

CONSENT CALENDAR

4/26/05

Date:

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Dona Spring

Subject: Updating the City of Berkeley Environmental Procedures

RECOMMENDATION: that the Council pass the attached resolution requesting the City Manager to amend the City of Berkeley Environmental Procedures and post this document on the City of Berkeley web page as part of the land use/environmental procedures.

BACKGROUND: This item appeared on the 3-15-05 Council agenda and was pulled and modified after consultation with the Planning Director. Several issues were brought up in the land use and environmental review process for approval of the Ed Roberts Campus. To avoid confusion in the future the attached Environmental Review Procedures should be amended to include:

1. That all planning staff who work on projects subject to CEQA will have ongoing training in observing the statute's notice and public review requirements (including the requirement that all referenced documents be available for public review at each of the places listed in the notice);
2. That, when preparing CEQA initial studies, when planning staff or the community identifies historic issues, staff will solicit comments from the Landmarks Preservation Commission and relevant interested community groups who have expressed an interest in providing comments on this issue such as the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association, and will summarize comments received in the initial study; and summarize any comments received in the initial study; and
3. That when planning staff solicits or receives comment from an agency or organization regarding a CEQA initial study, such agency or organization will be added to the service list for notices regarding that project.

This amended document will be posted on the City of Berkeley's web page for the benefit of city staff and members of the public.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE

CONTACT PERSON: Councilmember Dona Spring 981-7140

----- Original Message -----

From: "Marks, Daniel S." <DMarks@ci.berkeley.ca.us>

To: "'Robert Lauriston'" <robert@lauriston.com>; "Dona Spring" <donaspring@mindspring.com>

Sent: Friday, April 08, 2005 12:54 PM

Subject: RE: revised language for CEQA resolution corrections

> Dona/Robert: thanks for the discussion this morning. I'm fine with the
> proposal as written (and edited by Robert).

N.S. Resolution

Updating the City of Berkeley Environmental Procedures

Whereas, CEQA review is required by state law; and

Whereas, all planning staff who work on projects subject to CEQA will have on going training in observing the statute's notice and public review requirements (including the requirement that all referenced documents be available for public review at each of the places listed in the notice);

Whereas, that, when preparing CEQA initial studies when historic issues are identified by planning staff or the community, staff will solicit comments from the Landmarks Preservation Commission, Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association and summarize any comments received in the initial study; and

Whereas, that when planning staff solicits or receives comment from an agency or organization regarding a CEQA initial study, such agency or organization will be added to the service list for notices regarding that project.

Therefore be it resolved this amended document will be posted on the City of Berkeley's web page for the benefit of city staff and members of the public.