

**From:** [Gillian Fennessy](#)  
**To:** [Gillian Fennessy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Our Creeks Need Your Help - NZO Public Comment 45  
**Date:** Monday, September 23, 2019 11:40:59 AM

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**From:** Susan Gentile <[sgentile2@antioch.edu](mailto:sgentile2@antioch.edu)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 9:07 AM  
**To:** Kim Dominguez <[kdominguez@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:kdominguez@cityofgoleta.org)>  
**Subject:** Our Creeks Need Your Help

*Dear Chair Smith and Commissioners,  
I am writing you today to request that the City make creek protection a priority in Goleta by developing an ordinance that effectively implements the General Plan Policy CE 2.2 by setting forth a process, the required findings, and the evidentiary requirements for feasibility determinations. Despite the strong protections for creeks and riparian habitats under Policy CE 2.2, the City has struggled with the implementation of this Policy and has routinely approved projects with reduced creek setbacks without an adequate process to evaluate whether adherence to the minimum 100-foot setback was infeasible.*

*For this reason, I support the recommendations made by the Environmental Defense Center and Urban Creeks Council to adopt the California Coastal Commission's language for analyzing when the 100-foot setback is feasible. This language was adopted by the County of Santa Barbara in its Coastal Zoning Ordinance and is in the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan. Please direct staff to incorporate the California Coastal Commission's language in the New Zoning Ordinance. The New Zoning Ordinance must be consistent with the City's goals to maintain, enhance, and restore its precious creeks and waterways.*

*Sincerely,  
Susan Gentile*

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*"Doing nothing for others is the undoing of ourselves."  
— [Horace Mann](#)*

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