



January 11, 2016

Director Jennifer Carman, City of Goleta

cc: Mayor and City Council members and Goleta Planning Commissioners

Subject: Goleta Zoning Revision Process

Dear Director Carman:

Citizens Planning Association has promoted sound land use planning for more than 55 years. We are aware that the City of Goleta is updating its zoning code. CPA will be following the process but at this point, we want to encourage your body to support a process that is transparent with information presented in a fashion that will be understood by all stakeholders.

We share concerns with the League of Women Voters that decision-makers may not be well informed about the comments that the public has made so far. Public comments should be made accessible to the public and city officials via the Goleta city website. Goleta residents should also have access to some notes from Mr. Dyett's informational sessions.

The proposed changes need more context. When these changes are presented to the public, the public should see the original text and the final text side by side, with rationale for the change included.

Lastly, CPA believes the Planning Commission should be the decision-maker for all precedent setting or large projects, with an appeal process to the City Council. This will assure that projects have full review and provide a real opportunity for the public to participate.

We sent a previous letter (November 2014) making some of the same requests in more detailed fashion. Hopefully, more than a year later, the process will take a turn toward adequate and fair publication of information.

Respectfully submitted,

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