

From: Liz Gates <lizrgates@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 4:25 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Cc: Dave Gates; BOS-District II
Subject: BOS Aug 15 mtg agenda item 39

Hello Kim,

1. Please add this email to the public comments regarding agenda item 39 file # 23-1487.
2. Please provide this email to all members of the Board of Supervisors.

Dear EDC Supervisors,

I am a resident of Cameron Park and my name is Liz Gates. As you review the Planning and Building Department draft fee study report, I request your consideration of the recommendation to increase the current Appeal fee charged by Planning Department. I understand a fee is necessary, especially to discourage frivolous appeals. The current and recommended increased appeal fee is not refundable, even if the appellant prevails.

I am requesting that the fee policy be changed, so that it does not unfairly discourage legitimate appeals. As I understand it, the appeal process provides the opportunity for citizens to refute Planning Department findings and decisions. If an appellant successfully argues their appeal, the Appeal fee should be refunded. I also understand that the fee is not actually the true cost of staff time to process an Appeal. However, charging a nonrefundable fee in any amount is biased and unfair to citizens, who simply want to see that projects approved by the planning department do not infringe on individual legal rights. I am currently an appellant, and am very disheartened to learn that my fee will not be refunded to me, if I prevail. I ask for impartial judgment of this issue. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Liz Gates

Sent from my iPad