

**CITY OF TAFT  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2008**

The September 9, 2008, regular meeting of the Taft City Planning Commission, held in the Civic Center Council Chamber, 209 E. Kern Street, Taft, California, was called to order at [6:28:43 PM](#). Commissioner Walchock led the Pledge of Allegiance and Bill LaBarron of First Congregational Church gave the invocation.

PRESENT: Chairman Barry Jameson, Vice Chairman Curtis Walchock.  
Planning Commissioners Craig Laurin, Shawn Sutherland and Robert Thompson.  
Redevelopment Manager Paul Gorte, Assistant Planner Eddie Quintero,  
City Attorney Kathy Gibson and Acting Secretary Alina Megerdom.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. **VARIANCE NO. 08-01 LOCATED AT 104 AND 106 LUCARD STREET, NORTHWEST CORNER OF LUCARD AND 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET  
Christina Y. C. Payne, applicant [6:30:05 PM](#)**

Bill LaBarron commented that this has been an eye sore for over 50 years. This project will be a wonderful addition to that area.

Wade Owen stated that if they don't build this, that street will not be improved. We need improvements in this town.

Motion: Moved by Laurin, seconded by Sutherland, to adopt a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING VARIANCE NO. 08-01, SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL.  
(*Resolution No. 2008-13*)

All the Commissioners agreed that it will be a great improvement for the area and there was not much that could be done with the lot size.

Attorney Gibson stated that this is an excellent example of good variance and she would be in favor of approving the variance.

AYES: Laurin, Sutherland, Thompson, Walchock, Jameson

2. **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION 08-02 LOCATED AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF HIGHWAY 33 AND E. CENTER STREET  
Al Patel, Shrinathji, LLC, applicant [6:37:34 PM](#)**

Motion: Moved by Sutherland, seconded by Walchock to continue public hearing to September 30, 2008.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were none.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

August 12, 2008 Regular Meeting  
August 26, 2008 Special Meeting

Motion: Moved by Walchock, seconded by Sutherland and approved unanimously, to approve the minutes.

**MANAGEMENT REPORTS 6:40:30 PM**

- 1. LOT MERGER 08-03 LOCATED AT 219 AND 221 LUCARD STREET, BETWEEN 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET  
Kevin L. and Melissa L. Payne, applicants**

Motion: Moved by Laurin, seconded by Thompson, to approve Lot Merger 08-03.

AYES: Laurin, Thompson, Walchock, Sutherland, Jameson

**PLANNING DIRECTOR STATEMENTS**

Mr. Gorte stated that he is looking forward to the September 30<sup>th</sup> workshop on California Planning and the continued public hearing on Mitigated Negative Declaration 08-02.

Mr. Quintero stated that there would be a meeting on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 PM at Board of Supervisors Chamber to discuss amending influential buffer zone of the Taft Kern County Airport from the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and anyone could attend.

**CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS**

There were none.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Walchock stated that he received a notice for the Traffic Committee meeting which would be held on September 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM at City Hall. He also stated that he attended the last Council Meeting and there were no Planning Commission reports on the Agenda.

Commissioner Thompson volunteered to attend the next Council Meeting to report on behalf of the Planning Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Moved by Walchock, seconded by Laurin and unanimously approved, to adjourn the meeting at **6:48:44 PM.**