

JAN 23 2007

MOTION

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), is a State statute (California Public Resources Code) that requires state and local agencies to identify the significant environmental impacts of their actions and to avoid or mitigate those impacts, if feasible.

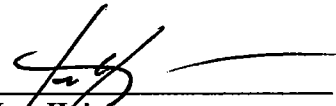
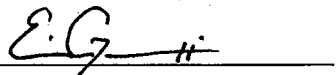
Hillside areas of the city are protected through the provisions of the zoning code, which prescribes the land use regulatory controls that govern land use policy in the city (Los Angeles Municipal Code, Chapter 1).

In the last couple of years, hillside development has been occurring Citywide. In turn, these development projects are incrementally eliminating the City's supply of open space.

In 1992, the Council adopted the Hillside Ordinance, establishing regulations for building setbacks, fire protection, lot coverage, parking, street access, sewer connections and grading for new construction in the fragile Hillside areas of the City.

Community members need to be fully informed as to the consequences of hillside development, and whether individual projects when considered together have "cumulative impacts" on their neighborhoods.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Planning Department, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to prepare a report within 30 days before the consideration of the Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee, that provides an interpretation of Sections 15355 and 21083 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), relative to "cumulative impacts" and how this section is interpreted by City staff and its impact on development in hillside areas of the City; and how the City can at a policy and process level, integrate an analysis of "cumulative impacts" in the City's planning review process.

PRESENTED BY 
Jose Huizar
Councilmember, 14th District
SECONDED BY 

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