

**PARAMOUNT PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MARCH 14, 2022**

City of Paramount, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Gordon Weisenburger, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, California.

**ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS**      Present:      Commissioner Elizabeth Bautista  
   Commissioner Ernie Esparza  
   Vice Chair (VACANT)  
   Chair Gordon Weisenburger

Absent:      Commissioner Jaime Abrego – Due to Recusal

**STAFF PRESENT:**      John Cavanaugh, City Attorney  
   John Carver, Planning Director  
   John King, Assistant Planning Director  
   Johnnie Rightmer, Building and Safety Manager  
   Ivan Reyes, Associate Planner  
   Valerie Zaragoza, Administrative Assistant

It was moved by Chair Weisenburger, seconded by Commissioner Esparza, to excuse Commissioner Abrego from the Planning Commission meeting.

The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:**      Commissioners Bautista and Esparza,  
   Chair Weisenburger  
**NOES:**      None  
**ABSENT:**      Commissioner Abrego – Due to Recusal  
**ABSTAIN:**      None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were none.

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1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**      Chair Weisenburger presented the Planning Commission minutes of March 2, 2022 for approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Bautista, seconded by Commissioner Esparza, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Board Members Bautista and Esparza, Chair Weisenburger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Abrego – Due to Recusal  
ABSTAIN: None

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**OLD BUSINESS**

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**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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2. ALTAIR  
PARAMOUNT, LLC.  
14700 DOWNEY  
AVENUE

a) RESOLUTION NO.  
PC 22:012

Chair Weisenburger presented the item, recommending approval to the City Council of amended Conditional Use Permit No. 757 and to certify the Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), related to the AltAir Paramount, LLC Refinery conversion project at 14700 Downey Avenue in the M-2 (Heavy Manufacturing) zone.

Planning Director John Carver introduced consultants Luis Perez and Greg Chittick from MRS Environmental Inc. who presented the Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), related to the AltAir Paramount, LLC Refinery conversion project.

Chair Weisenburger opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the request.

Richard Castle, Herb Escobedo, Mike Kufchak, Ray Lawson, Omar Arteaga, Nicolas Garcia, William Troy Loveland, Rafael Pimentel, Steven Donahue, Anthony Campos-Valles, Alfredo Banuelos, Jonathan Grijalva, and Samuel Solinsky spoke in favor of the request.

There being no one else present wishing to speak in favor of the request, Chair Weisenburger asked if there was anyone who wished to speak in opposition to the request.

Sonia De Leon, and Jose De Leon spoke in opposition to the request.

At the conclusion of all public comments, it was moved by Commissioner Esparza, seconded by Commissioner Bautista, to close the public hearing. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioners Bautista and Esparza, Chair Weisenburger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Abrego – Due to Recusal  
ABSTAIN: None

There was further discussion between the Planning Commission and staff.

Commissioner Bautista asked additional questions about air quality, noise, and traffic which were answered by Greg Chittick, consultant for MRS Environmental Inc.

Commissioner Bautista made a motion to continue the item for review in one month's time.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

It was moved by Commissioner Esparza, seconded by Chair Weisenburger to read by title only and adopt Planning Commission Resolution No. PC 22:012, approving the request. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioners Bautista and Esparza, Chair Weisenburger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Abrego – Due to Recusal  
ABSTAIN: None

b) RESOLUTION NO.  
PC 22:011

Chair Weisenburger presented the item, recommending that the City Council approve Zone Variance No. 409, a request by AltAir Paramount, LLC for a variance to exceed the 55-foot height limit to allow the installation of various pieces of equipment related to the AltAir Paramount, LLC refinery conversion project at 14700 Downey Avenue in the M-2 (Heavy Manufacturing) zone.

Planning Director John Carver presented an overview of the request.

Chair Weisenburger opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the request.

There being no one present wishing to speak in favor of the request, Chair Weisenburger asked if there was anyone who wished to speak in opposition to the request.

Seeing no one present wishing to speak in opposition to the request, it was moved by Commissioner Esparza, seconded by Commissioner Bautista, to close the public hearing. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioners Bautista and Esparza, Chair Weisenburger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Abrego – Due to Recusal  
ABSTAIN: None

It was moved by Commissioner Esparza, seconded by Chair Weisenburger, to read by title only and adopt Planning Commission Resolution No. PC 22:011, with the changes in the errata revisions, approving the request. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioners Bautista and Esparza, Chair Weisenburger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Abrego – Due to Recusal  
ABSTAIN: None

3. COMMENTS FROM  
CITY ATTORNEY,  
COMMISSIONERS  
AND STAFF

Commissioner Esparza wished good luck with the project to AltAir LLC and everyone that was present.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Weisenburger at 7:14 p.m. to a Planning Commission meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at City Hall Council Chambers, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, California at 6:00 p.m.

*/s/ Gordon Weisenburger*  
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Gordon Weisenburger, Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ *Valerie Zaragoza*

Valerie Zaragoza, Administrative Assistant

APPROVED: April 12, 2022