CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

SAN DIEGO AREA
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Tue 7a

September 21, 2000

RECORD PACKET COPY

TO:

COMMISSIONERS AND INTERESTED PERSONS

FROM:

DEBORAH LEE, SOUTH COAST DEPUTY DIRECTOR

SHERILYN SARB, DISTRICT MANAGER, SAN DIEGO AREA OFFICE LAURINDA OWENS, COASTAL PROGRAM ANALYST, SAN DIEGO AREA

OFFICE

SUBJECT: STAFF RECOMMENDATION ON MAJOR AMENDMENT NO. 3-2000

(Affordable Housing) TO THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO LOCAL COASTAL

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (For Public hearing and Possible Action

at the Meeting of October 10-13, 2000)

SYNOPSIS

This LCP amendment was the subject of a public hearing before the Commission at the September 2000 meeting in Eureka. Due to concerns raised by the Dept. of Housing and Community Development, the Commission determined that action on the LCP amendment would be premature at that time. Because the mandated time limits for Commission action were about to expire, the City had to withdraw the amendment request and resubmit the request for subsequent Commission consideration at the October 2000 hearing. The LCP amendment has been given an updated number, but will not be considered an additional LCP submittal by the City of San Diego for the year 2000. The staff report is the same as that distributed for the September hearing with the exception of a clarification at the top of page thirteen. A previous statement suggested the Commission's concern regarding deviations from the environmentally sensitive lands regulations pertained to any increase in density beyond that permitted by the underlying zone. The intent of the suggested modification #2 is to not allow deviations from the environmentally sensitive lands regulations as an additional development incentive beyond the mandated 25% density bonus.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT REQUEST

The proposed amendment revises the City's LCP Implementation Plan (Land Development Code) to incorporate additional development incentives for the provision of affordable housing in accordance with state law. The modifications would allow for the following as additional development incentives: 1) deviations from applicable development regulations; 2) a density bonus greater than 25 percent; or, 3) financial incentives to encourage the construction of affordable housing. Other minor changes to the City's affordable housing program include application of more stringent affordability requirements, provisions for density bonuses for projects where 50% of the units are

reserved for senior citizens and changes to how the affordable units are calculated. This amendment is proposed to bring the General Plan, Land Development Code and LCP into conformity.

SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff is recommending denial of the subject amendment request and then approval with suggested modifications. The first suggested modification adds a supplemental finding to the Coastal Development Permit procedures which clarifies that when a deviation is requested from the applicable development regulations as an incentive to providing affordable housing in the Coastal Overlay Zone, the development should only deviate from the LCP in density and the applicable development standard for which the deviation is sought. In considering possible incentives, the permitted incentive should be the one most protective of sensitive coastal resources. With the permitted incentive the project should be consistent with the certified land use plan and LCP implementation plan. The second suggested modification adds language which clarifies that deviations from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations are not permitted as a deviation incentive for affordable housing.

The appropriate resolutions and motions begin on page 4. The suggested modifications begin on page 6. The findings for denial of the Implementation Plan Amendment as submitted begin on page 6. The findings for approval of the Implementation Plan Amendment, if modified, begin on page 9.

BACKGROUND

The City of San Diego has 12 geographic LCP segments. The subject amendment request involves modification to its implementation plan which is part of the City's LCP. The City's implementation plan known as the Land Development Code (LDC), was approved by the Commission in February, 1999 and effectively certified in November, 1999. The City's affordable housing program provisions from its former municipal code were simply incorporated into the LDC without significant changes. The Commission approved the language in the LDC addressing affordable housing because at the time, the City asked that any revisions to the code language addressing affordable housing not be modified by the Commission at that time, due to the pending nature of the City's Housing Element and the City's intent to address the Commission's concerns in a future LCP amendment. At that time, the City had not yet amended its local regulations addressing changes in state law in 1990 pertaining to affordable housing which required localities to offer a second development incentive beyond a density bonus and, as such, a lawsuit was filed against the City and the Housing Commission for failure to amend its ordinance to comply with the changes in the state law. The lawsuit was settled out of court in September, 1998 with the principal provision of the settlement being that the City would agree to amend its local ordinance to comply with state law. The revisions to the Affordable Housing regulations are, thus, now being brought forward as the subject LCP amendment request.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information on the City of San Diego LCP Amendment No. 1-99 (Affordable Housing) may be obtained from <u>Laurinda Owens</u>, Coastal Planner, at (619) 767-3270.

PART I. OVERVIEW

A. <u>LCP HISTORY</u>

A. BACKGROUND/LCP HISTORY

Harbor 101

The City of San Diego has a long history of involvement with the community planning process; as a result, in 1977, the City requested that the Coastal Commission permit segmentation of its Land Use Plan (LUP) into twelve (12) parts in order to have the LCP process conform, to the maximum extent feasible, with the City's various community plan boundaries. In the intervening years, the City has intermittently submitted all of its LUP segments; the status of those submittals is as follows:

1.	North City	 certified as resubmitted January 13, 1988; Torrey Pines LUP Update certified on February 8, 1996
2.	La Jolla/La Jolla Shores	- certified as submitted on April 26, 1983
3.	Pacific Beach	- certified as Update resubmitted on May 11, 1995
4.	Mission Beach	- certified as submitted on July 13, 1988
5.	Mission Bay	- certified with suggested modifications on November 15, 1996
6.	Ocean Beach	- certified as resubmitted on August 27, 1985
7.	Peninsula	- certified as resubmitted on August 27, 1985
8.	Centre City/ Pacific Highway Corridor	- certified with suggested modifications on January 13, 1988
9.	Barrio Logan/	- certified as submitted on

February 23, 1983

10. Otay Mesa/Nestor - certified as submitted on

March 11, 1986

11. Tia Juana River Valley July 13, 1988

- certified as submitted on

- certified as submitted on 12. Border Highlands July 13, 1988

When the Commission approved segmentation of the LUP, it found that the implementation phase of the City's LCP would involve a single unifying submittal. This was achieved in January, 1988, and the City of San Diego assumed permit authority on October 17, 1988 for the majority of its coastal zone. Several isolated areas of deferred certification remained at that time; some of these have been certified since through the LCP amendment process. Other areas of deferred certification remain today and are completing planning at a local level; they will be acted on by the Coastal Commission in the future.

In February, 1999, the Commission approved, with suggested modifications, LCP Amendment #3-98B, consisting of the City's Land Development Code (LDC). These ordinances represented a complete rewrite of the City's former implementation plan (Municipal Code) which had been previously certified by the Commission as part of the City of San Diego Local Coastal Program (LCP). In addition to ordinances, the LDC included the Land Development Manual, which consisted of the Coastal Bluffs and Beaches Guidelines, Steep Hillside Guidelines, Biology Guidelines; Landscape Standards and Historical Guidelines. Action on the Steep Hillside Guidelines was deferred until August, 1999. The LDC, including the Land Development Manual, was effectively certified as the City of San Diego LCP Implementation Plan on November 4, 1999.

B. STANDARD OF REVIEW

Pursuant to Section 30513 of the Coastal Act, the Commission may only reject zoning ordinances or other implementing actions, as well as their amendments, on the grounds that they do not conform with, or are inadequate to carry out, the provisions of the certified land use plan. The Commission shall take action by a majority vote of the Commissioners present.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The City has held Planning Commission and City Council meetings with regard to the subject amendment request. All of those local hearings were duly noticed to the public. Notice of the subject amendment has been distributed to all known interested parties.

PART II. LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM SUBMITTAL - RESOLUTIONS

MOTION I: I move that the Commission reject the Implementation

Program for City of San Diego certified LCP as

submitted.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION OF REJECTION:

Staff recommends a YES vote. Passage of this motion will result in rejection of Implementation Program and the adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

RESOLUTION TO DENY CERTIFICATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM AS SUBMITTED:

The Commission hereby denies certification of the Implementation Program submitted for <u>City of San Diego certified LCP</u> and adopts the findings set forth below on grounds that the Implementation Program as submitted does not meet the requirements of and is not in conformity with the policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act Certification of the Implementation Program would not meet the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act as there are feasible alternatives and mitigation measures that would substantially lessen the significant adverse impacts on the environment that will result from certification of the Implementation Program as submitted

MOTION II: I move that the Commission certify the Implementation Program for <u>City of San Diego certified LCP</u> if it is modified as suggested in this staff report.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. Passage of this motion will result in certification of the Implementation Program with suggested modifications and the adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY THE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM WITH SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS:

The Commission hereby certifies the Implementation Program for <u>City of San Diego</u> <u>certified LCP</u> if modified as suggested and adopts the findings set forth below on grounds that the Implementation Program with the suggested modifications will meet the requirements of and be in conformity with the policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Certification of the Implementation Program if modified as suggested complies with the

California Environmental Quality Act, because either 1) feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the Implementation Program on the environment, or 2) there are no further feasible alternatives and mitigation measures that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impacts on the environment.

PART III. SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS

Staff recommends the following suggested revisions to the proposed LCP Implementation Plan Amendment be adopted. The <u>underlined</u> sections represent language that the Commission suggests be added, and the struck out sections represent language which the Commission suggests be deleted from the language as originally submitted.

- 1. Under Section 126.0708 Findings for Coastal Development Permit Approval, the following shall be added as Section (f):
- (f) Supplemental Findings Affordable Housing Within the Coastal Overlay Zone

When a deviation is requested from the applicable development regulations as an incentive to providing affordable housing in the Coastal Overlay Zone pursuant to Section 143.0750, the deviation may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental finding in addition to the findings in Section 126.0708 (a-d) and Section 126.0504 as applicable.

The project is designed in a manner that is most protective of significant coastal resources, and is otherwise consistent with all applicable policies of the certified LCP land use plan and LCP implementation plan, with the exception of density and the applicable development standard for which the deviation is requested.

- 2. Under Section 143.0150 Deviations from Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations the following should be added to subsection (c):
- (c) Within the Coastal Overlay Zone, deviations from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations may be granted only if the decision maker makes the findings in Section 126.0708. Deviations from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations are not permitted as a development incentive for affordable housing pursuant to Section 143.0750.

PART IV. <u>FINDINGS FOR REJECTION OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO LCP</u> <u>IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AMENDMENT, AS SUBMITTED</u>

A. AMENDMENT DESCRIPTION

The City is proposing to amend its affordable housing density bonus program under its certified LCP to comply with State requirements which became effective in 1990. According to the City's Manager's Report dated 5/25/99, the adoption of this program would result in more stringent housing affordability requirements than those required in the current Density Bonus regulations and would facilitate usage of the density bonus program by allowing developers to request a deviation from development regulations as an additional incentive, if certain findings can be made.

As described in the City's Manager's Report, Section 65915 of the State Government Code requires all local jurisdictions in California to offer a density bonus for affordable housing. The bonus is 25% above the maximum density otherwise permitted by the underlying zone. The City of San Diego has had an ordinance implementing this requirement in its certified LCP since the early 1980's. About 1,000 affordable units have been provided under the program since that time. In 1990, Section 65915 was amended to require localities to offer a second incentive or concession beyond the additional units provided by the 25% density bonus. As a trade-off for this measure to offer additional incentives, the affordability requirements associated with the lower income units have been made more stringent. The City did not amend its regulations to implement these provisions in a timely manner and, as such, a lawsuit was filed against the City and Housing Commission. In order to comply with the amended provisions of Section 69515, the City proposes the subject amendment request to change its affordable housing density bonus regulations.

The Affordable Housing Density Bonus Regulations are contained in Chapter 14, Article 3, Division 7 of the Land Development Code entitled Affordable Housing Density Bonus Regulations commencing with Section 143.0710. The City's submittal proposes to delete current language in Sections 143.0740 and 143.0750 and replace it with new language as follows:

SEC. 143.0740 – Additional Development Incentive for Affordable Housing

In accordance with the provisions of Government Code Section 65915, the City may grant a development incentive in addition to the 25 percent density bonus. The additional development incentive may consist of the following:

- (a) a density bonus of more than 25 percent;
- (b) a financial incentive consisting of:
 - (1) fee reductions or deferrals as authorized for affordable housing in the Municipal code; or

- (2) direct financing assistance from the Housing Commission, Redevelopment Agency, or other public funds, if authorized by the applicable agency on a case-by-case basis, or
- (c) a deviation from applicable development regulations of the underlying zone pursuant to Section 143.0750.

Section 143.0750 establishes the deviation process and states:

SEC. 143.0750 - Deviation to Allow for Additional Development Incentive

An applicant may request a deviation from the applicable development regulations as an additional development incentive for affordable housing pursuant to a Site Development Permit decided in accordance with Process Four provided that the findings in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental findings in Section 126.0504(l) are made.

The Site Development Permit for a deviation from applicable development regulations must be approved through Process 4 which is for applications for permits that are approved or conditionally approved or denied by the Planning Commission and which are appealable to the City Council. Previously, projects that included affordable housing were only reviewed under the City's Process Three, which involves only a review by a Hearing Officer. Thus, the Commission concurs the proposed change to review affordable housing projects which include a deviation under Process Four, which affords a higher level of discretionary review, is appropriate.

The findings required to approve a Site Development Permit are contained in Site Development Permit Procedures in the Land Development Code commencing with Section 126.0501. Section 126.0504 states:

SEC. 126.0504 Findings for Site Development Permit Approval

A Site Development Permit may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes all of the findings in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental findings in Section 126.0504(b) through (l) that are applicable to the proposed development as specified in this section.

- a) Findings for all Site Development Permits
 - (1) The proposed development will not adversely affect the applicable land use plan;
 - (2) The proposed development will not be deterimental to the public health, safety and welfare; and

(3) The proposed development will comply with the applicable regulations of the Land Development Code.

And,

1) Supplemental Findings – Deviation for Affordable Housing

A development that requires a Site Development Permit in accordance with Section 143.0750 because the applicant has requested a deviation from the applicable development regulations as an additional incentive to a density bonus for providing affordable housing may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental findings in addition to the findings in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) The proposed development will materially assist in accomplishing the goal of providing affordable housing opportunities in economically balanced communities throughout the City.
- (2) The development will not be inconsistent with the purpose of the underlying zone.
- (3) The deviation is necessary to make it economically feasible for the applicant to utilize any density bonus authorized for the development pursuant to Section 143.0730.

Also proposed is a clarification in Section 143.0730 that the development shall be permitted at a density that does not exceed 125 permcent of the units permitted by the density regulations of the applicable base zone. Additionally, any additional density bonus above 25% would be calculated in the same manner. Section 113.0222 of the Land Development Code includes the methodology for calculation of density for any zone which contains a maximum permitted density, such as 1,500 sq.ft./unit. The units permitted would be determined by dividing the lot area by the maximum permitted density as shown in the following example. The percentage of affordable units is then applied to the number of pre-bonus units instead of the total number of units. This modification is proposed in Section 143.0720 in the City's submittal. An example of a density and affordable unit calculation is as follows:

RM Zones (multi-family)

Base Density of a lot in R-M 2-5 Zone =

Lot Area = 20,000 sq.ft.

Maximum Permitted Density = 1,500 sq.ft./dwelling unit

Units Permitted = 20,000 sq.ft./l,500 = 13.3 units (rounded down to 13 units)

Calculation of Density Bonus =

 $13.0 \times 1.25 = 16.25$ (cannot be rounded up a second time) = 16.0 units

Total Density with Bonus = 13 + 3 = 16 dwelling units

Number of Units Which Must be Provided as Affordable =

20% of 13 = .20 X 13 = 2.6 (rounded up to 3.0) = 3 units which must affordable to low income households

The City has indicated if the density bonus shown in the above example can be accommodated in a manner that is not inconsistent with the purpose of the underlying zone, such a bonus can be granted.

Other changes to the housing element of the City's certified LCP will result in more stringent affordability requirements. The current density bonus regulations require that at least 20 percent of the total units be affordable to households of low or moderate income. Low-income units must be affordable at the 80 percent level of area median income and moderate income units must be affordable at 120 percent of area median income. All units must remain affordable for 20 years. The 1990 State statute amendments resulted in changes to these affordability provisions such that moderate income affordable units no longer qualify for the density bonus. Changes were also made to the percentage of area median income that must be affordable and that the minimum term of affordability be lengthened from 20 years to 30 years if a second incentive or concession is utilized. If no second incentive is utilized, the minimum term of affordability is reduced to ten years. In either case, after ten or 30 years, the units need no longer remain affordable pursuant to state law.

Two other changes to the implementation plan include that a density bonus be made available for projects where at least 50 percent of the units are reserved for persons who qualify as senior citizens. In addition, as described above, changes relating to how the number of affordable units is calculated were also made.

B. SPECIFIC FINDINGS FOR REJECTION

The standard of review for LCP implementation submittals or amendments is their consistency with and ability to carry out the provisions of the certified LUP.

a) <u>Purpose and Intent of the Ordinance</u>. The purpose of the ordinance is to provide increased residential densities to developers who guarantee that a portion of their residential development will be available to low income, very low-income, or senior households. The regulations are intended to materially assist the housing industry in providing adequate and affordable shelter for all economic segments of the community and to provide a balance of housing opportunities for low income, very low-income and senior households throughout the City. It is intended that the affordable housing density

bonus and any additional development incentive be available for use in all residential developments, using criteria and standards provided in the Progress Guide and General Plan, as defined by the San Diego Housing Commission. It is also intended that these regulations implement the provisions of California Government Code Sections 65915 through 65918.

- b) <u>Major Provisions of the Ordinance</u>. The major provisions of the ordinance include when affordable housing density bonus regulations apply, requirements for an affordable housing density bonus agreement, the density bonus provisions and additional development incentives for affordable housing.
- c) Adequacy of the Ordinance to Implement the Certified LUP Segments. The proposed ordinance amendment is a change to the existing Land Development Code, which is part of the certified LCP. The ordinance changes will include additional language addressing a second development incentive or concession to developers beyond the 25% density bonus for purposes of providing affordable housing. As described earlier, such incentives include a deviation from applicable development regulations requiring a Site Development Permit and a Coastal Development Permit. The City has not identified what types of deviations may be considered for approval. However, deviations to development standards have typically consisted of relaxed development standards such as a reduction in the amount of required on-site parking or landscaping, etc. The City's revised ordinance also provides that a deviation may also consist of a density bonus that is greater than 25 percent. In addition, another development incentive may also include a financial incentive such as direct cash assistance from the Housing Commission or Redevelopment Agency or a reduction of water and sewer fees or the deferral of development impact fees until issuance of an occupancy permit.

Although the existing ordinance includes provisions for the different findings that must be made depending on the type of permit that is being obtained, due to the nature of the process, it is not sufficiently clear that such development incentives and/or deviations from the development regulations should only be considered on sites able to accommodate an increased intensity without creating inconsistencies with the policies and development standards in the LCP. Deviations from applicable regulations as an incentive to affordable housing are not permitted by right and, as such, are not mandated to occur at the expense of significant coastal resources. For projects in the Coastal Overlay Zone, the Commission finds Section 126.0708 of the ordinance which contains the required findings for a Coastal Development Permit should be clear in providing the standard of review for any development proposals that is most protective of coastal resources. It should be clear that the project should only deviate from the LCP in density and the applicable development standard for which the deviation is sought, but in all other respects it is consistent with the certified land use plan and LCP implementation plan.

Additionally, the Commission is concerned that, as submitted, a deviation from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) regulations may be considered a possible incentive to encourage affordable housing. In its certification of the LDC, the

Commission addressed deviations from the ESL regulations through suggested changes because the Commission was concerned that such deviations should be allowed under very limited and specific conditions. The suggested modifications were accepted by the City and the language makes clear that, in the Coastal Overlay Zone, deviations from the ESL regulations should only be considered if there would otherwise be a denial of all economically viable use of the property. The Commission does not believe that a density increase beyond the mandated 25% density bonus is appropriate as a development incentive if it requires a deviation from the environmentally sensitive lands regulations. Such deviations should only be considered in very limited cases involving such highly constrained and sensitive property that reasonable use would otherwise be precluded. In such a case, a density increase would certainly result in conflicts with other applicable LCP provisions such that the required findings could not be made. Therefore, the Commission finds that Section 143.0150 of the ESL regulations which addresses deviations should be revised to clarify that deviations from the ESL regulations are not permitted as a means to accommodate affordable housing. As submitted, the proposed ordinance is not consistent with, nor adequate to carry out the policies of the certified land use plan, unless such a modification is included.

PART V. FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AMENDMENT, IF MODIFIED

As stated previously, the City is proposing changes to its existing certified ordinances addressing affordable housing. As described above, the purpose of the proposed ordinance is to provide additional development incentives for the provision of affordable housing. These incentives may consist of a density bonus of more than 25 percent; a financial incentive consisting of fee reductions or deferrals as authorized for affordable housing in the Municipal code or direct financing assistance from the Housing Commission, Redevelopment Agency, or other public funds; or, a deviation from applicable development regulations of the underlying zone.

A. DEVIATIONS FROM DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS.

The types of deviations from the applicable development regulations that might be requested by an applicant are not clearly identified in the proposed LDC language and are fairly open-ended. It is up to the developer and/or applicant to specifically request what kind of deviation they would like to have granted. In the review of other LCP amendments pertaining to affordable housing, such deviations have typically included relaxed development standards, such as, a reduction in the amount of on-site parking or provision of on-site landscaping. Typically, the Commission has suggested language is necessary in the ordinance to assure the City approves the development incentive that has the least environmental impact and is most protective of significant coastal resources. With regard to the types of deviations from development standards which may be granted, the City has stated that they prefer not to identify what types of deviations may be considered in their ordinance. This is because, if this information were included, it may be misconstrued to mean that such deviations are granted by right.

The Coastal Commission has stated several concerns to the City in the past with regard to affordable housing and development incentives for projects in the coastal zone. This is because granting of density bonuses and incentives, such as deviations from development standards, could result in development which is inconsistent with many of the City's land use plan policies that address protection of coastal resources including wetlands, public access, visual resources, etc. As such, to the extent feasible, density increases should be accommodated without creating inconsistencies with the policies and development standards of the certified LCP and without adverse impacts to significant coastal resources. The City has a series of processes that an applicant must go through when a density bonus is sought in connection with proposed development or when an applicant seeks a deviation from the applicable development regulations as an additional development incentive for a density bonus for affordable housing. The City has indicated, the purpose of the proposed ordinance is to set up the process where density bonuses and deviations from development regulations can be approved *if* consistent with all of the other regulations of the Land Development Code.

In the coastal zone, different kinds of development permits are required for projects which propose affordable housing pursuant to the City's Land Development Code. Pursuant to Section 126.0502, a Site Development Permit is required for development projects including affordable housing. In accordance with this process, certain findings must be made (as previously outlined in the amendment description). However, in the Coastal Overlay Zone, development projects which propose affordable housing must also obtain a Coastal Development Permit. The Coastal Development Permit process includes a separate set of findings in Section 126.0708 (ref. Exhibit #4) that must be made in order to assure conformance with the certified land use plan policies, the certified LCP implementation plan and the public access and recreation policies of the Coastal Act.

In review of projects involving affordable housing in the Coastal Overlay Zone, the City must determine what type of deviation is appropriate depending on the nature of the site and any potential impacts to coastal resources. Any development proposal that includes affordable housing should only be granted a development incentive if the findings can be made that, with the permitted incentive, the project is the *most* protective of coastal resources when considering all possible incentives, and the project is, therefore, the *least* environmentally damaging alternative.

The Commission acknowledges that the findings of the different processes the City requires for affordable housing are subject to interpretation. Additionally, the proposed incentives offer a variety of ways to lessen the regulatory and site constraints and allow an increase in the number of units in a development project. In previous direction to the City regarding their affordable housing program, density bonuses and deviations, the Commission has made it clear that coastal resources may be adversely affected *only* when it has been found to be impossible to accommodate the mandated 25% density increase without such impacts. In those situations, the density increase must be accommodated by those means that are the most protective of significant coastal resources.

With regard to proposed development incentives and deviations from development regulations, if such incentives will not adversely affect coastal resources, then those incentives should be encouraged. However, if all possible incentives will have an adverse effect on coastal resources, the LCP must provide for use of the incentive that is the most protective of significant coastal resources. In this particular case, it would appear the financial incentive would always be the most protective option, if adverse impacts to coastal resources are involved.

Following are several examples of how the significance of the resource and/or impact must be considered and weighed in order to determine what incentive should be granted in order to make the applicable findings of approval for a coastal development permit. The CDP findings require that the proposed coastal development will not encroach upon any existing physical accessway legally used by the public or that is identified in an LCP land use plan, and that the development will enhance and protect public views to and along the ocean. As such, if a project that includes affordable housing is proposed that would encroach onto an existing physical accessway used by the public to gain access to the beach, then a deviation to the development standards that would result in blockage of such access should not be permitted. Similarly, if development is proposed in a location where an identified view corridor exists, a deviation to a development standard that would allow an increase in height such that the pubic view is obstructed should not be permitted.

Another finding that must be met is that the proposed coastal development is in conformity with the certified Local Coastal Program land use plan and complies with all regulations of the certified Implementation Program. Any development proposal that includes affordable housing must be considered with regard to its consistency with the certified land use plan for the area. Each land use plan contains specific policies addressing protection of coastal resources that are unique to the geographic plan area. For example, in the Point Loma community, the LUP contains policies addressing protection of public views along the San Diego Bay in the La Playa area and also the protection of a bayside trail that has historically been used by the public for lateral access. In La Jolla, the LUP contains numerous policies addressing protection of public views toward the ocean and identifies numerous view corridors. Specific policies also address siting of development to protect such views including terracing development away from street corners along streets that are designated view corridors to maximize public views, and opening up side yards to prevent a "walled-off" effect from the ocean. When considering appropriate incentives for development with affordable housing in these communities, the City must consider the applicable land use policies and assure the approved development will not conflict with such policies in the certified Land Use Plan. In case of conflict, the findings cannot be made.

The CDP findings also require that coastal development between the nearest public road and the sea or the shoreline shall be in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. For example, in the City of San Diego, the first three to four blocks inland from the coast are designated as a Beach Impact Area. This area is where parking is most competitively sought by beachgoers as

well as patrons of local retail shops and business establishments. Within this area, the City has imposed more stringent parking standards which also include prohibition of curb cuts, etc. to maximize on-street parking. In these areas, it would not be appropriate to approve a project for affordable housing with a development incentive that would allow a reduction to on-site parking.

The City has assured Commission staff that in the event these findings cannot be made, then the deviation from the applicable regulations would not be permitted because the proposed development would not be found consistent with the certified LCP. The approved project should only be inconsistent in terms of density and the applicable development standard for which the deviation is sought.

In order to assure this interpretation is carried out in the implementation of the proposed LCP amendment, the Commission finds an additional CDP finding is appropriate to specifically address deviations from applicable development regulations for affordable housing. Such a finding would function similarly to the supplemental findings for deviations from the ESL regulations in the Coastal Overlay Zone found in Section 126.0708. The additional finding assures that discretion will be applied by the decision maker to determine the affordable housing is approved with the development incentive that is most protective of significant coastal resources depending on the site constraints, location, sensitivity of the resource and potential impacts. In all cases, a deviation from applicable regulations should only be approved as an incentive if the decision maker can find that the proposed development is otherwise consistent with the certified LCP with the exception of density and the applicable standard for which the deviation is sought. As so modified, the Commission can find the proposed revisions to the certified LCP Implementation Plan is consistent with and adequate to carry out the policies of the certified land use plans.

B. ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS

In the certified Land Development Code, the Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations apply to all proposed development when environmentally sensitive lands are present on the premises. Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) include sensitive biological resources, steep hillsides, coastal beaches, sensitive coastal bluffs and 100-year floodplains. The ESL regulations are intended to assure that development occurs in a manner that protects the overall quality of the resources and the natural and topographic character of the area, encourages a senstive form of development, retains biodiversity and interconnected habitats, maximiazes physical and visual public access to and along the shoreline, and reduces hazards due to flooding in specific areas while minimizing the need to construct flood control facilities.

The ESL regulations as certified by the Commission as part of the LCP Implementation Plan identify uses permitted within the above mentioned ESL and contain specific development regulations for each type of sensitive resource. In addition to a Coastal Development Permit with the associated findings, the City also requires a Site

Development Permit because of potential impacts to ESL. Pursuant to Section 126.0504 (b), a Site Development Permit may only be approved if the following findings are made:

- (1) The site is physically suitable for the design and siting of the proposed development and the development will result in minimum disturbance to environmentally sensitive lands;
- (2) The proposed development will minimize the alteration of natural landforms and will not result in undue risk from geologic and erosional forces, flood hazards, or fire hazards;
- (3) The proposed development will be sited and designed to prevent adverse impacts on any adjacent environmentally sensitive lands;
- (4) The proposed development will be consistent with the City of San Diego's Mulitiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Subarea Plan;
- (5) The proposed development will not contribute to the erosion of public beaches or adversely impact local shoreline sand supply; and,
- (6) The nature and extent of mitigation required as a condition of the permit is reasonably related to, and calculated to alleviate negative impacts created by the proposed development.

In some cases in review of LCPAs for affordable housing, the Commission has required that constrained lands be deducted from the acreage of developable land prior to application of the density bonus. Constrained lands might include, for example, steep hillsides or wetlands. However, the Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations in the Land Development Code do not require that constrained area be deducted from the acreage prior to calculation of density. The environmentally sensitive lands are excluded from the building envelope available for development, and certain development regulations apply. In review of projects requesting a development incentive for affordable housing, if the incentive can be accommodated on a site which contains environmentally sensitive lands consistent with the resource protection policies of the certified Land Use Plan and the ESL regulations, and the above findings can be made, then the incentive may be permitted.

However, when environmentally sensitive lands are present, often times even the maximum base density allowed by the underlying zone cannot be accommodated on a site consistent with the ESL regulations. The base density is the maximum number of units that can be constructed on a site pursuant to the underlying zone. In those situations where site constraints do not allow for the maximum density, it is likely an additional development incentive which allows for more units would not be appropriate. In those instances, it is likely only a financial incentive would allow for the proper findings to be made.

The City has also strongly emphasized that an applicant with Environmentally Sensitive Lands would not be permitted a deviation from the ESL development regulations to accommodate a density bonus because the findings for a Site Development Permit or Coastal Development Permit could not be made, as such a proposal would not be the least environmentally damaging alternative. The Commission concurs with this evaluation and believes the option of a deviation to the ESL regulations addressed in Section 143.0150 should not be an incentive that is available in the Coastal Overlay Zone through the Coastal Development Permit process. In its certification of the LDC, the Commission suggested changes that were ultimately accepted by the City that addressed such deviations. The language makes clear that, in the Coastal Overlay Zone, deviations from the ESL regulations should only be considered if there would otherwise be a denial of all economically viable use of the property. The Commission does not believe that a density increase beyond that allowed by the underlying zone should be an option in those limited cases involving such highly constrained and sensitive property. In such cases, a density increase would most certainly result in conflicts with other applicable LCP provisions such that the required findings could not be made.

Therefore, the Commission is suggesting a modification to Section 143.0150 of the ESL regulations which addresses the deviation process. In that section, it would be clear that deviations to the ESL regulations are not permitted as a development incentive for affordable housing.

Therefore, in summary, with the proposed suggested modifications, the determination of whether a project complies with the Land Development Code is based on consistency with all of the regulations of the code addressing protection of coastal resources and environmentally sensitive lands inclusive of any deviations from development regulations. With the proposed suggested modifications, the Commission finds the proposed implementation plan revision consistent with, and able to carry out, the certified land use plan segment, as modified herein. In addition, with regard to the proposed changes to the City's affordable housing program including application of more stringent affordability requirements, provisions for density bonuses for projects where 50% of the units are reserved for senior citizens and changes to how the density bonus is calculated, the Commission also finds these proposed changes consistent with, and able to carry out, the certified land use plan.

PART VI. CONSISTENCY WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

Section 21080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exempts local government from the requirement of preparing an environmental impact report (EIR) in connection with its local coastal program. Instead, the CEQA responsibilities are assigned to the Coastal Commission and the Commission's LCP review and approval program has been found by the Resources Agency to be functionally equivalent to the EIR process. Thus, under CEQA Section 21080.5, the Commission is relieved of the responsibility to prepare an EIR for each LCP.

Nevertheless, the Commission is required in an LCP submittal or, as in this case, an LCP amendment submittal, to find that the LCP, or LCP, as amended, does conform with CEQA provisions. In the case of the subject LCP amendment request, the Commission finds that approval of the City's implementation plan amendment, as proposed, would result in significant impacts under the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act. Without additional clarifying language to assure that developments with affordable housing inclusive of increased densities and/or development incentives is most protective or coastal resources and consistent with all other policies of the certified LCP, potential impacts to such resources might occur. As suggested modification has been added which will eliminate any ambiguity and will make it very clear that the ordinance will not permit impacts to coastal resources. However, with inclusion of the suggested modification, implementation of the revised ordinance would not result in significant impacts under the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act. Therefore, this modified LCP amendment can be found consistent with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.

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ORDINANCE NUMBER O-

(NEW SERIES)

ADOPTED ON JUN 21 1999

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE 6, DIVISION 5 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE BY AMENDING SECTIONS 126.0502 AND 126.0504; AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 1, DIVISION 3 BY AMENDING SECTION 141.0310; AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 3, DIVISION 3 BY AMENDING SECTION 143.0302; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 3, DIVISION 7 BY AMENDING SECTIONS 143.0710, 143.0715, 143.0720, AND 143.0730, BY REPEALING SECTIONS 143.0740 AND 143.0750, AND BY ADDING NEW SECTIONS 143.0740 AND 143.0750, ALL RELATING TO DENSITY BONUS REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS, on December 9, 1997, the Council, by Ordinance No. O-18451, adopted the Land Development Code for The City of San Diego as part of the San Diego Municipal Code, replacing existing zoning regulations, including regulations pertaining to the provision of density bonus to developments that provide affordable housing as part of development projects; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to amend the density bonus regulations to be more consistent with most recent changes in State density bonus legislation; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, as follows:

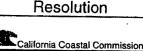
Section 1. That Chapter 12, Article 6, Division 5 of the Land Development Code is amended by amending sections 126.0502 and 126.0504, to read as follows:

SEC. 126.0502 When a Site Development Permit is Required

- (a) [No change.]
- (b) A Site Development Permit decided in accordance with Process Three is

-PAGE 1 OF 11-

EXHIBIT NO. 1 APPLICATION NO. SDLCPA 3-2000 Adopted City



required for residential development that involves any of the following:

- (1) Development with an affordable housing density bonus within the RE, RS, RX, RT, and AR zones.
- (2) Development of mobilehome parks within the RS or RX zones, as described in Section 143.0302.
- (3) Within the Mobilehome Park Overlay Zone, discontinuance of a mobilehome park, as described in Section 143.0630.
- (4) Within any multiple unit residential zone, multiple unit residential development that exceeds the number of dwelling units indicated in Table 126-05A on lots which are consolidated or otherwise joined together for the purpose of accommodating the development.

[No change in Table 126-05A.]

- (5) Multiple unit residential *development* that varies from minimum parking requirements, as described in Section 142.0525(a).
 - (c) [No change.]
 - (d) [No change in first sentence.]
 - (1) through (4) [No change.]
- (5) Development for which the applicant seeks a deviation from the applicable development regulations as an additional development incentive to a density bonus for affordable housing under Section 143.0750.
 - (e) [No change.]

SEC. 126.0504 Findings for Site Development Permit Approval

A Site Development Permit may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes all of the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental *findings* in Section 126.0504(b) through (l) that are applicable to the proposed *development* as specified in this section.

- (a) through (k) [No change.]
- (l) Supplemental Findings--Deviation for Affordable Housing

A development that requires a Site Development Permit in accordance with Section 143.0750 because the *applicant* has requested a deviation from the applicable development regulations as an additional incentive to a *density* bonus for providing affordable housing may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) [No change.]
- (2) The *development* will not be inconsistent with the purpose of the underlying zone.
- (3) The deviation is necessary to make it economically feasible for the *applicant* to utilize any *density* bonus authorized for the *development* pursuant to Section 143.0730.

 Section 2. That Chapter 14, Article 1, Division 3 of the Land Development Code is amended by amending section 141.0310, to read as follows:

SEC. 141.0310 - Housing for Senior Citizens

Housing for senior citizens may be permitted with a Conditional Use Permit decided in accordance with Process Three in the zones indicated with a "C" in the Use

Regulations Tables in Chapter 13, Article 1 (Base Zones) subject to the following regulations.

- (a) [No change.]
- (b) Housing for senior citizens may be permitted an affordable housing density bonus and an additional development incentive as provided in Chapter 14, Article 3, Division 7 (Affordable Housing Density Bonus Regulations). All *density* bonus units in excess of 25 percent of the allowable *density* of the base zone shall be for occupancy by *very-low income* Senior Citizens or *very low-income* qualifying residents at a rent that does not exceed 30 percent of 50 percent of area median income, as adjusted for assumed household size. Proposed *developments* that provide daily meals in a common cooking and dining facility, and provide and maintain a common transportation service for residents, may be exempt from the affordability requirement of Chapter 14, Article 3, Division 7.
 - (c) through (e) [No change.]

Section 3. That Chapter 14, Article 3, Division 3 of the Land Development Code is amended by amending section 143.0302, to read as follows:

SEC. 143.0302 When Supplemental Neighborhood Development Permit and Site Development Permit Regulations Apply

[No change in first sentence.]

Table 143-03A Supplemental Neighborhood Development Permit or Site Development Permit Regulations Applicability

Type of <i>Development</i> Proposal	Applicable Sections	Required Development Permit/Decision Process
Site Containing Environmentally Sensitive Lands	143.0101-143.0160, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0350, 143.0375, 143.0380	NDP/Process Two or SDP/Process Three or Four
Site Containing Historical Resources	143.0201-143.0260, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0360, 143.0375, 143.0380	NDP/Process Two or SDP/Process Four
Fences or Retaining Walls Exceeding the Permitted Height	143.0303, 143.0305, 142.0350, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Relocated Building Onto a Site With an Existing Building	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0345, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Site with <i>Previously Conforming</i> Conditions	127.0102, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Nonresidental <i>Development</i> Exceeding the Maximum Permitted Parking	142.0540(b), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Shared Parking for Uses Not Listed in Section 142.0545(c)	142.0545(b)(7), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Commercial <i>Development</i> With Tandem Parking	142.0555(b),143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Previously Conforming Parking for a discontinued use	142.0510(d)(4), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Mobilehome Parks in RM Zones	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0340, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Mobilehome Parks in RS, RX Zones	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0340, 143.0375	SDP/Process Three
Discontinuance of Mobilehome Park	141.0410-141.0440, 132.0801-132.0804, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375, 143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Multiple Dwelling Unit Development that Varies from Minimum Parking Requirements	142.0525(b), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375, 143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Nonresidental <i>Development</i> (With TDM Plan) that Varies from Minimum Parking Requirements	142.0525(b), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375, 143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Community Plan Implementation Overlay Zone	132.1401-132.1405, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Mission Trails Design District	132.1201-132.1205, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Development Within the Urban Village Overlay Zone	132.1101-132.1110, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375, 143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Public improvements on More Than 3,000 Feet of Frontage or Where City Standards Do Not Apply	142.0601-142.0670, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three

Type of <i>Development</i> Proposal	Applicable Sections	Required Development Permit/Decision Process
Manufactured Slopes in Excess of 25% Gradient and 25 Feet in Height	142.0101-142.0149, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Affordable Housing in RE, RS, RX, RT, AR Zones	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0310, 143.0320, 143.0375,143.0380, 143.0710-143.0740	SDP/Process Three
Affordable Housing with Deviations from Development Regulations	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0310, 143.0320, 143.0375,143.0380, 143.0750	SDP/Process Four
Multiple Dwelling Unit Development in RM Zones Involving Lot Consolidation and Exceeds Number of Units Indicated in Table 126-05A	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0310, 143.0320, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Clairemont Mesa Height Limit Overlay Zone	132.0401-132.0406, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Five

Legend to Table 143-03A				
NDP	NDP means Neighborhood Development Permit			
SDP	SDP means Site Development Permit			

Section 4. That Chapter 14, Article 3, Division 7 of the Land Development Code is amended by amending sections 143.0710, 143.0715, 143.0720, and 143.0730, and by adding new sections 143.0740 and 143.0750, to read as follows:

SEC. 143.0710 - Purpose of Affordable Housing Density Bonus Regulations

The purpose of these regulations is to provide increased residential densities to developers who guarantee that a portion of their residential development will be available to low income, very low-income, or senior households. The regulations are intended to materially assist the housing industry in providing adequate and affordable shelter for all economic segments of the community and to provide a balance of housing opportunities

for *low income*, *very low-income*, and senior households throughout the City. It is intended that the affordable housing *density* bonus and any additional development incentive be available for use in all residential developments, using criteria and standards provided in the Progress Guide and General Plan, as defined by the San Diego Housing Commission. It is also intended that these regulations implement the provisions of California Government Code Sections 65915 through 65918.

SEC. 143.0715 - When Affordable Housing Density Bonus Regulations Apply

- (a) This division applies to any residential *development* of five or more dwelling units where an *applicant* proposes *density* beyond that permitted by the applicable zone in exchange for a portion of the total dwelling units in the *development* being reserved for *low or very low-income* households or for senior citizens or qualified residents through a written agreement.
- (b) An applicant proposing development as provided in Section 143.0715(a) shall be entitled to a density bonus as provided in Sections 143.0720 and 143.0730 and may be granted an additional development incentive as provided in Section 143.0740.

 SEC. 143.0720 Affordable Housing Density Bonus Agreement
- (a) An applicant shall be entitled to a density bonus for any residential development for which an agreement is entered into by the applicant and the Chief Executive Officer of the San Diego Housing Commission as provided in Section 143.0720(b).
 - (b) The density bonus agreement shall include the following provisions:
 - (1) With respect to rental housing affordable units:

- (A) at least 20 percent of the pre-bonus units in the development will be affordable, including an allowance for utilities, to low-income households at a rent that does not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of area median income, as adjusted for assumed household size; or
- (B) at least 10 percent of the pre-bonus units in the development will be affordable, including an allowance for utilities, to very low-income households at a rent that does not exceed 30 percent of 50 percent of area median income, as adjusted for assumed household size; or
- (C) at least 50 percent of the total units will be available to senior citizens or qualifying residents as defined under California Civil Code section 51.3.
- based on prevailing underwriting standards of mortgage financing available for the development, which shall include a forgivable second, silent mortgage, as administered by the Housing Commission. At least 20 percent of the pre-bonus units in the development shall be available to low-income purchasers or 10 percent of the pre-bonus units shall be available to very low-income purchasers or at least 50 percent of the pre-bonus units in the development shall be available to senior citizens or qualifying residents as defined under California Civil Code section 51.3.
- (3) The affordable units will remain available and affordable as provided in Section 143.0720 for a period of at least 30 years if an additional development incentive is granted to the *applicant* as provided in Section 143.0740 or 10

years if an additional development incentive is not granted. If an *applicant* does not request an additional development incentive, the *applicant* shall submit a pro forma analysis for the Chief Executive Officer of the Housing Commission to document project feasibility.

- (4) The affordable units shall be designated units which are comparable in bedroom mix and amenities to the market-rate units in the *development* and are dispersed throughout the *development*.
- (5) Provision shall be made for certification of eligible tenants and purchasers, annual certification of property owner compliance, and payment of a monitoring fee, as adjusted from time to time, for monitoring of affordable unit requirements.

SEC. 143.0730 - Density Bonus Provisions

A residential *development* proposal requesting an affordable housing *density* bonus is subject to the following:

- (a) The *development* shall be permitted a density bonus of the amount of units requested by the *applicant*, up to a total project dwelling unit count of 125 percent of the units permitted by the *density* regulations of the applicable base zone.
 - (b) through (d) [No change.]
- (e) Where the *development* consists of two or more noncontiguous parcels lying within two or more community planning areas, the dwelling units reserved at levels affordable by *low-income* or *very low-income* households shall be distributed among community planning areas in the same proportion as the total number of dwelling units

constructed within the development.

SEC. 143.0740 - Additional Development Incentive for Affordable Housing

In accordance with the provisions of Government Code Section 65915, the City may grant a development incentive in addition to the 25 percent density bonus. The additional development incentive may consist of the following:

- (a) a density bonus of more than 25 percent;
- (b) a financial incentive consisting of:
- (1) fee reductions or deferrals as authorized for affordable housing in the Municipal Code; or
- (2) direct financing assistance from the Housing Commission,
 Redevelopment Agency, or other public funds, if authorized by the applicable agency on
 a case-by-case basis, or
- (c) a deviation from applicable *development* regulations pursuant to Section 143.0750.

SEC. 143.0750 Deviation to Allow for Additional Development Incentive

An applicant may request a deviation from the applicable development regulations as an additional development incentive for affordable housing pursuant to a Site Development Permit decided in accordance with Process Four provided that the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental *findings* in Section 126.0504(l) are made.

Section 6. That a full reading of this ordinance is dispensed with prior to its final passage, a written or printed copy having been available to the City Council and the public a day prior to its final passage.

Section 7. Except in the Coastal Overlay Zone, this ordinance will take effect and be in force on the date the Land Development Code, adopted by the City Council on December 9, 1997, by Ordinance No. O-18451, becomes effective. Within the Coastal Overlay Zone, this ordinance shall be in force and effect on the date it is effectively certified by the California Coastal Commission as a City of San Diego Local Coastal Program amendment.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By

rescilla Dingard

Deputy City Attorney

PD:cdk 05/12/99

Or.Dept:Plan.&Dev.Rev.

0-99-84

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THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

April 14, 2000

Ms. Sherilyn Sarb '
San Diego Coast Area
California Coastal Commission
3111 Camino del Rio North, Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92108



APR 1 9 2000

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
SAN DIEGO COAST DISTRICT

Dear Sherilyn:

We appreciate the opportunity to have met with you and Laurinda Owens on March 17 to discuss the City of San Diego's proposed Affordable Housing Density Bonus Amendment. We promised at that meeting to forward to you a list of various permit situations with the Findings which would need to be made in order to allow development with an Affordable Housing Density Bonus on Environmentally Sensitive Lands in the Coastal Overlay Zone.

As you can see, a variety of Findings would need to be made. Of particular note is Supplemental Finding 126.0708(e) for development which proposes a deviation from Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations in the Coastal Overlay Zone. This Finding requires that the project be the least environmentally damaging alternative and is consistent with all provisions of the certified Local Coastal Program with the exception of the provision for which the deviation is requested.

Our hope is that this summary will clarify that the City's Land Development Code provides ample protection of sensitive coastal lands from any potential adverse impacts associated with the use of the Affordable Housing Density Bonus program. Please call me at (619) 236-6139 if you have any questions or wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Betsy McCullough

E. Tong

Deputy Director, Long Range Planning

Attachment

cc: File

Planning and Development Review 202 C Street, MS 5A • San Diego, CA 92101-3864

UZ C Street, MS 5A • San Diego, CA 921U1-3864 Tel (619) 236-6479 Fax (619) 236-6478 EXHIBIT NO. 2
APPLICATION NO.
SDLCPA 3-2000

List of City's Findings for Affordable Housing Density Bonus Projects





Findings For Affordable Housing Density Bonus Projects Having Environmental Impacts in Coastal Zone

- I. If development is proposed with a deviation from the affordable housing density bonus, then
 - A. A Site Development Permit is required with:
 - 1. General Findings for all Site Development Permits (126.0504(a))
 - 2. Supplemental Findings for density bonus with a deviation (126.0504(m))
- II. If development is proposed on Environmentally Sensitive Lands, then
 - A. A Site Development Permit is required with:
 - 1. General Findings for all Site Development Permits (126.0504(a))
 - 2. Supplemental Findings for development on Environmentally Sensitive Lands (126.0504(b)
- III. If development is proposed on Environmentally Sensitive Lands with a deviation from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands development regulations, then
 - A. A Site Development Permit is required with:
 - 1. General Findings for all Site Development Permits (126.0504(a))
 - 2. Supplemental Findings for development on Environmentally Sensitive Lands (126.0504(b))
 - 3. Supplemental Findings for development on Environmentally Sensitive Lands with a deviation (126.0504(c))
- IV. If development is proposed in the Coastal Overlay Zone, then
 - A. A Coastal Development Permit is required with
 - 1. General Findings for all Coastal Development Permits (126.0708(a-d)
- V. If development is proposed in the Coastal Overlay Zone with deviations from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands development regulations, then
 - A. A Coastal Development Permit is required with
 - 1. General Findings for all Coastal Development Permits (126.0708(a-d))
 - 2. Supplemental Findings for development of Environmentally Sensitive Lands in Coastal Overlay Zone with a deviation (126.0708(e))
 - B. A Site Development Permit is required with:
 - 1. General Findings for all Site Development Permits (126.0504(a))
 - 2. Supplemental Findings for development on Environmentally Sensitive Lands (126.0504(b))
 - 3. Supplemental Findings for development on Environmentally Sensitive Lands with a deviation (126.0504(c))
- VI. If development is proposed with a deviation from an Affordable Housing Density Bonus in the Coastal Zone with proposed deviations from Environmentally Sensitive Lands

regulations.

- A. A Coastal Development Permit is required with
 - 1. General Findings for all Coastal Development Permits (126.0708(a-d))
 - 2. Supplemental Findings for development of Environmentally Sensitive Lands in Coastal Overlay Zone with a deviation (126.0708(e))
- B. A Site Development Permit is also required with
 - 1. General Findings for all Site Development Permits (126.0504(a))
 - 2. Supplemental Findings for density bonus with a deviation (126.0504(m))
 - 3. Supplemental Findings for development of Environmentally Sensitive Lands (126.0504(b))
 - 4. Supplemental Findings for development on Environmentally Sensitive Lands with a deviation (126.0504(c))

§ 126.0504 Findings for Site Development Permit Approval

A Site Development Permit may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes all of the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental *findings* in Section 126.0504(b) through (m) that are applicable to the proposed *development* as specified in this section.

- (a) Findings for all Site Development Permits
 - (1) The proposed *development* will not adversely affect the applicable *land use* plan;
 - (2) The proposed *development* will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare; and
 - (3) The proposed *development* will comply with the applicable regulations of the Land Development Code.
- (b) Supplemental Findings--Environmentally Sensitive Lands

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 143.0110 because of potential impacts to *environmentally sensitive lands* may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) The site is physically suitable for the design and siting of the proposed development and the development will result in minimum disturbance to environmentally sensitive lands;
- (2) The proposed *development* will minimize the alteration of natural land forms and will not result in undue risk from geologic and erosional forces, *flood* hazards, or fire hazards;
- (3) The proposed *development* will be sited and designed to prevent adverse impacts on any adjacent *environmentally sensitive lands*;
- (4) The proposed *development* will be consistent with the City of San Diego's Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Subarea Plan;
- (5) The proposed *development* will not contribute to the erosion of public beaches or adversely impact local shoreline sand supply; and

EXHIBIT NO. 3

APPLICATION NO.

SDLCPA 3-2000

LDC Section
126.0504/ Findings
for Site Development
Permit

California Coastal Commission

Art. Div.

Sections (l) and (m) revised with this submittal

- (6) The nature and extent of mitigation required as a condition of the permit is reasonably related to, and calculated to alleviate, negative impacts created by the proposed development.
- (c) Supplemental Findings--Environmentally Sensitive Lands Deviations

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 143.0110 because of potential impacts to *environmentally sensitive lands* where a deviation is requested in accordance with Section 143.0150 may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental *findings* in Section 126.0504(b):

- (1) There are no feasible measures that can further minimize the potential adverse effects on *environmentally sensitive lands*; and
- (2) The proposed deviation is the minimum necessary to afford relief from special circumstances or conditions of the land, not of the applicant's making.
- (d) Supplemental Findings--Environmentally Sensitive Lands Deviation from Federal Emergency Management Agency Regulations

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 143.0110 because of potential impacts to *environmentally sensitive lands* where a deviation is requested from the Federal Emergency Management Agency regulations as specified in Section 143.0150(b) may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental *findings* in Section 126.0504(b):

- (1) The proposed development will not result in an increase in flood levels within any designated floodway during the base flood discharge; and
- (2) The deviation would not result in additional threats to public safety, in extraordinary public expense, or create a *public nuisance*.
- (e) Supplemental Findings--Steep Hillsides Development Area Regulations Alternative Compliance

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 143.0110 because of potential impacts to *steep hillsides* where alternative compliance is requested in accordance with Section 143.0151 may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the findings in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental *findings* in Section 126.0504(b):

- (1) The proposed *development* is in conformance with the Steep Hillside Guidelines;
- (2) The proposed development conforms to the applicable land use plan; and

- (3) Strict application of the steep hillside development area regulations would result in conflicts with other City regulations, policies, or plans.
- (f) Supplemental Findings--Important Archaeological Sites and Traditional Cultural Properties

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 143.0210 because of potential impacts to an *important archaeological site* or *traditional cultural property* may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) The site is physically suitable for the design and siting of the proposed development, the development will result in minimum disturbance to historical resources, and measures to fully mitigate for any disturbance have been provided by the applicant; and
- (2) All feasible measures to protect and preserve the special character or the special historical, architectural, archaeological, or cultural value of the resource have been provided by the *applicant*.
- (g) Supplemental Findings--Historical Resources Deviation for Important Archaeological Sites and Traditional Cultural Properties

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 143.0210 because of potential impacts to an *important archaeological site* or *traditional cultural property* where a deviation is requested in accordance with Section 143.0260 may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) There are no feasible measures, including a less environmentally damaging location or alternative, that can further minimize the potential adverse effects on historical resources;
- (2) The proposed deviation is the minimum necessary to afford relief and accommodate the *development* and all feasible measures to mitigate for the loss of any portion of the resource have been provided by the *applicant*; and
- (3) There are special circumstances or conditions apart from the existence of historical resources, applying to the land that are peculiar to the land and are not of the applicant's making, whereby the strict application of the provisions of the historical resources regulations would deprive the property owner of reasonable use of the land.
- (h) Supplemental Findings--Historical Resources Deviation for Relocation of a Designated Historical Resource

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 143.0210 because of potential impacts to *historical resources* where a deviation is requested in accordance with Section 143.0260 for relocation of a *designated historical resource* may be

approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) There are no feasible measures, including maintaining the resource on site, that can further minimize the potential adverse effects on historical resources;
- (2) The proposed relocation will not destroy the historical, cultural, or architectural values of the *historical resource*, and the relocation is part of a definitive series of actions that will assure the preservation of the *designated historical resource*.
- (3) There are special circumstances or conditions apart from the existence of historical resources, applying to the land that are peculiar to the land and are not of the applicant's making, whereby the strict application of the provisions of the historical resources regulations would deprive the property owner of reasonable use of the land.
- (i) Supplemental Findings--Historical Resources Deviation for in Substantial Alteration of a Designated Historical Resource or Within a Historical District

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 143.0210 because of potential impacts to designated historical resources where a deviation is requested in accordance with Section 143.0260 for substantial alteration of a designated historical resource or within a historical district or new construction of a structure located within a historical district may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental findings in addition to the findings in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) There are no feasible measures, including a less environmentally damaging alternative, that can further minimize the potential adverse effects on the designated historical resource or historical district;
- (2) The deviation is the minimum necessary to afford relief and accommodate the *development* and all feasible measures to mitigate for the loss of any portion of the *historical resource* have been provided by the *applicant*; and
- (3) The denial of the proposed development would result in economic hardship to the owner. For purposes of this finding, "economic hardship" means there is no reasonable beneficial use of a property and it is not feasible to derive a reasonable economic return from the property.
- (j) Supplemental Findings--Clairemont Mesa Height Limit

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 132.1306 because an exception from the Clairemont Mesa height limit is requested may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental findings in addition to the findings in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) The granting of an exception will not significantly interfere with public views from western Clairemont Mesa to Mission Bay and the Pacific Ocean within the surrounding area; and
- The granting of an exception is appropriate because there are existing structures over 30 feet in height and the proposed development will be compatible with surrounding one, two, or three-story structures; or the granting of an exception is appropriate because there are topographic constraints peculiar to the land; or the granting of the exception is needed to permit roofline and facade variations, accents, tower elements, and other similar elements and the elements will not increase the floor area of the structure.
- (k) Supplemental Findings--Mobilehome Park Discontinuance

A Site Development Permit required in accordance with Section 132.0702 because a discontinuance of a *mobilehome park* is proposed may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) The discontinuance of use of the land for a *mobilehome park* or *mobilehome* spaces will not deprive the community of a needed facility;
- (2) The discontinuance of use of the land for a mobilehome park or mobilehome spaces, because of the associated relocation plan and conditions that have been applied to the discontinuance, will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare of persons living in the mobilehome park; and
- (3) The use to which the *applicant* proposes to put the property will provide a greater public benefit than continued use of the property as a *mobilehome park* or *mobilehome* spaces.
- (l) Supplemental Findings--Affordable Housing Density Bonus

A project that includes an affordable housing *density* bonus and requires a Site Development Permit in accordance with Sections 143.0750 because the *development* involves a transfer of bonus *density* may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a):

- The proposed development will materially assist in accomplishing the goal of providing affordable housing opportunities in economically balanced communities throughout the City;
- (2) The proposed *development* will not lead to over-concentration of persons and families of low income or very low income within any given community; and
- (3) Approving the Site Development Permit will not adversely affect the applicable *land use plan*, cause significant adverse effects upon the

environment, adversely affect solar access to neighboring property, or violate the relevant regulations of the Land Development Code.

(m) Supplemental Findings--Density Bonus and Affordable Housing Deviation

A project that includes an affordable housing *density* bonus and requires a Site Development Permit in accordance with Section 141.0760 because the *development* involves a deviation from the *density* bonus and affordable housing provisions may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental *findings* in addition to the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a):

- The proposed development will materially assist in accomplishing the goal of providing affordable housing opportunities in economically balanced communities throughout the City;
- (2) The proposed *development* will not lead to over-concentration of persons and *families* of *low income* or *very low income* within any given community; and
- (3) Approving the Site Development Permit will not adversely affect the applicable *land use plan*, cause significant adverse effects upon the environment, adversely affect solar access to neighboring property, or violate the relevant regulations of the Municipal Code.
- (4) Because of special circumstances applicable to the proposed *development* including property characteristics, economic constraints, location, or surroundings, the strict application of the provisions of Sections 143.0730 and 143.0740 would cause failure of the *development*.

§ 126.0505 Violations of a Site Development Permit

It is unlawful for any person to maintain, use, or develop any premises without a Site Development Permit if such a permit is required for the use or development, or to maintain, use, or develop any premises contrary to the requirements or conditions of an existing Site Development Permit. Violation of any provision of this division shall be subject to the enforcement provisions contained in Chapter 12, Article 1. Violations of this division shall be treated as strict liability offenses regardless of intent.

§ 126.0708

Findings for Coastal Development Permit Approval

An application for a Coastal Development Permit may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following *findings*:

- (a) The proposed coastal development will not encroach upon any existing physical accessway that is legally used by the public or any proposed public accessway identified in a Local Coastal Program land use plan; and the proposed coastal development will enhance and protect public views to and along the ocean and other scenic coastal areas as specified in the Local Coastal Program land use plan;
- (b) The proposed coastal development will not adversely affect environmentally sensitive lands; and
- (c) The proposed *coastal development* is in conformity with the certified *Local Coastal Program land use plan* and complies with all regulations of the certified Implementation Program.
- (d) For every Coastal Development Permit issued for any coastal development between the nearest public road and the sea or the shoreline of any body of water located within the Coastal Overlay Zone the coastal development is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the California Coastal Act.
- (e) Supplemental Findings Environmentally Sensitive Lands Within the Coastal Overlay Zone

When a deviation is requested from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations because the applicant contends that application of the regulations would result in denial of all economically viable use, the Coastal Development Permit shall include a determination of economically viable use.

A Coastal Development Permit, or a Site Development Permit in the Coastal Overlay Zone, required in accordance with Section 143.0110 because of potential impacts to *environmentally sensitive lands* where a deviation is requested in accordance with Section 143.0150 may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision

Ch. Art. Div.

EXHIBIT NO. 4

APPLICATION NO.

SDLCPA 3-2000

LDC Section
126.0708/Findings
for Coastal
Development Permit

California Coastal Commission

maker makes the following supplemental findings in addition to the findings in Section 126.0708(a), (b), (c) and (d) and the supplemental findings in Section 126.0504 (b):

The decision maker shall hold a public hearing on any application on a Coastal Development Permit that includes a deviation from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations in the Coastal Overlay Zone. Such hearing shall address the economically viable use determination. Prior to approving a Coastal Development Permit for development within the Coastal Overlay Zone that requires a deviation from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations, the decision maker shall make all of the following findings:

- (1) Based on the economic information provided by the applicant, as well as any other relevant evidence, each use provided for in the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations would not provide any economically viable use of the applicant's property; and
- (2) Application of the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations would interfere with the applicant's reasonable investment-backed expectations; and
- (3) The use proposed by the applicant is consistent with the applicable zoning; and
- (4) The use and project design, siting, and size are the minimum necessary to provide the applicant with an economically viable use of the premises; and
- (5) The project is the least environmentally damaging alternative and is consistent with all provisions of the certified *Local Coastal Program* with the exception of the provision for which the deviation is requested.

The findings adopted by the decision making authority shall identify the evidence supporting the findings.

§ 126.0709 Notice of Final City Action on a Coastal Development Permit

- (a) Notice of Final City Action by Mail. No later than 5 business days after the date on which all rights of appeal have expired for a Coastal Development Permit or any amendment or extension of a Coastal Development Permit, the City Manager shall mail a Notice of Final City Action to the Coastal Commission and to any other person who has requested this notice.
- (b) Contents of Notice of Final City Action. The Notice of Final City Action shall include the following:
 - (1) The conditions of approval for the Coastal Development Permit;
 - (2) The written findings required to approve the Coastal Development Permit; and

STRIKEOUT ORDINANCE

DECENTED 2000

OLD LANGUAGE: Struck Out NEW LANGUAGE: Redline

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION SAN DIEGO COAST DISTRICT

(0-99-84)

ORDINANCE NUMBER O	(NEW SERIES)
ADOPTED ON	

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE 6, DIVISION 5 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE BY AMENDING SECTIONS 126.0502 AND 126.0504; AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 1, DIVISION 3 BY AMENDING SECTION 141.0310; AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 3, DIVISION 3 BY AMENDING SECTION 143.0302; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 3, DIVISION 7 BY AMENDING SECTIONS 143.0710, 143.0715, 143.0720, AND 143.0730, BY REPEALING SECTIONS 143.0740 AND 143.0750, AND BY ADDING NEW SECTIONS 143.0740 AND 143.0750, ALL RELATING TO DENSITY BONUS REGULATIONS..

SEC. 126.0502 When a Site Development Permit is Required

- (a) [No change.]
- (b) A Site Development Permit decided in accordance with Process Three is required for residential development that involves any of the following:

 (1) Development with an affordable housing density bonus that deviates from the density bonus provisions or affordable housing provisions, as described in Section 141.0760.

 (2) Development with an affordable housing density bonus that includes a transfer of bonus density, as described in Section 141.0750.

EXHIBIT NO. 5
APPLICATION NO.
SDLCPA 3-2000)
Strikeout/Underline
Ordinance

California Coastal Commission

-PAGE 1 OF 13-

- (3)(1) Development with an affordable housing density bonus within the RE, RS, RX, RT, and AR zones.
- (4)(2) Development of mobilehome parks within the RS or RX zones, as described in Section 143.0302.
- (5)(3) Within the Mobilehome Park Overlay Zone, discontinuance of a mobilehome park, as described in Section 143.0630.
- (6)(4) Within any multiple unit residential zone, multiple unit residential development that exceeds the number of dwelling units indicated in Table 126-05A on lots which are consolidated or otherwise joined together for the purpose of accommodating the development.

[No change in Table 126-05A.]

- (7)(5) Multiple unit residential *development* that varies from minimum parking requirements, as described in Section 142.0525(a).
 - (c) [No change.]
 - (d) [No change in first sentence.]
 - (1) through (4) [No change.]
- (5) Development for which the applicant seeks a deviation from the applicable development regulations as an additional development incentive to a density bonus for affordable housing under Section 143.0750.
 - (e) [No change.]

SEC. 126.0504 Findings for Site Development Permit Approval

A Site Development Permit may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes all of the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental *findings* in Section 126.0504(b) through (l) that are applicable to the proposed *development* as specified in this section.

(a) through (k) [No change.]

- (1) Supplemental Findings—Affordable Housing Density Bonus

 A project that includes an affordable housing density bonus and requires a Site

 Development Permit in accordance with Sections 143.0750 because the development involves a transfer of bonus density may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental findings in addition to the findings in Section 126.0504(a):

 (1) The proposed development will materially assist in accomplishing the goal of providing affordable housing opportunities in economically balanced communities throughout the City;

 (2) The proposed development will not lead to over-concentration of persons and families of low income or very low income within any given community; and

 (3) Approving the Site Development Permit will not adversely affect the applicable land use plan, cause significant adverse effects upon the environment, adversely affect solar access to neighboring property, or violate the relevant regulations of the Land Development Code:
- (m)(l) Supplemental Findings--Density Bonus and Deviation for Affordable Housing Deviation

A project that includes an affordable housing density bonus and requires a Site

Development Permit in accordance with Section 141.0760 because the development involves a deviation from the density bonus and affordable housing provisions may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental findings in addition to the findings in Section 126.0504(a):

A development that requires a Site Development Permit in accordance with Section

143.0750 because the applicant has requested a deviation from the applicable development

regulations as an additional incentive to a density bonus for providing affordable housing may be

approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following supplemental

findings in addition to the findings in Section 126.0504(a):

- (1) [No change.]
- (2) The proposed development will not lead to over-concentration of persons and families of low income or very low income within any given community; and
- (3) Approving the Site Development Permit will not adversely affect the applicable land use plan, cause significant adverse effects upon the environment, adversely affect solar access to neighboring property, or violate the relevant regulations of the Municipal Code.
- (4) Because of special circumstances applicable to the proposed *development* including property characteristics, economic constraints, location, or surroundings, the strict application of the provisions of Sections 143.0730 and 143.0740 would cause failure of the *development*.
 - (2) The development will not be inconsistent with the purpose of the underlying zone.

(3) The deviation is necessary to make it economically feasible for the applicant to utilize any density bonus authorized for the development pursuant to Section 143.0730.

SEC. 141.0310 - Housing for Senior Citizens

Housing for senior citizens may be permitted with a Conditional Use Permit decided in accordance with Process Three in the zones indicated with a "C" in the Use Regulations Tables in Chapter 13, Article 1 (Base Zones) subject to the following regulations.

- (a) [No change.]
- (b) Housing for senior citizens may be permitted an affordable housing density bonus and an additional development incentive as provided in *density* bonus of up to 50 percent over that permitted by the base zone. All bonus units built over the allowable *density* of the base zone must comply with Chapter 14, Article 3, Division 7 (Affordable Housing Density Bonus Regulations). All *density* bonus units in excess of 25 percent of the allowable *density* of the base zone shall be for occupancy by *very low-income* Senior Citizens or *very low-income* qualifying residents at a rent that does not exceed 30 percent of 50 percent of area median income, as adjusted for assumed household size. Proposed *developments* that provide daily meals in a common cooking and dining facility, and provide and maintain a common transportation service for residents, may be exempt from the affordability requirement of Chapter 14, Article 3, Division 7.
 - (c) through (e) [No change.]

SEC. 143.0302 When Supplemental Neighborhood Development Permit and Site Development Permit Regulations Apply

[No change in first sentence.]

Table 143-03A Supplemental Neighborhood Development Permit or Site Development Permit Regulations Applicability

Type of Development Proposal	Applicable Sections	Required Development Permit/Decision Process
Site Containing Environmentally Sensitive Lands	143.0101-143.0160, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0350, 143.0375, 143.0380	NDP/Process Two or SDP/Process Three or Four
Site Containing Historical Resources	143.0201-143.0260, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0360, 143.0375, 143.0380	NDP/Process Two or SDP/Process Four
Fences or Retaining Walls Exceeding the Permitted Height	143.0303, 143.0305, 142.0350, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Relocated Building Onto a Site With an Existing Building	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0345, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Site with Previously Conforming Conditions	127.0102, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Nonresidental <i>Development</i> Exceeding the Maximum Permitted Parking	142.0540(b), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Shared Parking for Uses Not Listed in Section 142.0545(c)	142.0545(b)(7), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Commercial Development With Tandem Parking	142.0555(b),143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Previously Conforming Parking for a discontinued use	142.0510(d)(4), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Mobilehome Parks in RM Zones	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0340, 143.0375	NDP/Process Two
Mobilehome Parks in RS, RX Zones	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0340, 143.0375	SDP/Process Three
Discontinuance of Mobilehome Park	141.0410-141.0440, 132.0801-132.0804, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375, 143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Multiple Dwelling Unit Development that Varies from Minimum Parking Requirements	142.0525(b), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375, 143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Nonresidental Development (With TDM Plan) that Varies from Minimum Parking Requirements	142.0525(b), 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375, 143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Community Plan Implementation Overlay Zone	132.1401-132.1405, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Mission Trails Design District	132.1201-132.1205, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Development Within the Urban Village Overlay Zone	132.1101-132.1110, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375, 143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Public improvements on More Than 3,000 Feet of Frontage or Where City Standards Do Not Apply	142.0601-142.0670, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Manufactured Slopes in Excess of 25% Gradient and 25 Feet in Height	142.0101-142.0149, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three

Type of Development Proposal	Applicable Sections	Required Development Permit/Decision Process
Affordable Housing in RE, RS, RX, RT, AR Zones	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0310, 143.0320, 143.0375,143.0380, 143.0710-143.0740	SDP/Process Three
Affordable Housing with Transfer of Density Bonus	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0310, 143.0320, 143.0375,143.0380, 143.0750	SDP/Process Three
Affordable Housing with Deviations from Density Bonus or Affordable Housing Provisions Development Regulations	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0310, 143.0320, 143.0375,143.0380, 143.07650	SDP/Process Three Four
Multiple Dwelling Unit Development in RM Zones Involving Lot Consolidation and Exceeds Number of Units Indicated in Table 126-05A	143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0310, 143.0320, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Three
Clairemont Mesa Height Limit Overlay Zone	132.0401-132.0406, 143.0303, 143.0305, 143.0375,143.0380	SDP/Process Five

Legend to Table 143-03A			
NDP	NDP means Neighborhood Development Permit		
SDP	SDP means Site Development Permit		

SEC. 143.0710 - Purpose of Affordable Housing Density Bonus Regulations

The purpose of these regulations is to provide increased residential densities to developers who guarantee that a portion of their housing residential development will be availableaffordable by persons of to low income, very low-income, or moderate income senior households. The affordable housing density bonus is The regulations are intended to materially assist the housing industry in providing adequate and affordable shelter for all economic segments of the community and to provide a balance of housing opportunities for low income, very low-income, and moderate income personssenior households throughout the City. It is intended that the affordable housing density density bonus and any additional development incentive be available for use in all residential developments development, using criteria and

standards provided in the Progress Guide and General Plan, as defined by the San Diego Housing Commission. It is also intended that these regulations affordable housing density bonus implement the provisions of the California Government Code, Chapter 4.3 of Division 1 of Title 7Sections 65915 through 65918.

SEC. 143.0715 - When Affordable Housing Density Bonus Regulations Apply

- (a) This division applies to any residential *development* of five or more dwelling units where an *applicant* proposes *density* beyond that permitted by the applicable zone is proposed in exchange for a portion of the total dwelling units in the *development* being reserved for through a formal agreement for persons or *families* of low or very low-income households or for senior citizens or qualified residents through a written agreement moderate income.
- (b) An applicant proposing development as provided in Section 143.0715(a) shall be entitled to a density bonus as provided in Sections 143.0720 and 143.0730 and may be granted an additional development incentive as provided in Section 143.0740.

SEC. 143.0720 - Affordable Housing Density Bonus Agreement

- (a) An applicant shall be entitled to a The affordable housing density bonus shall be extended to all for any residential development for which an agreement has been is entered into by the applicant and the Chief Executive Officer Director of the San Diego Housing Commission as provided in Section 143.0720(b).
- (b) The affordable housing-density bonus agreement shall include the following provisions:
 - (1) With respect to rental housing affordable units:

(A)(1) at least 20 percent of the <u>pre-bonustotal</u> units in the *development* will be affordable, including an allowance for utilities, to by persons and *families* of *low-income* households at a rent that does not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of area median income, as adjusted for assumed household size; or *moderate incomes*;

- (B) at least 10 percent of the pre-bonus units in the *development* will be affordable, including an allowance for utilities, to *very low-income* households at a rent that does not exceed 30 percent of 50 percent of area median income, as adjusted for assumed household size; or
- (C) at least 50 percent of the total units will be available to senior citizens or qualifying residents as defined under California Civil Code section 51.3.
- on prevailing underwriting standards of mortgage financing available for the *development*, which shall include a forgivable second, silent mortgage, as administered by the Housing Commission.

 At least 20 percent of the pre-bonus units in the development shall be available to *low-income* purchasers or 10 percent of the pre-bonus units shall be available to *very low-income* purchasers or at least 50 percent of the pre-bonus units in the *development* shall be available to senior citizens or qualifying residents as defined under California Civil Code section 51.3.
- Section 143.0720 by persons and families of low income or moderate income for a period of at least 230 years if an additional development incentive is granted to the applicant as provided in Section 143.0740 or 10 years if an additional development incentive is not granted. If an applicant does not request an additional development incentive, the applicant shall submit a pro

forma analysis for the Chief Executive Officer of the Housing Commission to document project feasibility.

- (4) The affordable units shall be designated units which are comparable in bedroom mix and amenities to the market-rate units in the *development* and are dispersed throughout the *development*.
- (5) Provision shall be made for certification of eligible tenants and purchasers, annual certification of property owner compliance, and payment of a monitoring fee, as adjusted from time to time, for monitoring of affordable unit requirements.
- (3) The units affordable by persons and families of low income or moderate income shall be identified and described.

SEC. 143.0730 - Density Bonus Provisions

A <u>residential</u> <u>development</u> proposal requesting an affordable housing <u>density</u> bonus shall be is subject to the following:

- (a) The <u>developmentaffordable housing density bonus</u> shall be permitted a density bonus of the amount of units requested by the <u>applicant</u>, up to a total project dwelling unit count of up to 125 percent of the units permitted by the <u>density</u> regulations of the <u>applicable</u> base zone.
 - (b) through (d) [No change.]
- (e) Where the development consists of two or more noncontiguous parcels lying within two or more community planning areas, the dwelling units reserved at levels affordable by low-income or very low-income households shall be distributed among community planning

areas in the same proportion as the total number of dwelling units constructed within the development. SEC. 143.0740 - Affordable Housing Provisions -(a) - The number of dwelling units reserved for purchase or rent at prices affordable by persons and families of low income or moderate income shall equal or exceed the number of bonus units constructed within the development. -(b) -- Where the development consists of two or more noncontinguous parcels lying within two or more community planning areas, the dwelling units reserved at prices affordable by persons and families of lowincome or moderateincome shall be distributed among community planning areas in the same proportion as the total number of dwelling units constructed within the development. SEC. 143.0740 - Additional Development Incentive for Affordable Housing In accordance with the provisions of Government Code Section 65915, the City may grant a development incentive in addition to the 25 percent density bonus. The additional development incentive may consist of the following: (a) a density bonus of more than 25 percent; (b) a financial incentive consisting of: (1) fee reductions or deferrals as authorized for affordable housing in the Municipal Code; or (2) direct financing assistance from the Housing Commission, Redevelopment Agency, or other public funds, if authorized by the applicable agency on a caseby-case basis, or

(c) a deviation from applicable *development* regulations of the underlying zone pursuant to Section 143.0750.

SEC. 143.0750 Transfer of Bonus Density Units

- (a) Within any development involving an affordable housing density bonus where the transfer of density rights between either contiguous or noncontiguous parcels is proposed, a Site Development Permit is required.
- (b) When a transfer of density rights would result in a development on any parcel exceeding

 125 percent of the units permitted by the density regulations of the applicable zone, the

 approval of a Site Development Permit shall require that the findings in Section

 126.0504(1) be made:
- (e) If a hearing results in denial of transfer of density to a particular parcel and a construction permit has already been issued on its companion parcel, the density of which is being reduced, the applicant shall, for a period of 12 months from the date of the denial, be entitled to submit one or more substitute parcels to the hearing process to complete the development for purposes of density bonus transfer to the substitute parcel.

SEC. 143.0750 Deviation to Allow for Additional Development Incentive

An applicant may request a deviation from the applicable development regulations as an additional development incentive for affordable housing pursuant to a Site Development Permit decided in accordance with Process Four provided that the *findings* in Section 126.0504(a) and

the supplemental findings in Section 126.0504(1) are made.

PD:cdk 05/12/99 Or.Dept:Plan.&Dev.Rev. O-99-84



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

September 8, 2000

Ms. Sherilyn Sarb
District Manager, San Diego Office
California Coastal Commission
7575 Metropolitan Drive, Suite 103
San Diego CA 92108

Re: Coastal Commission Item Wed 21b, September 13, 2000 - SDLCPA 1-99

Dear Sherilyn:

Thank you for talking to me this morning regarding the City of San Diego's concern about one of your staff's proposed modifications to this scheduled item on the City's Affordable Housing Density Bonus regulations. This memo attempts to recreate our position.

The City of San Diego believes that the proposed ordinance before the Coastal Commission meets the intent of state law regarding the Density Bonus. We do not object to the added finding in the Coastal Development Permit Section 126.0708 [Suggested Modification 1 on page 6 of your staff report] since its purpose is to clarify that the proposed development project should be consistent with policies of the certified land use plan and its implementing ordinances with exceptions only related to the required density bonus incentives.

We do object to the second proposed modification on page 6 prohibiting the consideration of a deviation from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations for Density Bonus projects for several reasons:

- The Coastal Commission has already certified a process in the Coastal Overlay Zone when a deviation from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations is proposed. This process is very restrictive and provides substantial protection to valuable coastal resources. Projects utilizing Density Bonus provisions would be required to utilize this same deviation process and would be held to the same strict standard as other projects
- The City staff does not agree with the Coastal staff assumption that since more dwelling units are likely to be proposed for a project utilizing the Density Bonus than a non-bonus project, the project will be more intrusive into Environmentally Sensitive Lands. The certified Land Development Code provisions which require avoidance of development on Environmentally Sensitive Lands is a basic premise in all projects, including Density Bonus projects. City staff does not believe the number of units alone determines the need for a deviation. The project's design and how it is sited on the property, is the primary factor.
- The City staff therefore believes that there is no basis to the assumption that Density Bonus



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projects will cause more impacts to Environmentally Sensitive Lands than non-bonus projects and therefore the inability to consider deviations for Density Bonus projects is discriminatory against the City's legal obligation and desire to provide affordable housing in the Coastal Zone.

The City staff believes that the proposed inability to consider deviations for Density Bonus projects in the Coastal Overlay Zone is in direct conflict with certified LCP implementing ordinance provisions in Chapter 14, Article 3, Division 8 entitled "Coastal Overlay Zone Affordable Housing Replacement Provisions" which requires siting of affordable replacement dwelling units within the Coastal Overlay Zone.

The City of San Diego staff recognizes the importance of properly using the Environmentally Sensitive Lands deviation process. We understand that Coastal Commission staff is not comfortable with the City's clarity in the proposed Density Bonus regulations regarding the use of the deviation process. We want to clarify that the City intends that the deviation process be held to the same standard of consideration for Density Bonus projects as it is for all other projects considering use of the deviation process. The City did not intend that the Environmentally Sensitive Lands deviation process be available without restrictions as a "second incentive" in the Density Bonus program as required by the State.

The City therefore proposes the following change to the Coastal Commission staff's proposed modifications:

- 1. Delete proposed modification #2 found on page 6 of the staff report
- 2. Modify the City of San Diego's proposed Section 143.0750 as follows:

Sec 143.0750 Deviation to Allow for Additional Development Incentive

- (1) An applicant may request a deviation from the applicable development regulations, other than for Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations, as an additional development incentive for affordable housing pursuant to a Site Development Permit decided in accordance with Process Four provided that the findings in Section 126.0504(a) and the supplemental findings in Section 126.0504(l) are made.
- (2) In the Coastal Overlay Zone, deviations from Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations may be considered only when Coastal Development Permit findings and Site Development Permit findings for deviations from Environmental Sensitive Lands can be made.

Thank you for considering our proposed changes. We will be prepared to discuss this at the Coastal Commission hearing.

Betsy McCullough, AICP

Betsy

Deputy Director

Long Range Planning

c: San Diego City Attorney's Office

findings for each approval shall be consolidated and shall constitute the findings of the Coastal Development Permit. For decisions involving coastal development within the appealable area, the entire consolidated decision is appealable to the Coastal Commission.

(e) Any coastal development involving a subdivision pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act and any other division of land requires a Coastal Development Permit. The land division shall be processed as part of the Coastal Development Permit in accordance with the Subdivision Regulations (Chapter 14, Article 4) and Subdivision Procedures (Chapter 12, Article 5). Any tentative map, lot line adjustment, merger, public right-of-way vacation or public easement abanconment may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the findings pursuant to Section 126.0708.

§ 126.0708 Findings for Coastal Development Permit Approval

An application for a Coastal Development Permit may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision maker makes the following findings:

- (a) The proposed coastal development will not encroach upon any existing physical accessway that is legally used by the public or any proposed public accessway identified in a Local Coastal Program land use plan; and the proposed coastal development will enhance and protect public views to and along the ocean and other scenic coastal areas as specified in the Local Coastal Program land use plan;
- (b) The proposed coastal development will not adversely affect environmentally sensitive lands; and
- (c) The proposed coastal development is in conformity with the certified Local Coastal Program land use plan and complies with all regulations of the certified Implementation Program.
- (d) For every Coastal Development Permit issued for any coastal development between the nearest public road and the sea or the shoreline of any body of water located within the Coastal Overlay Zone the coastal development is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the California Coastal Act.
- (e) Supplemental Findings Environmentally Sensitive Lands Within the Coastal Overlay Zone

When a Leviation is requested from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations because the applicant contends that application of the regulations would result in denial of all economically viable use, the Coastal Development Permit shall include a determination of economically viable use.

A Coastal Development Permit, or a Site Development Permit in the Coastal Overlay Zone, required in accordance with Section 143.0110 because of potential impacts to environmentally sensitive lands where a deviation is requested in accordance with Section 143.0150 may be approved or conditionally approved only if the decision

maker makes the following supplemental findings in addition to the findings in Section 126.0708(a), (b), (c) and (d) and the supplemental findings in Section 126.0504 (b):

The decision maker shall hold a public hearing on any application on a Coastal Development Permit that includes a deviation from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations in the Coastal Overlay Zone. Such hearing shall address the economically viable use determination. Prior to approving a Coastal Development Permit for development within the Coastal Overlay Zone that requires a deviation from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations, the decision maker shall make all of the following findings:

- Besed on the economic information provided by the applicant, as well as any (1) other relevant evidence, each use provided for in the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations would not provide any economically viable use of the applicant's property; and
- (2) Application of the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations would interfere with the applicant's reasonable investment-backed expectations; and
- The use proposed by the applicant is consistent with the applicable zoning; and (3)
- (4)The use and project design, siting, and size are the minimum necessary to provide the applicant with an economically viable use of the premises; and
- (5) The project is the least environmentally damaging alternative and is consistent with all provisions of the certified Local Coastal Program with the exception of the provision for which the deviation is requested.

The findings adopted by the decision making authority shall identify the evidence supporting the findings.

§ 126.0709

Notice of Final City Action on a Coastal Development Permit

- (a) Notice of Final City Action by Mail. No later than 5 business days after the date on which all rights of appeal have expired for a Coastal Development Permit or any amendment or extension of a Coastal Development Permit, the City Manager shall mail a Notice of Final City Action to the Coastal Commission and to any other person who has requested this notice.
- Contents of Notice of Final City Action. The Notice of Final City Action shall include (b) the following:
 - The conditions of approval for the Coastal Development Permit; (1)
 - The written findings required to approve the Coastal Development Permit; and (2)

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Alcoholic Severage Control
Department of Corporations
Department of Financial Institutions
California Highway Patro
California Housing Finance Agency
Department of Housing & Community Development

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Department of Motor Vehicles
Department of Real Estate
Office of Real Estate Appraisers
Stephen P. Teale Data Center
Office of Traific Safety
Department of Transportation (Californs)

GRAY DAVIS

MARIA CONTRERAS-SWEET Secretary

STATE OF CALIFORNIA



BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY

September 12, 2000

Received at Commission Meeting

SEP 1 3 2000

Commissioners of the California Coastal Commission c/o The Honorable Sarah Wan, Chair California Coastal Commission San Diego Coast Region 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 200 San Diego, California 92108-1725

Erom. Comm. Neil

Re: Agenda item 21b, September 12-15, 2000 agenda: Major Amendment No. 1-99 (Affordable Housing) to the City of San Diego LCP Implementation Plan

Dear Chair Wan and Commissioners:

I would like to express my strong concern about the recommended action regarding the City of San Diego's Affordable Housing Density Bonus Regulations. The pending action affects the implementation of Government Code Section 65915 et. seq., a.k.a. State Density Bonus Law. It has been called to my attention that one of the departments of our agency, the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), has previously been involved on this matter with the Commission staff, and with an earlier application for the City of San Diego initially prepared for the Commission's consideration in 1995-96. Although HCD was not made aware of the pending application until a few days ago, they have indicated continuing concerns with the pending application. HCD has also provided the Coastal Commission staff with explanation of the context for, and interpretation of State Density Bonus Law in prior correspondence.

It appears the Coastal Commission staff's proposed action would have the effect of subjecting affordable housing projects to provisions that would be particularly restrictive and more restrictive than those applicable to other uses within the area covered by the City's LCP. Such an effect would be fundamentally contrary to the Legislative intent of State Density Bonus Law,

¹ Sec letters of August 31, 1994, November 2, 1994.

Commissioners of the California Coastal Commission Page 2

which provided that "local governments must offer the private sector incentives for the development of affordable housing . . .". In its September 29, 1995 letter to the Coastal Commission's Deputy Chief Counsel, HCD noted, referring to the State Density Bonus Law,

"In effect, the statute imposes an overlay granting a right to the increased density to developers of qualified projects throughout the state. The statute is mandatory, with no exceptions or special treatment specified for the Coastal Zone."

HCD then expressed at least two concerns that appear to remain an issue in the pending application:

- a) the proposed requirement that "a project is the most protective of significant coastal resources" (page 6 of the Coastal Commission [CC] staff report), with the proposed interpretation of this provision (page 13 of the CC staff report), wherein it provides that "a project is the most protective of coastal resources when considering all possible alternatives, and the project is, therefore, the least environmentally damaging alternative. See also page 6 of HCD's 9/29/95 letter.
- b) the proposed prohibition of consideration of a deviation from the Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations for Density Bonus Projects. It is our understanding that under this recommendation, only affordable housing projects pursuant to State Density Bonus Law would be subject to this additional restriction.

HCD's 1995 letter had also pointed out that to the extent LCP provisions impose a burden on density bonus projects greater than that imposed on other coastal residential developments, the provisions compel localities to violate the provisions of Government Code Section 65008, which prohibits discriminating against a residential development because of its intended occupancy by persons of low- and moderate-income households.

In addition to the issues identified in 1995, HCD also notes that Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act requires consideration of potential adverse disparate impact of government actions of agencies receiving federal assistance (see http://www.cpa.gov/civilrights). This encompasses policies and practices that have a discriminatory effect on low-income populations.

Therefore, under these circumstances, I urge that you vote against the staff's recommended action on LCP No. 1-99. Thank you very much for your consideration of this very critical need to harmonize the State's laws providing for addressing its severe housing needs as well as its environmental protection needs.

Sincerely,

Pat Neal

Deputy Secretary for Housing

¹ See historical note under Section 65050, Stats. 1979, Ch. 1207, p. 4738; and Sec. 1, Ch. 846, Stats. 1989.