

From: [Jim Wing](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: PublicComment Agenda Item 15-MeetingDate 03/28/2023
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2023 1:45:31 PM

Los Altos Mayor Meadows and Distinguished Council Members,

Subject: Council 03/28/2023 Meeting Agenda Item 15, Housing Element Implementing Ordinance

I urge you to continue Objective Code Improvement Projects! I support Housing Element Ordinance changes that are shifting most new/revision residential permit applications from public review to Planning Staff review.

Making Los Altos Code objective makes it easier for home owner/developer to submit designs that are code compliant. Giving Planning Staff approval authority means that they know what to check and do not have to make “judgmental” decisions. In my 55 years, Los Altos has always had high turnover of Planning Staff. Codes that are objective means that new hires can very quickly do “no judgmental” reviews.

Would you please consider ‘bundling’ following changes to ensure objective compliance with both California/Federal law and provide pedestrian safety? California Vehicle Code is the “objective guideline” for Automobile, Bicycle, Pedestrian, Trucks and Public Transportation. Recent changes to Federal 2007 Clean Water Act Regulations concerning Los Altos ephemeral creeks, now impacts residential streets that do not have curb and gutter. Los Altos Shoulder Improvement Policy SU-20 ensures compliance and also provides enhanced pedestrian safety.

1. Chapter 14.76.060 Page 31 - Finding “C” to include Los Altos Shoulder Improvement Policy SU-20? This will ensure that Federal Environmental Requirements for Los Altos ephemeral creeks are being met for streets that do not have curb and gutter. Also, pedestrian safety is enhanced by providing edge of street swales for safer walking. Contractor for new home at 761 University had drawings, approved by Los Altos staff that did not specify construction details for how to treat pavement shoulder. Contractor was just going to put some rocks down. I provided him with SU-20 drawings, now site will be in compliance with Federal regulations and safe place for me to walk.
2. Chapter 14.78.090 Page 38 - Change Title to include definition of “Multimodal [Auto, Bicycle, Pedestrian, Trucks, and Public Transportation]”. Most residents do not know what “Multimodal” means.
3. Chapter 14.78.090 Page 38 - Finding “A” to include review for compliance with California Vehicle Code. This will ensure that automobile, bicycle, pedestrian, trucks, and public transportation are in conformance with California Law. California Vehicle Code is a great objective code and covers all aspects of transportation. One example is all [except for school zones] of Los Altos speed limits may not be in valid because data used for calculation of “85 percentile” speed was not done per California Vehicle Code.

Thank you for your consideration! Jim Wing, Milverton Road, Los Altos, CA

