

## June 23 2025, GPUSC Item IV.a Comments

These comments on an item on the Newport Beach [General Plan Update Steering Committee](#) agenda are submitted by: Jim Mosher ( [jimmosher@yahoo.com](mailto:jimmosher@yahoo.com) ), 2210 Private Road, Newport Beach 92660 (949-548-6229)

Note: the [agenda](#) asks for written comments regarding the items listed on it to be submitted to [GPupdate@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:GPupdate@newportbeachca.gov) “no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday.” That directive is a bit difficult to meet, given that the agenda was distributed on Thursday and the meeting is on Monday (with no Wednesday between them), but I am doing the best I can.

### Item IV.a. Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2024

The passages shown in *italics* below are from the [draft minutes](#) with suggested corrections shown in ~~strikeout~~ underline format.

**Page 1 of 4**, Item III: “Nancy Scarbrough, a member of the ~~public~~ **GPAC**, noted a lawsuit against the City alleging the inaccuracy of the Noise Element and was concerned how the inaccuracies would impact the Housing Element and General Plan. In reply, Planning Manager Zdeba was not prepared to comment and agreed to return with more information at the next General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) meeting.”

**Comment:** The [video](#) confirms this is an accurate description of comments that seem to have referred to a [complaint](#) linked to from a Voice of OC [article](#) posted two days earlier. As with so many things I forget, I had completely forgotten these comments made more than six months ago, but I do not recall the promised follow-up having happened regarding the alleged inaccuracy of the Noise Element.

**Page 2 of 4**, first full paragraph: “Planning Manager Zdeba utilized a presentation to recap four workshops in November and December. Chair Gardner noted the attendance at each workshop, and most people who attended the last workshop focused on the Harbor and Bay Element, ~~but~~ stayed to share their perspective on land use matters.”

**Page 2 of 4**, second full paragraph: “Susan DeSantis, a member of the ~~public~~ **GPAC**, commended staff and the consultants for incorporating maps during the Land Use workshop and thought ~~participation attendance~~ would have been greater if the members of the GPAC had ~~engaged their members to respond~~ done more to notify others in ways they would respond to.”

**Comment:** The last part of the comment was about improving attendance, but as drafted it sounds as if it was about GPAC members doing too little at the workshops to elicit responses from attendees or possibly from other GPAC members. In the [video](#), Susan refers to GPAC members needing to get word out to “their members.” That could have been intended as a reference to the members of the non-City organizations that some GPAC members were appointed as representatives from, or it could have been a slip of the tongue, intended, instead, to refer to the GPAC members’ circles of acquaintances (the “others” referred to in the suggested revision).

**Page 2 of 4**, Item d, paragraph 2, last sentence: “Chair Gardner thought the GPAC’s work would ~~not~~ be ~~meeting-for-another completed in less than a~~ year.” [Comment: As drafted, the minutes suggest Chair Gardner thought there would be no GPAC meetings for a year or more.]

**Page 2 of 4**, Item d, paragraph 4: “Chuck Fancher, a member of the public, inquired if it would be appropriate for the co-chairs of the GPAC to encourage GPAC members to attend the council meeting to educate and encourage the City Council to stop the action.”

**Page 2 of 4**, Item e, paragraph 3: “Elizabeth Dickson of Dudek continued the presentation to recap the required topics that must be addressed in the General Plan structure and format, flexibility in how the elements ~~is-are~~ addressed, required elements, adopted General Plan, and proposed elements, and who uses the General Plan and how.”

**Page 3 of 4**, paragraph 2: “In response to Committee Member Brown’s questions, Planning Manager Zdeba stated that the implementation plan program example ~~includes-continues to include~~ specific actions ~~with-no but adds~~ priority~~-timeline~~, ~~and~~-accountability and time horizon – features missing in the existing program.”

**Page 3 of 4**, paragraph 10, sentence 1: “Mr. Mosher questioned how the Housing Element will be streamlined and made more compact, how the goals with the respective policy within the elements will be clearly structured and expressed concern for an electronic format.”