



Ruthanne Fuller
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March 15, 2019

Dear Honorable City Councilors

Please know that I have asked the Planning Department to extend the timeline for their delivery of a final draft zoning ordinance to the City Council to the calendar year 2020. I appreciate the input of Planning Director Barney Heath and his team, City Council President Marc Laredo and Zoning and Planning Committee Chair Susan Albright as I came to this decision.

My decision was made for two reasons. First, we recently concluded the 1st draft Zoning Redesign ward-by-ward meetings and listened carefully; we know we have considerable work to do on the second draft to ensure we have the right rules in place to direct the future development of our community. Second, we have a sizeable work load in our Planning Department for the rest of this calendar year. This includes important and time-sensitive planning work reviewing the Northland Special Permit application, a Vision Plan and anticipated special permit application for Riverside, updating our inclusionary zoning provisions, developing and presenting a Climate Action Plan, and completing work on the Vision Plan and associated zoning for Washington Street. I am confident the Planning Department can ably complete these initiatives in 2019 if we extend zoning redesign into 2020.

The Planning Department's work on developing a new zoning ordinance for our city in conjunction with the Zoning and Planning Committee and others will continue throughout 2019. We will not stop our work on the new zoning ordinance. Rather, we will slow the pace, ensure its responsiveness to input and continue our efforts to draft a thorough and thoughtful zoning ordinance. As work continues this year, there may still be an opportunity to adopt some sections such as those addressing aspects of environmental sustainability.

I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with residents of the city and the City Council on these important initiatives. The Planning Department will be working closely with the Zoning and Planning Committee on an updated schedule.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller