



# County of Santa Cruz

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## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

701 OCEAN STREET, 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

(831) 454-2580 FAX: (831) 454-2131 TDD: (831) 454-2123

ALVIN D. JAMES, DIRECTOR

June 5, 2000

Agenda: June 13, 2000

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

SUBJECT: Report On Planning Department Policy Binder

Members of the Board:

Last December we brought a report to your Board on a project to organize and update the numerous Planning Department policy directives and interpretations that have been issued in recent years. As the agency your Board designated to be responsible for administering the County's complex set of land use regulations, it has been necessary from time to time to prepare written interpretations to clarify the application of the Code to specific situations. Such interpretations have also been needed to resolve ambiguities and inconsistencies in our ordinances and/or policies. It was our goal to have the policy interpretations update completed by June 1, 2000. We were directed to provide your Board with a status report on your May 23 agenda.

As we explained in our May 23 status report, the completion of this project has been delayed due to a variety of factors. Initially, this project was assigned to our Development Review management team, since the majority of the policy interpretations deal with zoning regulations and their application. Unfortunately, as your Board is aware, the Principal Planner for the Development Review Section resigned to accept a position with the City of Richmond. The pressing volume of discretionary applications has made it infeasible to reassign this project to one of the remaining project planners.

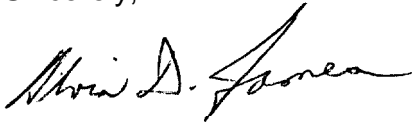
I have reassigned two of the senior staff in our Advanced Planning Section on a half-time basis to the Development Review Section. Both of these individuals, a Principal Planner and a Supervising Planner, have extensive experience in project planning and zoning. They will be a tremendous asset for the planning staff, and will assure continuity in the continued delivery of planning services to the community. Because of their extensive knowledge of the General Plan, Volume II of the County Code, and the Development Review Sections' historical administrative interpretation practices, we are also assigning the policy interpretations binder to these two individuals. This redeployment of our Advanced Planning staff resources is a necessary response to the present staffing situation in our

permit processing programs.

We are in the process of preparing our FY 00-01 Advanced Planning Work Program for your Board's consideration later this summer. It will include time for completion of the policy interpretations binder.

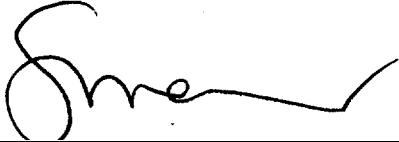
It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board accept and file this report.

Sincerely,



ALVIN D. JAMES  
Planning Director

RECOMMENDED:



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SUSAN A. MAURIELLO  
County Administrative Officer