

Council File 09-0969-S3 — Comprehensive Fee Update

The Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council (ASNC) OPPOSES Council File 09-0969-S3, in which the City Council is proposing at the suggestion of the Mayor, that the current Non-Applicant-Initiated Appeal Fee of \$89.00 — charged to members of the community — be increased to the amount of \$16,097.00.

The Department of Planning, at the request of the Mayor, completed a cost analysis report regarding recommendations for fee increases to shift burden from the General Fund to a cost capture calculation that would cover the costs of the services provided. Within the report, the Department of Planning recommended a fee increase from \$89.00 to \$158.00, which would be a small percentage of the cost of processing an appeal, which the costs are paid from the General Fund (which is taxpayer funded).

Instead, the City Council and specifically the PLUM Committee, has recommended and proposed the fee to be increased to \$16,097.00.

A fee of this amount is a blatant attempt to silence the voice of the community, along with any public discussion, public participation, or access to the land use and planning process of our City. Moreover, a fee of this amount removes the community from the decision making that directly affects their neighborhood.

For the reasons above, the Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council OPPOSES any such proposed fee increase which is already subsidized by taxpayers of this City through the General Fund.