

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT STUDY SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**January 14, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor at 4:32 p.m. at the Emergency Operation Center (EOC), Civic Center, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Righeimer, Mayor Pro Tem Mensinger, Council Member Monahan, Council Member Genis, Council Member Leece, Commissioner McCarthy, Commissioner Matthews, Commissioner Sesler, Vice Chair Dickson, and Chair Fitzpatrick.

Absent: None

Officials Present: Chief Executive Officer Thomas R. Hatch, City Attorney Thomas Duarte, Assistant CEO Rick Francis, Economic and Development Services Director Gary Armstrong, Public Services Director Ernesto Munoz, Senior Planner Minoo Ashabi, and City Clerk Brenda Green.

**GENERAL PLAN UPDATE – VISIONING STATEMENTS**

Presentation provided by Lisa Brownfield from MIG. (00:01:15)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (00:11:10)**

Tamar Goldmann, Costa Mesa, spoke on public input; an article on home tax evaluations; and preserving homes. (00:11:15)

Cynthia McDonald, Costa Mesa, spoke on the General Plan; traffic mobility; open space; affordable housing; and public input. (00:13:27)

Jay Humphrey, Costa Mesa, spoke on the quality of life in Costa Mesa. (00:15:55)

Scott Gale, Costa Mesa, spoke on smart growth. (00:18:17)

Anna Vrska, Costa Mesa, spoke on the vision for land use and mobility statement; infrastructure; housing ratios; open spaces; and density. (00:21:06)

Mike Balsamo, Building Industry Association, thanked the City for including them in the process; spoke on housing and building related issues. (00:23:00)

**COUNCIL AND COMMISSION COMMENTS (00:24:50)**

Council Member Monahan addressed comments from the public; spoke on traffic and roadways, and a cultural plan. (00:24:55)

Council Member Leece thanked staff for the opportunity of engaging the public in the workshops; spoke on infrastructure; asked for Council comments be provided to Planning Commission; spoke on visitors in Costa Mesa; education; lifelong learning; public safety; preserving a small town character; including the word eclectic; responsive government services; and including the Harbor Boulevard auto area. (00:26:28)

Council Member Genis spoke on the cultural plan; infrastructure; and transportation improvements. (00:33:09)

Mayor Pro Tem Mensinger spoke on traffic; schools; education; preservation of historical assets; and community amenities to attract families. (00:37:50)

Mayor Righeimer spoke on addressing the traffic issues in the City; pedestrian bike activity, and including the word walkability. (00:40:34)

Commissioner Mathews spoke on developments; open space and parks; and thanked all residents and city staff that put the Vision Statement together. (00:45:40)

Commissioner McCarthy recommended strengthening words to be more positive; spoke on prioritizing items; and thanked staff and the public. (00:46:19)

Commissioner Dickson spoke on public involvement; bike paths; balancing the reality with our goals; promoting bikeability and walkability; spoke on traffic; Harbor Boulevard economic plan; and thanked the residents. (00:47:38)

Commissioner Fitzpatrick spoke on the economic development plan. (00:52:00)

Council Member Monahan stated that we need to follow through with the plans for development in different areas in the City. (00:53:40)

Council Member Genis spoke on the overall structure of the General Plan. (00:54:35)

Council Member Leece spoke on Vision Statements from other cities; and having the information that represents the city. (00:56:32)

Director of Economic Development Services Gary Armstrong spoke on upcoming workshops; housing elements and optional elements. (00:58:20)

City Council and Commission directed staff on desired concepts and wording of the Vision statements.

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS**

Mayor Righeimer adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m. (01:01:00)

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James M. Righeimer, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Brenda Green, City Clerk