

RECEIVED ON: August 30, 2022

From: [Linda de Vries](#)
To: [WebMail - CCD](#)
Subject: Agenda item for August 30, 2022 Special Meeting
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Mayor Vinatieri, Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez, and City Council,

As former Vice Chair of the Historic Resources Commission, I studied the development last year of the GPU and DEIR, now the General Plan and the FEIR (PEIR).

Even though a majority of the commission approved the Plan suggestions written by the special sub-committee of Karen Bennett and myself, I still regret that staff refused to allow the HRC to hold a public meeting to discuss changes to the General Plan.

I understand that it arises from a Program EIR that allows the Council great latitude in amending the zoning and subdivision codes and amendments to specific plans, and in determining the degree of Environmental Impact analysis future projects will need.

I am deeply concerned, however, that the intensive EIR required to support a Program EIR is woefully inadequate, both in the GPU and PEIR themselves, and again with these two projects—the development of The Comstock and the amendments to the Uptown Specific Plan.

No matter what the staff report says, when more than one council member says they did not understand that the amendments go beyond this project and apply to the entire redefined USP area, there has not been sufficient review to approve plan or amendments

I am concerned that the faux opposition between HRC and staff-council resulted in virtually complete omission of any review of historic resources, most of which are in the USP area. The Environmental study in the DEIR and PEIR is insufficient, even for a Program EIR.

I am deeply concerned that the proposed amendments WORSEN the environment, already inadequate, in air, noise, greenhouse gas emissions, transportation and parking, parking being the most contiguous issue in Whittier right now.

Lastly, THIS IS NOT THE PEOPLE'S PLAN. I have placed side by side the Guiding Principles defined by the People in 2018 and the Mayor-Council version morph into its final form as Project Objectives in 2021. Throughout this change, the People had minimal formal input.

I urge you to either reject tonight's Resolution or split it and continue the discussion of USP Amendments.

Sincerely,
Linda de Vries, AB, MFA, PhD

Sent from my iPhone