
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

GOVERNMENTAL CENTER



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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187

June 2, 1998

AGENDA: June 9, 1998

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SUBJECT: On-Line Environmental Impact Reports

Members of the Board:

This item was deferred from your May 5, 1998 agenda to allow the Planning Department to gather information from Environmental Impact Report (EIR) consultants on the estimated charge for providing EIR documents in a Web ready form.

The responses we have received to date show a wide variation in the types of word processing software used, experience with the use of the Internet and, most importantly, in the estimated cost of providing Internet related EIR services.

We inquired about consultants' estimated charge for three elements of this concept: the charge for providing Web ready EIR summaries; the charge for providing web ready versions of entire draft EIRs, and; the estimated charge for providing responses to comments received via the Internet.

Estimates were:

E l e m e n t	Estimated Charges
Web Ready Summary	\$500 - \$8,000
Web Ready Draft EIR	\$3,500 - \$30,000*
Response to Web Generated Comments	\$0 - 40% over regular response charges

*This estimate includes creation of a complete web site

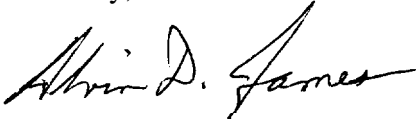
It appears that providing EIR documents on the Internet is still a developing concept in the industry and there is wide variation in the experience available and practices used. In the interim, we recommend the County use its resources to provide basic EIR information via the Internet and to continue to work with EIR consultants as this practice develops.

It is, therefore, RECOMMENDED, that your Board direct the Planning Department to

188

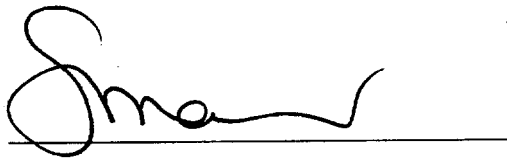
- 1) Provide for placement of EIR Summaries on the County's Internet site and
- 2) Encourage EIR consultants to provide web ready summaries by considering this capacity when awarding EIR contracts.

Sincerely,



Alvin D. James, AICP
Planning Director

RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer