




MOTION

Council File 16-0422 involves various planning and case processing reforms and currently is being reviewed by the Planning and Land Use Committee. One of its key elements regards how the City Planning Department ensures that California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements are met for each development application submitted to the department. The pending May 16 City Planning report on CF 16-0422 offers four alternatives for choosing consultants to complete the required CEQA studies.

Looking at the options offered in the report, Option 3 quickly emerges as the alternative most likely to restore the public's trust in the way the City administers CEQA for private development projects. The concept it proposes, that of having City Planning make the actual choice of consultant for each project from a pre-qualified list, has been discussed among policymakers for more than a decade-and-a-half. Little could do more to bolster the integrity of and public confidence in our CEQA process than having the Planning Department take a firmer hand in choosing and managing the consultants who prepare Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) rather than having developers choose the consultants.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Department of City Planning to make CEQA consultant Option 3 in its May 16, 2016, report on CF 16-0422 the standard method for choosing consultants to prepare EIRs commencing immediately.

PRESENTED BY   
PAUL KORETZ, COUNCILMEMBER, 5<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

SECONDED BY   
  
  
DEC -7 2016

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