From: Gary Scott

To: City Council

 Cc:
 Board and Council Messages

 Subject:
 Proposed amendment to LDR 1.2.C

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To Members of the City Council:

On behalf of the North Venice Neighborhood Alliance, I write to make a suggestion regarding a proposed amendment to LDR 1.2.C., which is an item on the agenda for the meeting scheduled for December 12.

Section 1.2 is entitled "Common Review Procedures", and subsection C is entitled, "Application Requirements."

The proposed amendment to that subsection would add the sentence, "Specific application requirements contained in each subsection must be provided unless such requirement is waived by the Director." In the staff memorandum prepared for the council meeting it is explained, "Only the common requirements can be deemed not applicable at this time, but many of the specific application requirements may not be applicable to every application."

Apparently, there are occasions where the current LDR requires the applicant to submit information that is not relevant or applicable to its application. But the proposed amendment in its current form allows the Director to waive stated requirements not just when the requirement is not applicable, but anytime. There is no stated limitation on the Director's discretionary authority to waive stated requirements for an application. The proposed amendment is overly broad.

We do not question the need for an amendment. But the proposed amendment goes beyond what is required to remedy the situation.

What we suggest is language that clarifies that the Director can waive requirements but only in those instances where the requirements clearly are not relevant or applicable to the application being considered. Perhaps the added sentence could read, "Specific application requirements contained in each subsection must be provided unless such requirement is clearly not applicable to the application under consideration in which case the Director, after making such a finding, may in writing waive the inapplicable requirement."

Thank you for your consideration.

Gary Scott, for the North Venice Neighborhood Alliance

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