



Other Issues - Comments and Update

Annual Review Process

It is difficult to anticipate all the issues that may arise when a new ordinance or process is adopted. Therefore, staff is proposing to the Planning and Transportation Commission and City Council, an annual review of the Individual Review process and associated guidelines, as well as the new development regulations. Such review could include a review of the projects built following implementation, process timelines, percentage of requested public hearings and appeals, and could include a questionnaire seeking input from neighbors and applicants.

Recycling of Building Materials

The Department of Public Works and the Department of Planning and Community Environment are working together to create a Construction and Demolition Debris Diversion Plan. The purpose of the plan is to divert demolition and construction (C&D) debris from landfills. The C&D Diversion Plan proposes a requirement to allow a ten day period, prior to demolition, to allow a licensed salvager the opportunity to salvage prior to landfilling.

Noise Generators

The Police Department has taken the lead on amendments to the noise ordinance including a discussion of a proposed reduction in hours and prohibiting construction activity on Sundays and holidays in residential neighborhoods. However; as with the recycle ordinance there is not, as yet, an anticipated completion date. A public hearing date has not yet been set. Of particular concern to the Advisory Group, as well, are noise ordinance enforcement issues. Noise generators, such as pool equipment and air conditioners, also of concern to the Advisory Group, are not at this time part of the Police Department review.

Tree Preservation Ordinance

There has interest expressed by the Advisory Group and from residents at the Community Forums in the City's tree protection program. On January 22, 2001, the City Council adopted a revised Tree Preservation Ordinance. The city has a new Website that includes information on this ordinance. The Website address is www.city.palo-alto.ca.us/treeordinance, or you can simply log on to the City's web page, the Tree Protection Ordinance is listed as a special site as is the Comprehensive Zoning Code Update program.

