



# Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

*Planning for the Challenges Ahead*



Richard J. Bruckner  
Director

## **Ethical Guidelines and Conflicts of Interest:**

SEATAC members' service ensures projects balance the preservation of significant ecological resources against property rights. SEATAC members serve in a critical capacity as advisors to the Los Angeles County of Regional Planning, private citizens applying for development in SEAs, the Regional Planning Commission, the Board of Supervisors and the public at large. All SEATAC members are chosen with the expectation that they will adhere to the highest possible ethical standards, including open disclosure of conflicting interests, and the appointment to SEATAC assumes that each SEATAC member is fully committed to maintaining advisory impartiality in order to provide the best possible expert insight for all cases.

In order to preserve the impartiality of the SEATAC process, SEATAC members are required to disclose any potential conflict of interest they might have in the outcome of any case discussed at SEATAC Meetings. SEATAC Members are required to submit a written notice of disclosure to the applicant and Planning staff in cases where a potential conflict exists including where:

- The applicant has hired the SEATAC member;
- The SEATAC member has been hired by another applicant located on a property that borders the site under discussion; or
- The SEATAC member is involved in some manner with any individual or organization that has a vested interest in the outcome of the case (e.g., the SEATAC member is employed by a conservation authority which opposes the project, or by a firm which wants to propose additional development in the area if the site under discussion is developed).

Planning staff and applicants may request that a member of SEATAC not be involved in a case where a potential conflict of interest exists. SEATAC members may voluntarily recuse themselves from project discussions. If a member discloses a potential conflict of interest and there is no subsequent request for recusal from either Planning staff or the applicant, then the member shall be free to serve SEATAC on the case. Failure to disclose conflicts of interest by SEATAC members may result in the dismissal of the member from SEATAC at the discretion of the Director.



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SEATAC CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM:

Project Number \_\_\_\_\_

Case Planner: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

I, (*print name*) \_\_\_\_\_, a current member of SEATAC:

Have / Have not been employed by the applicant of this project.

Have / Have not been employed by another person owning property that borders this project site.

Am / Am not involved with any individual or organization that has a vested interest in the outcome of the project.

If I have answered "have" or "am" above, I have attached a written explanation of the circumstances of my involvement. Yes / No

If I have answered "have" or "am above, I Am / Am not recusing myself from this project.

I affirm that I am committed to impartial review of the project in order to provide the best possible expert insight and service I may:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECUSAL:

I, (*print name*) \_\_\_\_\_, the applicant for this project:

Have received this form and I Am / Am not requesting that this member of SEATAC recuse him or herself from review of my project.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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## DIRECTOR'S DECISION ON RECUSAL REQUESTS

I, Richard J. Bruckner, the Director of Regional Planning, have received this request for recusal from the above applicant of on project number \_\_\_\_\_,

and I Am / Am not requiring the recusal of:

(print name) \_\_\_\_\_

from serving as a voting member of SEATAC on this case.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_