
5. Assignments to attend 2017 Council meetings:
  - Feb – Commissioner Hamilton
  - Mar – Commissioner Prindle
  - Apr – Commissioner Davis
  - May – Chair Coonerty Protti
  - June – Commissioner Hamilton
  - July – No Council Meetings
  - Sept – Commissioner Farrell
  - Oct – Commissioner Farrell
  - Nov – Commissioner Cube
  - Dec – Commissioner Cube

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Commissioner Farrell moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamilton to adopt the Work Plan and to change the title to 2017 Work Plan.

Motion passed: Ayes: Chair Coonerty Protti, Vice Chair Singleton; Commissioners Davis, Farrell, Hamilton, and Prindle. Noes: None. Absent: Commissioner Cube. Disqualified: None.

**Information Items**           None.

### **Written Material**

7. *Crime Statistics for November 2016\**

8. *Crime Statistics for December 2016\**

9. *Ranger Statistics for November 2016\**

10. *Ranger Statistics for December 2016\**

\* Written material

### **Subcommittee/Advisory Body Oral Reports**

Commissioner Work Plan Updates

Ad-Hoc Committees:

Garage Financing – Singleton

Traffic and Transportation Issues - Davis

Bike Lockers - Farrell

### **Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas**

Update on EDA Parking Study - March

### **Adjournment    10:24am**

The Downtown Commission will adjourn from the January 26, 2017 regular meeting to the next scheduled meeting on March 23, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Note: There might be a special meeting in February 2017 regarding the EDA (Economic Development Agency) Parking Study Report

Commissioner Davis moved, seconded by Commissioner Farrell to adjourn.

Motion passed: Ayes: Chair Coonerty Protti, Vice Chair Singleton; Commissioners Davis, Farrell, Hamilton, and Prindle. Noes: None. Absent: Commissioner Cube. Disqualified: None.