

**From:** [Gillian Fennessy](#)  
**To:** [Gillian Fennessy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Creek protection - NZO Public Comment 30  
**Date:** Monday, September 23, 2019 9:01:34 AM

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From: Lee Heller <leehellerk9@gmail.com>  
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2019 11:24 AM  
To: Kim Dominguez <kdominguez@cityofgoleta.org>  
Subject: Creek protection

Dear Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I am writing to request that the City develop an ordinance that effectively implements the General Plan Policy CE 2.2 by setting forth an adequate process that will result in required findings and evidentiary standards for feasibility determinations. Policy CE 2.2 is supposed to offer strong protections for riparian areas and creeks, but despite this, the City has struggled with implementation, routinely approving projects with reduced creek setbacks without an adequate process to evaluate whether adherence to the minimum 100-foot setback was actually infeasible.

I urge you to embrace 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,

Lee Heller  
Summerland CA

Sent from my iPhone