

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

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**Council File No:** 26-0489-S9

**Comments for Public Posting:** It feels like public enemy #1 are those very few "non-applicants" in the city of 4 million people that care enough to appeal a case. This is just as concerning as some other powers that be that want to squash our first amendment rights. The numbers in this motion seem off as well. For example, it cost \$229 for a non-applicant to appeal a case and then service charges are added to that, which comes to \$281 (not \$178). Some other fun facts- 80 percent of the cases filed with the city are ADMINISTRATIVE - 80%!! thanks to streamlining, state mandated land use laws that the CC rarely bother to weigh in on when it matters, and the total disregard for CEQA. For calendar year 2025, 1,938 cases were filed with DCP of which 59 cases were appealed, that's only 3% of all cases. The reasons for non-applicant appeals are varied but often times it is due to poorly written determinations and the public feeling they were not heard, etc. By the time a case is appealed, the planning staff has already vetted their info, so with exception of some challenges that required more research, the 104 hours per appeal seems abnormally high. An Appeals Board is a worthy concept as long as our City Councilmembers can assert jurisdiction (Rule 245) should the Appeal Body miss some major issues or new information is provided. Let's be real, the Appeal Body, appointed by the Mayor, will be no less political than what we have today.