

Maricela Hernandez

From: Bob Burris
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 8:37 AM
To: Maureen Tamuri; Tom Bartlett; Michael Klein; Kindon Meik; Maricela Hernandez
Cc: Michael Russo; Arvin Petros
Subject: FW: Continued Business Agenda Item #7 story Pole Procedures

Bcc'd to Council

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

From: Joanne Suwara <joasuw42@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 12:00 PM
To: James Bozajian - External <jrbozajian@earthlink.net>; Mary Sue Maurer - External <maureredge@gmail.com>; Peter Kraut <pkraut@cityofcalabasas.com>; David Shapiro <dshapiro@cityofcalabasas.com>; Alicia Weintraub <aweintraub@cityofcalabasas.com>
Cc: info <info@cityofcalabasas.com>
Subject: Continued Business Agenda Item #7 story Pole Procedures

To: Mayor Bozajian, Mayor Pro-Tem Maurer, Council members Kraut, Weintraub and Shapiro

The staff report regarding amendments to the Story Pole Procedures states that two major changes have to do with orange netting and signage. That is correct.

However, the following statement misrepresents much of what is red-lined.

“3) All other proposed amendments did not substantively change the Story Pole Procedures, and are proposed to improve the clarity and readability of the document.”

For instance, changes in wording regarding financial feasibility totally alter the playing field for applicants to find a way to NOT put up story poles. Let's face it, if they cannot afford to erect story poles then how can they afford to build the rest of their project?

Are we moving toward less transparency in the process by rewording decisions like those which are made ministerially? I hope not!

The original charge to the Planning Commission was to consider orange netting but somehow the end result has morphed into a considerable re-write of the procedures. Perhaps waiting on this until the new CDD is in place would better serve the interests of all involved.

Thank you.

Joanne Suwara

Maricela Hernandez

From: Bob Burris
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 7:31 AM
To: Maureen Tamuri; Kindon Meik; Michael Klein; Maricela Hernandez
Cc: Michael Russo; Arvin Petros
Subject: FW: Proposed Story Pole Procedure - Agenda Item 7

[Bcc'd to Council](#)

From: John Suwara <johsuwa@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 3:09 PM
To: James Bozajian - External <jrbozajian@earthlink.net>; Mary Sue Maurer - External <maureredge@gmail.com>; Peter Kraut <pkraut@cityofcalabasas.com>; David Shapiro <dshapiro@cityofcalabasas.com>; Alicia Weintraub <aweintraub@cityofcalabasas.com>
Cc: info <info@cityofcalabasas.com>
Subject: Proposed Story Pole Procedure - Agenda Item 7

Dear Honorable Members of the Calabasas City Council.

Subject: Proposed new Story Pole Procedure

This is to apologize for sending these comments about the proposed new story pole policy at this late date. We had difficulty reading the entire staff report because the size of the font is difficult for our old eyes to read. Because the report is a pdf document we could not enlarge the font. We appreciate Mari's attempt to enlarge the font but it never was large enough. This morning we were able to obtain a word version that allowed us to easily enlarge the font size to 16 bold making it easy to read.

Here are our comments:

1. Much of this document is straight forward with the exception of several key areas that increase the Ministerial power of the CDD. These include:
 - a. Story Pole Feasibility Determination -Section F: This section re financial impact has been changed to be very subjective. What constitutes potentially excessive cost? How does one determine what is reasonable? Erecting story poles is part of the process if you want to build in Calabasas and should not be open to interpretation. It should not be a ministerial decision.
 - b. Planning Commission Review waiving the requirement for story poles altogether. This is a very serious decision and if adopted it should be brought before the City Council for their approval.
2. Story Poles are often the first indicator to the public that something is happening. Having loopholes like this in the Procedure clouds the transparency we have all worked so hard to put in place.

What still needs discussion is signage for announcing Public Hearings that is large and easy to read. As a result members of the Calabasas Coalition have purchased large banners with large type that can be easily seen and read to announce Planning Commission and City Council meetings. That has encouraged people to attend meetings and participate in the process.

Thank you for your consideration.

John and Joanne Suwara

John