



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 6/22/2022

ITEM NO: 3

ADDENDUM

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DATE: June 21, 2022  
TO: Planning Commission  
FROM: Joel Paulson, Community Development Director  
SUBJECT: Review and Recommendation of the Draft Objective Standards to the Town Council.

**DISCUSSION:**

The following information is provided in response to Planning Commissioner questions regarding examples of subcommittee recommendations that were not included in the Draft Objective Standards. Staff has prepared Exhibit 5 addressing the specific examples provided.

The Planning Commission objective standards subcommittee held five meetings between July and December 2021. The subcommittee reviewed more than 500 existing subjective guidelines collated from Town documents to provide recommendations to staff on which subjective guidelines should be rewritten as objective standards. The subjective guidelines identified and included in the subcommittee's recommendations are summarized in Exhibit 6 with references to the preliminary objective standards created in response to the subcommittee's recommendations. Some items identified by the subcommittee were not included in the Draft Objective Standards. The reasons for exclusions varied but included: duplication of existing Town Code requirements; creation of unreasonable barriers to development; difficulties in enforcement; and not being appropriate when applied to multi-family and mixed-use projects. In collaboration with the Town's consultant, these recommendations were used to help create the Draft Objective Standards included as Exhibit 3 to the June 22, 2022, Planning Commission Staff Report.

Please note that many subjective guidelines identified by the subcommittee look different when converted into a draft standard. In writing the Draft Objective Standards, it was often necessary to identify the concept that a subjective guideline was attempting to address in order to create a standard that addresses the same concept. For example, one of the issues identified by the subcommittee was to "provide a foot candle limit for parking lot lights." While it is possible to write a standard limiting the foot candle power of a parking lot light fixture, the standard may not completely address the overarching concept, which is to limit light spillage

**PREPARED BY:** SEAN MULLIN, AICP and RYAN SAFTY  
Senior Planner Associate Planner

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Reviewed by: Planning Manager and Community Development Director

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SUBJECT: Draft Objective Standards

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DISCUSSION (continued):

from exterior light fixtures onto neighboring properties. With this in mind, the draft objective standard developed from this subjective guideline is: Exterior lighting shall be fully shielded and restrain light to a minimum 30 degrees below the horizontal plane of the light source. Uplighting is prohibited. (A.5.2).

A Planning Commissioner also emailed links to the City of Palo Alto objective standards, which is included as Exhibit 7.

Staff looks forward to the discussion and will be available to answer any questions.

EXHIBITS:

Previously received with the June 22, 2022, Staff Report:

1. Town Council Resolution 2019-053
2. Summary of feedback received during community engagement meetings
3. Draft Objective Standards
4. Public Comments received prior to 11:00 a.m., Friday, June 17, 2022

Received with this Addendum Report:

5. Staff response to Commissioner's questions
6. Issues considered by the Objective Standards Subcommittee
7. Commissioner email regarding City of Palo Alto Objective Standards