

ATTACHMENT



City of Santa Barbara
Mayor and Council Office

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APR 06 2007

Memorandum

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: April 4, 2007

TO: Jim Armstrong, City Administrator 

FROM: Brian Barnwell, Councilmember
Roger Horton, Councilmember 

SUBJECT: Request to Place an item on the Council Agenda for Consideration of Regulations and Limits and Revision and Decrease on the Height of Buildings In the El Pueblo Viejo District

Pursuant to Council Resolution 05-073 regarding the Conduct of City Council Meetings, we request that an item be placed on the Santa Barbara City Council Agenda regarding the Council's consideration on whether there is an interest in limiting the height of buildings in the El Pueblo Viejo District.

We would like the Council to have a broad discussion about the following issues:

1. Does the general idea have merit?
2. What are the legal issues involved?
3. What is the appropriate venue to secure public input?
4. How should this issue be addressed in relation to the current "Plan Santa Barbara" effort?
5. What are the implications of this proposed policy on other priorities of the Council related to affordable housing, transportation, current zoning standards, etc.?

In preparation for the Council discussion we would like initial thoughts from staff on this and other questions as well.

At the conclusion of this discussion, we would like to ask the full Council to provide direction to staff on possible next steps that should be taken.

We believe this is within the Council's jurisdiction, since height limits in the El Pueblo Viejo District are currently addressed in the City's Charter and Zoning Ordinance. Any changes to this policy could require amendments to the City Charter or Zoning Ordinance and compliance with applicable state and federal laws, such as environmental review of the proposed amendments under CEQA.

cc: Paul Casey, Community Development Director
Steve Wiley, City Attorney
Bettie Weiss, City Planner

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