

GRAND JUNCTION PLANNING COMMISSION

January 13, 2026, 5:30 PM

MINUTES

The meeting of the Planning Commission was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Chair Sandra Weckerly.

Those present were Planning Commissioners; Orin Zyvan, Robert Quintero, Ian Moore, and Keith Ehlers.

Also present were Jamie Beard (Assistant City Attorney), Tamra Allen (Community Development Director), Thomas Lloyd (Planning Manager), Jessica Johnsen (Zoning Supervisor), Daniella Acosta Stine (Principal Planner), Tim Lehrbach (Principal Planner), Jacob Kaplan (Planning Technician), and Madeline Robinson (Planning Technician).

There were 11 members of the public in attendance, and 5 virtually.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) from December 23, 2025.

2. Lowell Village Phase 2 Subdivision Extension

SUB-2019-687

Consider a request by Jeremy Nelson of Grand Junction ReGeneration LLC (owner) – to extend the plat recording deadline for the Lowell Village Phase 2 Subdivision, 32 lots on 1.63 acres in an MU-3 (Mixed Use Downtown) zone district.

3. Aspire Residential Easement Vacation

VAC-2025-61

Consider a request to partially vacate a Drainage Canal Easement and Easement for Pipeline for the City of Grand Junction located at 2651 Stacy Drive on a 7.10-acre parcel in an RH-24 district to accommodate the construction of three, three-story, 24-unit apartment buildings - **This item to be moved to the January 27th, 2026, Planning Commission Hearing**

Commissioner Quintero moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Moore seconded; motion passed 5-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Fox Grove Subdivision Annexation

ANX-2025-421

Consider a request by Grand Junction Real Estate Investments, LLC to zone 4.88 acres located at 3071 E 1/2 Road from Mesa County Residential Single Family - 4 District (RSF-4) to Residential Medium 8 (RM-8) located at 3071 E 1/2 Road.

Staff Presentation

Daniella Acosta Stine, Principal Planner, introduced exhibits into the record and provided a presentation regarding the request.

Questions for Staff

Commissioner Weckerly clarified that the additional exhibit being added to the record was a revision to Exhibit 6 regarding the acreage of the parcel.

Public Hearing

The public comment period was opened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, via www.gjcity.org.

There were no comments from the public either in attendance or online.

The public hearing was closed at 5:44 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Discussion

Motion and Vote

Commissioner Zyvan made the following motion “Madam Chair, on the Zone of Annexation request for the property located at 3071 E 1/2 Road, I move that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation of approval to City Council with the finding of fact as listed in the staff report.”

Commissioner Quintero seconded; motion passed 5-0.

2. Lucky Me Center Rezone **RZN-2025-293**

Consider a request by Lucky Me Premises LLC, Property Owner, to rezone a total of 3.60 acres from MU-1 (Mixed-Use Neighborhood) and RM-12 (Residential Medium 12) to MU-2 (Mixed -Use Light Commercial), located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Patterson Road and 29 Road.

Staff Presentation

Thomas Lloyd, Planning Manager, introduced exhibits into the record and provided a presentation regarding the request.

Questions for Staff

Commissioner Zyvan asked why the application was being considered as one item given the various zoning of the parcels being rezoned.

Chair Weckerly indicated there was a typo with the public notice and the wrong zoning was provided (a parcel presently zoned RM-8, not RM-12). Staff offered that since the typo was for the previous zoning and what was indicated was a higher density zone, it was not an issue, the City Attorney advised that the Planning Commission as the decision maker could determine if the notice was sufficient. It was clear in the notice that the request was to change to MU-2. The Planning Commission was comfortable that the notice was sufficient.

Kim Kerk with Kim Kerk Land Consulting & Development spoke on behalf of the applicant and provided a brief summary of the project.

Public Hearing

The public comment period was opened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, via www.gjcity.org.

There were no comments from the public either in attendance or online.

The public comment period was closed at 6:01 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Commissioner Moore read an email exchange between Gregg Palmer and Trent Prall about the adjacent intersection at 29 Rd and Patterson Rd.

The public hearing was closed at 6:04 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Discussion

There was no additional discussion among the Commissioners.

Motion and Vote

Commissioner Quintero made the following motion “Madam Chair, on the Rezone request for the property located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Patterson Road and 29 Road, City file number RZN-2025-293, I move that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation of approval to City Council with the findings of fact as listed in the staff report.”

Commissioner Ehlers seconded; motion passed 5-0.

3. Morelli Annexation **ANX-2025-192**

Consider a request by the Morelli Family Trust, U/A dated October 21, 2022, and Carla Morelli-Saurdiff to zone 2.56 acres from Mesa County Residential Single Family – 4 (RSF-4) to Mixed-Use Light Commercial (MU-2), Located Between 3105 E ½ Road and 3112 I-70B – Parcel No. 2943-103-00-101.

Staff Presentation

Tim Lehrbach, Principal Planner, introduced exhibits into the record and provided a presentation regarding the request.

Questions for Staff

There were no questions for staff.

Public Hearing

The public comment period was opened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, via www.gjcity.org.

There were no comments from the public either in attendance or online.

The public hearing was closed at 6:09 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Discussion

There was no additional discussion among the Commissioners.

Motion and Vote

Commissioner Quintero made the following motion “Madam Chair, on the Zone of Annexation request for the property located 3015 E ½ Road and 3112 I-70B, Parcel No. 2943-103-00-101, I move that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation of approval to City Council with the finding of fact as listed in the staff report.”

Commissioner Zyvan seconded; motion passed 5-0.

4. C ½ Road Gravel Pit CUP Extension **CUP-2021-616**

Consider a request to extend Planning Commission’s conditional approval from August 22, 2023, of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to Allow Sand and Gravel Extraction on a Total of 27.8 acres in a Public, Civic, and Institutional Campus (P-2) Zone District Located at 2855 C 1/2 Road.

Staff Presentation

Jessica Johnsen, Zoning Supervisor, introduced exhibits into the record and provided a presentation regarding the request. She provided context for an additional exhibit that was submitted by the State of Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife regarding the Riverfront Trail on the South side of the parcel.

Questions for Staff

Commissioner Quintero asked when the CUP was originally issued.

Mark Austin, with Austin Civil Group, spoke on behalf of the Applicant and provided some context for the extension request.

Public Hearing

The public comment period was opened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, via www.gjcity.org.

There were no comments from the public either in attendance or online.

The public comment period was closed at 6:23 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

There were no additional questions or comments for Staff or the Applicant.

The public hearing was closed at 6:23 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Discussion

Commissioner Ehlers commented that the late additions by the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife were refining the original approval.

Commissioners Zyvan and Quintero echoed Commissioner Ehlers comments.

Motion and Vote

Commissioner Quintero made the following motion “Madam Chair, on the C ½ Road Gravel Pit to establish a Conditional Use Permit for a mining excavation operation, file number CUP-2021-616, I move that the Planning Commission approve the CUP with the findings of fact and conditions listed in the staff report.”

Commissioner Ehlers seconded; motion passed 5-0.

5. Camelback Gardens ODP PLD-2023-121

Consider a request by Camelback Gardens, LLC and Upland Homes, Inc for Review and Approval of a Planned Development (PD) Outline Development Plan (ODP) for the Camelback Gardens Development Proposed on a Total 10.29 Acres Located at 381 and 409 High Desert Road - **This item was moved to the January 27th, 2026, Planning Commission Hearing.**

6. Zoning Code Amendments – Quarter 1 2026 ZCA-2025-753

Consider a request by the City of Grand Junction to amend Sections of the Zoning and Development Code and 24 Road Corridor Design Standards (Title 21 and Title 25 of the Grand Junction Municipal Code) regarding Planned Development, Mixed-Use Downtown District Specific Standards, Short-Term Rentals, Accessory Uses and Structures, Shared Driveways, ROW Dedication, Multi-Unit Design Standards, Access to Public Streets, Open and Undeveloped Spaces, and Service and Storage Areas in the 24 Road Corridor.

Staff Presentation

Tim Lehrbach, Principal Planner, introduced exhibits into the record and provided a presentation regarding the request.

Questions for Staff

Commissioner Quintero asked about the nature of the requested code amendments and if the ultimate goal was just “cleaning up” the existing code language.

Commissioner Ehlers inquired about the proposed shared driveway amendments, including fire code standards, maximum driveway width, the requirements for HOA tract dedication rather than easements, and whether that requirement would necessitate the creation of an HOA.

Chair Weckerly asked if this change would be applied retroactively to parcels that are already accessed off a shared driveway.

There was additional discussion about the necessity of the amendments regarding property ownership and shared access on shared driveways, and their relation to HOA creation.

Commissioner Moore asked why this amendment was proposed and if staff had an example for the necessity of this change regarding property ownership and shared access on shared driveways. Commissioner Ehlers continued this question and its relation to HOA creation.

There was additional discussion about the necessity of the amendments regarding property ownership and shared access on shared driveways, and their relation to HOA creation.

Commissioner Ehlers asked for clarity about the strikethroughs for storm drainage, retention, and detention ponds in GJMC 21.09.060(b)(3) and why the proposal did not reference the Storm Water Management Manual (SWMM).

Chair Weckerly asked why the stormwater detention facilities were required to be planted.

There was discussion about continuing the amendments to stormwater facilities to a future hearing.

Public Hearing

The public comment period was opened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, via www.gjcity.org.

Henry Brown commented on the strikethrough to 21.05.050(d)(2)(ii) regarding building access and its relation to Plan Principals 5 and 6 of the Comprehensive Plan.

The public comment period was closed at 7:10 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Staff responded to Mr. Brown's comments and provided context on the code amendments.

The public hearing was closed at 7:11 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Discussion

Commissioner Zyvan asked about ADA code.

Commissioner Moore commented that the access questions posed by Mr. Brown were discussed in previous workshops and the existing language had unforeseen constraints on development whereas the amendments provided additional flexibility.

Motion and Vote

Commissioner Ehlers made a motion the request to amend Title 21 Zoning and Development Code and Title 25 24 Road Corridor Design Standards of the Grand Junction Municipal Code, City file number ZCA-2025-753, I move that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation of approval to City Council with the finding of fact listed in the staff report with the exception that 21.05.020(e)(5)(ii) and 21.09.060 be remanded back to staff for further consideration.

Commissioner Moore seconded; There was discussion amongst the commissioners about Commissioner Ehler's motion.

Commissioner Ehlers withdrew the previous motion.

Commissioner Zyvan made the following motion: “Chair, on the request to amend Title 21 Zoning and Development Code and Title 25 24 Road Corridor Design Standards of the Grand Junction Municipal Code, City file number ZCA-2025-753, I move that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation of approval to City Council with the finding of fact listed in the staff report, remanding back Section 21.09.060(b)(3) referring to storm drainage, retention, and detention ponds for further consideration by staff.”

Commissioner Quintero seconded; motion passed 4-1.

7. Zoning Code Amendments – Bicycle Storage & Parking ZCA-2026-30

Consider a request by the Housing Affordability Code Task Force to Amend Sections of the Zoning and Development Code (Title 21 of the Grand Junction Municipal Code) Regarding Bicycle Storage and Parking. She provided context for an additional exhibit that was submitted by John Gargas, the developer for the Aspire Residential Multiunit development.

Staff Presentation

Daniella Acosta Stine, Principal Planner, introduced exhibits into the record and provided a presentation regarding the request. She provided context for an additional exhibit that was submitted by John Gargas, the developer for the Aspire Residential Multi-unit development.

Questions for Staff

Commissioner Moore asked for clarification on the strikethrough for Subsection 2 of the Staff prepared alternative.

Commissioner Zyvan asked if there was a typo on the measurements in the short-term parking table. He asked what “enclosed” meant in regard to long-term bicycle parking and if it required the parking to be covered.

Members of the Housing Affordability Code Task Force (HACTF) provided some context for the request.

Commissioner Ehlers asked the applicant to summarize what was being requested by the HACTF.

Chair Weckerly noted that there were two prepared motions, and that either could be modified if the Commission so chose.

There was additional discussion regarding the long-term bicycle parking and its impact on housing affordability.

Public Hearing

The public comment period was opened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, via www.gjcity.org.

David Lehman commented that the HACTF has failed to show how reduced costs for builders would make housing more affordable and agreed with Staff's findings that the request did not meet the goals of the Comprehensive Plan.

Henry Brown noted that HACTF presented no concrete metrics or figures for the cost of long-term bicycle parking and spoke about the difference in maintenance costs related to cars vs. bicycles. He commented that the current utilization of the bike parking at the "Slate on 25 Road" was impressive given the state of the surrounding cycle infrastructure.

Mark Austin with the HACTF provided context on the differing costs of long-term bike parking that he had stated earlier.

Mike Foster with the HACTF agreed with Mr. Brown's comments on existing cycle infrastructure but argued that the parking should be added as needed once the infrastructure was in place.

McKenzie Thorn with the HACTF asked what else they would put in the bike storage and commented that the current bike storage was not used, but if it was used for something else in the future it could be a safety issue.

The public comment period was closed at 8:41 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Commissioner Moore asked if the \$4800 amount that was provided was for individual lockers at the Community Recreation Center.

Staff noted that the Zoning code does not give specific amounts required for bicycle storage, only that it is required. The developer has flexibility as to the design.

The public hearing was closed at 8:43 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Discussion

Commissioner Ehlers reiterated the HACTFs comments that there is low utilization of the long-term bike parking at this time. He noted that the code language on providing bike parking ultimately determines who will pay for it. He disagreed with how bike parking was previously interpreted and implemented.

Motion and Vote

Commissioner Ehlers made a motion to approve Staff's alternative recommendations with the removal of the amendments to long-term bike parking.

Commissioner Quintero seconded; there was discussion about how to proceed with Commissioner Ehler's motion.

Motion failed 3-2.

Commissioner Ehlers made the following motion "Madam Chair, on the request to amend Title 21 of the Zoning and Development Code of the Grand Junction Municipal Code related to bicycle

parking requirements, I move that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation of approval to City Council, based on the findings of fact listed in the staff report.”

Commissioner Zyvan seconded; Commissioner Moore suggested amending the motion to remand the long-term bicycle parking back to staff.

Staff clarified that the amended motion would leave the current code language for long-term bicycle parking.

Motion failed 2-3.

Commissioner Quintero made the following motion “Madam Chair, on the request to amend Title 21 of the Zoning and Development Code of the Grand Junction Municipal Code related to bicycle parking requirements, I move that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation of approval to City Council, based on the findings of fact listed in the staff report with the exception of long-term bicycle storage being reduced to 25% of the currently required ratios outlined in Table 21.08-5.”

There was no second on that motion.

Chair Weckerly indicated that there would be no further discussion or motions for this item.

8. Zoning Code Amendments – Pedestrian Access ZCA-2026-31

Consider a request by the Housing Affordability Code Task Force to amend Sections of the Zoning and Development Code (Title 21 of the Grand Junction Municipal Code) Regarding Pedestrian Access.

Staff Presentation

Thomas Lloyd, Planning Manager, introduced exhibits into the record and provided a presentation regarding the request.

Questions for Staff

Commissioner Moore asked for clarification on the “color and/or texture” requirements for pedestrian connections.

Commissioner Ehlers asked what a “curb extension” looked like in practice.

Commissioner Zyvan had questions on a previous draft of the ordinance. He asked if there was still intention to keep crossings as short as possible and away from vehicle conflicts.

Mike Foster requested that the Commission approve the Staff’s suggested amendments.

Public Hearing

The public comment period was opened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, via www.gjcity.org.

Henry Brown voiced his support for staff's recommendations with the exception of the pedestrian crossing being exempted for industrial uses.

David Lehman echoed Henry's comments and requested the Commission approve Staff's recommendations.

The public hearing was closed at 10:03 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Discussion

There were no additional comments or questions from the Commission.

Motion and Vote

Commissioner Quintero made the following motion "Madam Chair, on the request to amend Title 21 of the Zoning and Development Code of the Grand Junction Municipal Code concerning pedestrian access, I move that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation of approval to City Council, based on the findings of fact listed in the staff report regarding the Staff's alternative recommendations."

Commissioner Ehlers seconded; motion passed 5-0.

9. Zoning Code Amendments – Fee Study Update ZCA-2025-737

Consider a request by the City of Grand Junction to Amend Section 21.02.070(11)(ii) of the Zoning and Development Code regarding Review and Update of the Fee Study.

Staff Presentation

Tamra Allen, Community Development Director, introduced exhibits into the record and provided a presentation regarding the request.

Questions for Staff

There were no questions for Staff.

Public Hearing

The public comment period was opened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, via www.gjcity.org.

There were no comments from the public either in attendance or online.

The public comment period was closed at 10:09 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Commissioner Zyvan asked if there were any guidelines proposed for when fees should be updated.

The public hearing was closed at 10:12 p.m. on January 13, 2026.

Discussion

There were no additional questions or comments from the Commission.

Motion and Vote

Commissioner Quintero made the following motion “Madam Chair, on the request to amend Title 21 Zoning and Development Code of the Grand Junction Municipal Code, City file number ZCA-2025-737, I move that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation of approval to City Council with the findings of fact listed in the staff report.”

Commissioner Zyvan seconded; motion passed 5-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Quintero made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The vote to adjourn was 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:14 p.m.