

## Donovan Arteaga

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**From:** Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 25, 2026 10:55 AM  
**To:** Donovan Arteaga; Sheila McDaniel  
**Cc:** Kimberly De Serpa; Regina Kelbert; Maureen McCarty; Becky Steinbruner  
**Subject:** Requesting Planning Commission Nickell Recuse From April 8, 2026 Planning Commission Meeting Due to Conflict of Interest

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Dear Santa Cruz County Planning Commission and Ms. McDaniel,  
I learned at this morning's Planning Commission meeting that on April 8, 2026, the Commission will consider a minor land division for the Aptos Center (8035 Soquel Drive, APN 041-561-11). The Aptos Station is adjacent to the Aptos Village Project.

The Owner/Applicant is Mr. Joe Appenrodt.

I request that 2nd District Planning Commissioner Mr. Jesse Nickell recuse himself from participating in this item and that his Alternate for the 2nd District Planning Commission attend the April 8, 2026 meeting.

I feel that Commissioner Nickell should not participate in this proceeding because of the conflict of interest he would have as former Vice President of Barry Swenson Builders. As such, he worked closely with Mr. Appenrodt in the development of the Aptos Village Project and Aptos Ventures LLC projects.

If Commissioner Nickell recuses himself and his Alternate is not present, that would provide no representation from the 2nd District on this 2nd District matter at all.

I respectfully request that the 2nd District Alternate Planning Commissioner participate in the April 8, 2026 meeting agenda item that will review the minor land division of the Aptos Station.

<https://tpgonlinedaily.com/supervisor-de-serpa-on-planning-commission-appointee-jesse-nickell/>

Sincerely,  
Becky Steinbruner