

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

501



FROM: Planning Director, Planning Department  
Parks Director, Parks Department

SUBMITTAL DATE: December 18, 2002

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 2003-12 Amending the Rules for Riverside County Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board adopts Resolution 2003-12, Amending the Rules for Riverside County Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act.

BACKGROUND: Under the proposal, when an activity is substantially funded or sponsored by the Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District (Park District) or the Riverside County Parks Department (Parks Department) and is processed by the General Manager of the District or the Director of the Parks Department, he would perform those functions which would otherwise be performed by the Planning Director, including determining whether the project may have a significant impact on the environment and preparing the required documents prior to submittal of the project to the approving body for decision.

(continued on page 2)

*Aleta G. Lawrence*

Aleta Lawrence, Planning Director  
Planning Department

*Paul Frandsen*

Paul Frandsen, Parks Director  
Parks Department

Form 11/348A-Resolution 2003-12 to Amend CEQA - Parks Department

FINANCIAL DATA: Not Applicable

CURRENT YEAR COST \$

NET COUNTY COST \$

ANNUAL COST: \$

IN CURRENT YEAR BUDGET: \$

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FY: \$

SOURCE OF FUNDS:

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

County Executive Office Signature

*[Signature]*

Prev. Agn. ref.

Dist. All

AGENDA NO.

3.18

Department Recommendation:  Policy  
Per Executive Office:  Policy  
 Consent  
 Consent

03 FEB -2 11:33  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
EXECUTIVE

**SUBJECT:** Resolution No. 2003-12 Amending the Rules for Riverside County Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act

The Planning Department is currently the designated agency to perform the environmental analysis of projects, which are substantially funded or sponsored by the Park District or Parks Department for preparation of the appropriate environmental forms.

Approval of this proposal would direct the Park District or Parks Department to assume full responsibility of the environmental review of their projects. Assuming responsibility in these matters would enable the Park District or Parks Department to expedite CEQA processing for their projects, many of which are funded through the State of California's Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 (Proposition 12), and the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 40), both of which have explicit time lines. It is also believed there would be a cost savings to the Park District or Parks Department by processing their own projects. The action would provide similar responsibility and authority for environmental review as the Board has already assigned to the Economic Development Agency, the Waste Management Department, and the Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

The Regional Park and Open-Space District and Riverside County Parks Department staff are qualified to assume the function of environmental review and document preparation for their projects based upon the following:

- 1) The Park District and Parks Department CEQA process is supervised by an Assistant General Manager who has a Master's Degree in City Planning and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners;
- 2) The Park District and Parks Department Park Planner and Assistant Park Planners (two of whom came from the Planning Department) know and understand CEQA, its regulations, and Riverside County's General Plan and ordinances as well as Planners in the Planning Department and are experienced in the preparation and processing of environmental documents;
- 3) The Park District and Parks Department Planning Division more thoroughly understands the Park District's and Parks Department's systems and facility operations;
- 4) The technical data needed to prepare an environmental assessment and mitigation-monitoring program are housed in and interpreted by Park District and Parks Department Planning Division staff; and
- 5) CEQA is a complex document that changes periodically. As part of its acceptance of the CEQA process, the Park District and Parks Department will commit to keeping staff current with the rules and changes to CEQA by having them attend annual training and/or classes on the CEQA process.

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3 **RESOLUTION NO. 2003-12**

4 **AMENDING THE RULES FOR RIVERSIDE COUNTY IMPLEMENTING THE CALIFORNIA**  
5 **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**  
6

7 **BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside,  
8 State of California, in regular session assembled on February 11, 2003 that the "Rules for Riverside  
9 County Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act," adopted June 15, 1982, and previously  
10 amended, are further amended as follows:

11 I. Section 111. is amended to read as follows:

12 Section 111.

13 a. When an activity is substantially funded or sponsored by the Riverside County  
14 Economic Development Agency and is processed by the Managing Director of the Agency, the Managing  
15 Director shall perform those functions that would otherwise be performed by the Planning Director,  
16 including determining whether the project may have a significant impact on the environment and  
17 preparing the required documents prior to submittal of the project to the approving body for decision.

18 b. When an activity is substantially funded or sponsored by the Riverside County  
19 Waste Management Department and is processed by the Director of Waste Management, the Director  
20 shall perform those functions that would otherwise be performed by the Planning Director, including  
21 determining whether the project may have a significant impact on the environment and preparing the  
22 required documents prior to submittal of the project to the approving body for decision.

23 c. When an Area Drainage Plan is prepared or updated by the Riverside County Flood  
24 Control and Water Conservation District and is processed by the General Manager-Chief Engineer, the  
25 General Manager-Chief Engineer shall perform those functions that would otherwise be performed by the  
26 Planning Director, including determining whether the project may have a significant impact on the  
27 environment and preparing the required documents prior to submittal of the project to the approving body  
28 for decision.

FORM APPROVED  
COUNTY COUNSEL

JAN 30 2003

BY 

1           d.     When an activity is substantially funded or sponsored by the Riverside County  
2 Regional Park & Open-Space District or by the Riverside County Parks Department and is processed by  
3 the General Manager of the District or the Parks Director, the General Manager or Director shall perform  
4 those functions that would otherwise be performed by the Planning Director, including determining  
5 whether the project may have a significant impact on the environment and preparing the required  
6 documents prior to submittal of the project to the approving body for decision.

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