

Preservation Roundtable Meeting- 3/14/09 DOC Streamlining Proposal Notes

David Kwong, Planning Manager presentation:

- Current and proposed process
- Other jurisdictions data
- Cost (Design Commission only, Planning Commission data being compiled)

Questions:

- What would cost savings be?
- What will be eliminated?
- Is there a legal requirement for outreach prior to meetings?
- Will expertise of commission be diluted with merger?
- Is public comment taken into account before proposed change is complete?
- When will additional information be available?
- What are plans to make early notification work?
- What is the problem we are trying to fix? We haven't heard any statement of purpose and it appears we are jumping to a solution. Suggest you lead with the problem for future meetings.
- Note in your comparison data that San Jose has citywide design guidelines. Does DOC proposal include that?
- Not hearing problems that we are trying to solve and what is the result vs. quality? What is quality objective?

Attendee observations, concerns and suggestions:

- Developers are not consistently doing outreach
- Separate functions and commissions allow for more oversight
- Oak Park Neighborhood Association unhappy with developer outreach and volunteered to host inclusive outreach meeting for all City associations the first Thursday in April
- Suggest a separate process for "good developers"- a shortened, streamlined process
- There was a previous DOC streamlining of Design and Preservation Board- DOC's work is done. Suggest elimination of DOC and keep 3 egalitarian commissions that exist
- Consider CPC and DC collaborate more and hold some joint hearings
- Concern that change is a "done deal"
- There are two issues- streamlining of process, and does it make sense to merge the two commissions
- Concern that although split of DR and PR are held up as a model, one half of Preservation Commission meetings haven't been held
- Quality project goal is being lost. Recommend that we look at outcomes of staff reviews
- Need to identify timeline
- Need list of projects