

# Appeals Procedure - Draft Code Update

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- Appeals can be complex and confusing.
- Certain elements of appeal hearings can be unpredictable.
- Appeals can create an unrealistic expectation of different outcomes.
- Grounds for appeal are frequently found to lack merit at hearing.
- Processing and preparing for appeals is burdensome on Council and other City resources – as well as the Appellant and Respondent.

- What feedback do Councilmembers have on the proposed updated appeals processes?
- What additional issues or solutions that Councilmembers interested in developing further?

- Clarify Eligibility to Appeal
- Require Participation in Original Hearing
- Separate Processes for Fair Hearing vs Failure to Apply/Interpret
- Completeness Review & Screening
- Prehearing Registration for Participants & Prehearing Conference
- Clarify timeframes, submittals, communication and “the record”
- Eliminate the organized site visit

Improve communication and clarity of the overall process for projects at Neighborhood Meetings, in Notices, and on the Planning & Historic Preservation webpages.

Review existing appeals guides and templates for revisions – focus on simplicity and clarity.

Work to better communicate the need to participate in Hearings with the original decision-makers to maintain ability to appeal a decision.

Enhance technical assistance to support community members for more impactful participation at *all* levels of decisions.

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