MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SHAFTER GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (GPAC)
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 336 PACIFIC AVENUE
MEETING HELD IN-PERSON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: COLIN DRUKKER

ROLL CALL:
PRESENT(In-Person): Mayor Chad Givens, Mayor Pro Tem Gustavo Olvera Jr., Marco Avendano, Allen DeWitt, Elena Espinoza, Jed Hwang, Phillip Jimenez, Lynnda Martin, Gary Nelson, Rosa Romero, Brandon Slater, Brett Sills, Commissioner John Sanchez, Nelson Salinas.
Also Present: Planning Director Esselman, Senior Planner Cazares, Community Engagement Manager Zermeno, PlaceWorks Consultant Colin Drukker, PlaceWorks Consultant Halley Grundy, PlaceWorks Consultant Maria Ceja.

1. INTRODUCTIONS
GPAC members introduced themselves and shared why they decided to be part of the General Plan Advisory Committee.

2. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR
a. PlaceWorks Consultant Colin Drukker opened the nominations for Chair.

MOVED (GIVENS) AND SECONDED (NELSON) THE NOMINATION OF LYNNDA MARTIN AS CHAIR. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:	*GIVENS, OLVERA, AVENDANO, DEWITT, ESPINOZA, HWANG, JIMENEZ, NELSON, ROMERO, SLATER, SILLS, SANCHEZ, SALINAS.*
NAYS:	*NONE.*
ABSENT:	*HUDSON.*
ABSTENTIONS:	*MARTIN.*

Member Martin was appointed as Chair for the General Plan Advisory Committee.

b. Chair Martin opened the nominations for Vice-chair.

MOVED (MARTIN) AND SECONDED (JIMENEZ) THE NOMINATION OF GARY NELSON AS VICE-CHAIR. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:	*GIVENS, OLVERA, AVENDANO, DEWITT, ESPINOZA, HWANG, JIMENEZ, MARTIN, ROMERO, SLATER, SILLS, SANCHEZ, SALINAS .*
NAYS:	*NONE.*
ABSENT:	*HUDSON.*
ABSTENTIONS:	*NELSON.*

Member Nelson was appointed as Vice-Chair for the General Plan Advisory Committee.

3. GPAC OVERVIEW

a. PlaceWorks Consultant Colin Drukker provided an overview of GPAC membership, including: GPAC roles and responsibilities, code of conduct, rules and procedures, the Brown Act.

4. GENERAL PLAN INTRODUCTION

a. PlaceWorks Consultant Colin Drukker provided an overview of what a general plan is, how it relates to other city planning documents, why the City is undertaking a general plan update, the scope of the general plan update including establishing a long-range vision, addressing new issues and opportunities since the last update in 2005, planning for growth and development, and aligning with state laws, the geographic limits of the planning areas, and the required topics that a general plan must address.
b. PlaceWorks Consultant Halley Grundy reviewed the priorities and policy direction within the current general plan by required topic, and referenced potential optional topics that may be addressed in the General Plan Update.

5. PROJECT SCHEDULE

a. PlaceWorks Consultant Halley Grundy reviewed the project schedule for the General Plan Update and estimates for when the upcoming GPAC meetings will take place.

6. GROUP DISCUSSION AND ACTIVITY

a. PlaceWorks Consultant Colin Drukker provided an overview of what will be required to address new state laws and led a discussion about the scope of the general plan update and current priorities. GPAC members were asked to share 3-5 things they would like to see protected and preserved in Shafter and 3-5 things they would like to see changed in the City. These items were discussed as a large group while PlaceWorks Consultants Halley Grundy and Maria Ceja documented the ideas discussed by category on large note pages visible to the GPAC.

7. NEXT STEPS

a. PlaceWorks Consultant Colin Drukker reviewed immediate next steps for the project and shared that the next GPAC meeting will be held in Spring 2025, date TBD.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS WERE MADE

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

THE GPAC REQUESTED THAT THE PROJECT TEAM SHARE LINKS TO THE CURRENT GENERAL PLAN AND OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS DISCUSSED DURING THE MEETING IN A CONSOLIDATED LOCATION.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (JIMENEZ) AND SECONDED (HWANG) COMMISSIONERS ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:15 PM. MOTION CARRIED WITH NO OPPOSITION.

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Lynnda Martin, Chair

ATTEST:

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Yazmina Pallares, City Clerk