Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

*Planning for the Challenges Ahead*

Richard J. Bruckner
Director

January 28, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING: CONFIRMATION OF HEARING OFFICERS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

## SUBJECT

Recommendation to confirm the appointment of three Hearing Officers within the Department of Regional Planning (Department). Hearing Officers are employees of the Department who are appointed by the Director of Planning and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors. Their duties are to conduct public hearings and render decisions on land divisions, land use permits, and variances.

## IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Confirm the appointment of John Calas, Bruce Durbin, and Susan Tae as Hearing Officers within the Department to conduct public hearings and make determinations on land use permits and variances.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On November 26, 1995, the Board of Supervisors passed ordinances establishing a Hearing Officer within the Department of Regional Planning. Hearing Officers hold public hearings on routine applications freeing the Regional Planning Commission to focus on significant proposals.

Section 22.08.080 of the County Code (Zoning Ordinance) requires that all appointments as Hearing Officer be confirmed by the Board of Supervisors.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommendations are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Service Excellence (Goal 1), and Community Services (Goal 6), by providing the public with services that are both beneficial and responsive.

## FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The appointment of these Hearing Officers does not require additional funding; therefore, there is no impact on net County costs.

## FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County Code (Zoning Ordinance) Section 22.08.080 permits the Director of Planning to appoint Hearing Officers, subject to confirmation by the Board of Supervisors, to perform the duties prescribed by Title 22 in conducting public hearings and making determinations on land use permits and variances.

## IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The Board's approval of this recommendation will enable the Department to devote and maintain an appropriate number of Hearing Officers to enhance the quality of services provided to the public.

## CONCLUSION

Upon Board approval, please return one adopted copy of this Board letter to the Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Bruckner
Director

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c: County Counsel
Department of Regional Planning