



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

701 OCEAN STREET - 4TH FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 454-2580 FAX: (831) 454-2131 TDD: (831) 454-2123

TOM BURNS, PLANNING DIRECTOR

January 5, 2009

AGENDA DATE: January 14, 2009

ITEM #: 6.1

TIME: After 9 AM

Planning Commission
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: Annual Report of the Planning Commission

Each year, your Commission is required to furnish the Board of Supervisors with a year-end report describing your activities over the past twelve months. Attached is that report for your consideration.

Staff recommends that your Commission:

1. Accept and file this report; and
2. Direct staff to forward this report to the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,

Mark M. Deming, AICP
Assistant Director, Planning Department
Planning Commission Secretary

Attachment: 2008 Annual Report of the Planning Commission



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TOM BURNS, PLANNING DIRECTOR

January 5, 2009

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

SUBJECT: Annual Report of the Planning Commission

Members of the Board:

Transmitted herewith is the annual report of the Santa Cruz County Planning Commission for the 2008 calendar year.

Role of the Planning Commission

The County Planning Commission serves several purposes: 1) Interpretation of the County General Plan; 2) Updating the General Plan; and 3) Consideration of major land use development projects including all land divisions, subdivisions, major commercial developments, rezonings, and General Plan amendments either as the final decision maker or to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The Commission also acts as the decision maker on appeals of Zoning Administrator Decisions.

Meetings

The Planning Commission meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, unless otherwise scheduled to avoid conflicts with the use of the chambers. Occasional special meetings are scheduled by the Commission to respond to pressing deadlines or to provide additional opportunity for public participation.

2008 Activities

During the year 2008, the Planning Commission conducted 16 public hearings (see attendance roster for dates). Items heard included development applications for three subdivisions, nine minor land divisions, five Commercial Development Permits, five Coastal Development Permits, Six Residential Development Permits, one wireless communication facility, 89 requests to zone parcels to Timber Production, one request to rezone 263 parcels involved in the Williamson Act, and three Rezoning, General Plan Amendment and Planned Unit Developments for High Density Housing sites. The Commission also heard the status of mining permits, and permit reviews for three quarries, as well as four appeals of decisions by the Zoning Administrator. The Commission reviewed County policies and made recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Reviews included the County's Capital

Improvement Plan, the Planning Department's budget, General Plan report, and the Annual Population Growth Goals. The Commission also reviewed proposed ordinance amendments and adopted resolutions regarding zoning requirements for park dedication in-lieu fees, reducing the required minimum parcel size for specified parcels in the County Designated Seismic Review Zones, and the Wireless Communication Facility Visual Impact Ordinance. The commission also adopted resolutions on one General Plan amendment and rezoning.

Attendance

Note that an alternate Commissioner is appointed for each Supervisorial District in the event that the regular Commissioner is unable to attend. Marilyn Hummel retired as Third District Alternate Commissioner and on February 26th, 2008, Denise Holbert was appointed to fill that position.

2007 Planning Commission Attendance Roster

PLANNING COMMISSIONER	1/9/08	1/23/08	2/13/08	2/27/08	3/12/08	3/26/08	4/9/08	4/23/08	5/14/08	5/28/08	6/11/08	7/9/08	7/23/08	8/13/08	8/27/08	9/10/08	9/24/08	10/8/08	10/22/08	11/19/08	12/10/08
1 st Robert Bremner	✓	✓	MEETING CANCELED	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	MEETING CANCELED	✓			✓		✓			
2 nd Albert Aramburu	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
3 rd Rachel Dann	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	
4 th Gustavo Gonzalez	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
5 th Renee Shepherd	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					✓	✓	✓	
ALTERNATES																					
1 st Michael Guth									✓										✓	✓	✓
2 nd Terry Hancock																					
3 rd Marilyn Hummel																					
3 rd Denise Holbert																					✓
4 th Rick Danna				✓																	
5 th Myrna Britton		✓		✓			✓								✓						

Sincerely,



Mark M. Deming, AICP
Assistant Director, Planning Department
Planning Commission Secretary