



Elaine
Forbes/CTYPLN/SFGOV
12/05/2008 01:58 PM

To
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: DR Reform Support Letter

, Attachment iv Written Comments, received after case report was issued on 12/4/2008

Dear Planning Commission:

My wife and I added 300 square feet to our previously 800 square foot house two years ago. We weren't looking to build an extra unit, nor were we looking to radically transform the structure of our house. We just wanted more space for our family. While the Planning Dept granted our permits, we came to understand how difficult the process could have been. Two neighbors were initially against the project. Fortunately for us, they lacked the motivation (what little was required) to make our life miserable by appealing the department's decision via Discretionary Review. We were fortunate, but other people like us--who simply want to change the design of their house, or who want to add more space for a growing family--are not. I'm glad to hear that you folks are considering proposals to reform the Discretionary Review process.

I strongly urge you to approve the Planning Department's proposed improvements. The changes won't deny anyone the right to a reasonable and thoughtful appeal of a decision; they will, however, restore a sense of order and predictability to the process, allowing our Planning Dept to focus on more pressing concerns. Trust me, I stand to gain absolutely nothing if you approve the changes. I'm just a lowly teacher who was lucky enough to buy a place 10 years ago. I'm not making any more changes, and I'm not going anywhere. I just want to ensure people such as I have the same opportunities. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

With humility,

Joshua Gnass
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]