

## MINUTES

### BIRMINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION

The Birmingham Planning Commission convened via WebEx on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 8:39 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Michael Morrison, Vice-Chairman Dr. Nyesha Black, Chairman Pro-Tem Haley Colson-Lewis, Patty Pilkerton, L'Tryce Slade, Mashonda Taylor, Brian Gunn, Dr. Victoria Hollis, Councilor Valerie Abbott (Dr. Darryl Lee), and Michael Eddington

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ronald Crenshaw and Kevin Moore

**STAFF PRESENT:** Tim Gambrel, Michael Ward, Heather Garrison, Donald Wilborn, Jason Hjetland, and Kim Speorl

#### I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morrison. Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee and the agenda was approved unanimously.

#### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 3, 2021 AND MAY 5, 2021

Commissioner Lee made a motion to approve the minutes from the Commission's February 3, 2021 and May 5, 2021 meetings. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Taylor and the minutes from both meetings were approved unanimously.

#### III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No Director's report.

**IV. SUBJECT:** A request for the approval of the Division "G" Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

**APPLICANT:** Tracey Hayes, Natural Hazards Administrator, City of Birmingham

**PREMISES:** The Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) Division "G" Counties: Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, Jefferson, Randolph, St. Clair, Talladega, and eligible local jurisdictions.

Principal Planner, Michael Ward, gave a brief introduction of the case. Mr. Ward said the Birmingham City Council is ultimately required to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan in this case so the Commission is asked to recommend that the City Council adopt the Plan. He stated that the Hazard Mitigation Plan fulfills the requirements set forth by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

Mr. Ward mentioned that the Division “G” Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan contains the scope of the plan, the regional profile, the planning process, the risk assessment, the mitigation action plans of five counties and 60 municipalities (including the City of Birmingham), and the plan maintenance process. He also mentioned that the Plan addresses all natural hazards deemed to threaten people and property within the Division “G” area. He added that the Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the Division “G” area.

Tracey Hayes, Natural Hazards Administrator with the City of Birmingham, addressed the Planning Commission. Ms. Hayes said prior to this plan, there was the Jefferson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan that was approved by the Birmingham City Council in 2016. She added that the Division “G” Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan will replace the Jefferson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Ms. Hayes stated that the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires Hazard Mitigation Plans to be updated every five years. She also stated that the City of Birmingham needs to adopt the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan so the City can be eligible to apply for federal mitigation grants.

Commissioner Slade asked if there was coordination with the City’s Police Department and the Fire Department on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Jim Coker, Director of the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency, addressed the Planning Commission. Mr. Coker said absolutely. He added that public safety representatives from every jurisdiction were consulted in the development of the Plan.

Chairman Morrison stated that it is his understanding from Planning staff that there isn’t anything in the Hazard Mitigation Plan that’s in conflict with the City’s Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Ward said that is correct.

With no additional questions or comments, Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the Division “G” Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee and the roll call vote was as follows:

AYE (9): Morrison, Colson-Lewis, Pilkerton, Slade, Taylor, Gunn, Hollis, Lee, and Eddington

NAY (0):

ABSTAIN (1): Black

The following resolution was approved:

**WHEREAS**, The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, (DMA 2000) as administered by the Alabama Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides Federal assistance to local governments to alleviate suffering and damage from disasters, and broadens existing relief programs to encourage disaster preparedness plans and programs, coordination and responsiveness, insurance coverage, and hazard mitigation measures; and,

**WHEREAS**, as a prerequisite for Alabama Division “G” counties to continue to qualify for FEMA mitigation grant assistance programs, the DMA 2000 requires the plan to be updated every five years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division “G” Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan has been updated in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R 201.6; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division “G” Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan will replace the previously adopted Jefferson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan which was previously adopted by City Council on March 1, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2021 Division “G” Multi- Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the City of Birmingham from impacts of future hazards and disasters; and,

**WHEREAS**, said mitigation plan addresses all natural hazards deemed to threaten property and persons within the unincorporated and incorporated areas of Jefferson County including the City of Birmingham; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Birmingham participated in updating, the Division “G” Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Birmingham is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and actions in the plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Birmingham Planning Commission understands that the adoption of this plan determines the eligibility for Local, State and Federal grant funding that could become available before, during or after a disaster occurs within the City of Birmingham; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Birmingham Planning Commission that said Planning Commission hereby **RECOMMENDS** to the Council of the City of Birmingham that the Division “G” Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan be adopted as set forth in the document entitled “Division G Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan—A Hazard Mitigation Plan for AEMA Division G Counties: Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, Jefferson, Randolph, St. Clair, Talladega, and Eligible Local Jurisdictions”.

**VI. Other Business and Communications**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 a.m.