

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



FROM: Supervisor Jeff Stone

SUBMITTAL DATE: November 20, 2012

SUBJECT: Facilitate Accredited Impartial Required Studies Competently Ordered (by) Riverside County Entities (FAIRSCORE) a proposed policy requiring all processing of Environment Impact Reports to be fully administered and contracted by Riverside County.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

1. That the Board of Supervisors direct staff to develop the proposed **FAIRSCORE** policy which mandates that the county, *as opposed to* the project proponent, select a qualified, competent consultant on the county's approved certified vendors list, to perform county, state or federal required studies associated with the development review process. All consulting work shall be paid for by the applicant and monitored and administered by the county.

2. That Board of Supervisors direct the Transportation Land Management Agency to develop a program that implements execute FAIRSCORE policy as it pertains to:
 - a. the qualification process/ selection of consultants,
 - b. administration of contracts/ memorandum of understanding with consultants
 - c. an environment review process that is transparent and open

3. That the Board of Supervisors create a FAIRSCORE ad hoc committee by each Supervisor submitting one appointee name to the Transportation Land Management Agency director to evaluate the current process and make recommendations on the proposed program so that issues can be vetted prior to Board consideration and action on the proposed policy and process. Appointee shall be knowledgeable in the environment review process

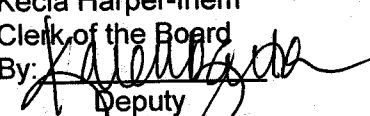
4. That the Board of Supervisors direct the Transportation Land Management Agency to submit a report on the status and progress of this task within 45 days and that Staff submit the proposed policy/program for Board consideration and action within 120 days from this directive.


JEFF STONE, Supervisor

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Stone, seconded by Supervisor Benoit and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved and staff is directed to come back on Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. for appointment of representatives and discussion of completion of the plan.

Ayes: Buster, Stone, Benoit and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: Tavaglione
Date: November 20, 2012
xc: Supvr. Stone, E.O., COB

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

3.59

BACKGROUND:

Environmental review is a critical and a state mandated process for the review, processing and adoption of planning projects or any project under CEQA. Currently the county fulfills the oversight of the environmental review process and through a Memorandum of Understanding. This process affords the county the ability to provide input into the selection of the consultant, the data and analysis conducted for the project. However, our current process is loosely structured and in the eyes of the public there is no verification that county staff is in control of the process. This leaves the public to speculate whether the studies are genuine and authentic or somehow tainted with input from the project proponent. Public trust can be restored by refining the process so that critical decisions are made by the county not the project proponent.

Implementation of FAIRSCORE would require delineating what projects require a contract or memorandum of understanding and how the county would contract for the work, monitor the process and manage the project. This is not uncommon and many jurisdictions currently practice this approach. It is understood that all cost are to be borne by the applicant. The new process should represent a streamlining of development in the county not the creation of a cumbersome layer in the development review process.

Prior to Board deliberation it is suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed to review of the current process and structure an improved and refined process that fully reflects the intent of the FAIRSCORE policy. The creation of the ad hoc committee will assure that issues are fully vetted by professionals in the industry. It is suggested that each board member appoint an individual that is familiar with and has experienced the processing of EIRs in Riverside County. This policy improves the process, sets expectations and requirements up-front in an uncomplicated manner imparting a higher level of confidence to the public in the accurateness of environmental data and analysis.

Partial Verbatim

Item 3.59 of November 20, 2012

(11:11:58am)

(Supervisor Stone)

Well Mr. Chair, I don't agree with a lot of what Ms. Ludwig said. I certainly recognize her freedom of speech. But the bottom line here is that we want to just have a transparent process for EIR's, and Supervisor Ashley's made a number of great recommendations as a part of the process.

We're going to have principals sitting on this committee to help strengthen the County's process.

If it's going to require additional funds above and beyond what our staff time would be, the staff will come back to us with a recommendation I'd be happy to offer CID, because I think this process needs to be cleaned, needs to be transparent, needs to be efficient. And we need to have that transparency between the applicant and the County that is ordering these studies to evaluate

the applicant's process. We can't have the Fox cart in the hen house. With that - with all the comments that have been suggested, I'll move staff recommendation, - or my recommendation.

(Supervisor Benoit) 11:12:53

Mr. Stone - ah Supervisor Stone. A couple of suggestions were made that we have a - bring it back to the Board for approval of a formal plan. I would recommend that maybe we include that in your motion to save three weeks...

(Supervisor Stone)

Well, we're not going to have that until the five people sit down and come up with a plan, 'cause we don't know what the plan is.

And if it requires any more than the staff time that's regular hours, prioritizing their projects, if it requires additional funds that staff feels are appropriate, then I think they should come back and ask us for those funds, and I, for one, would be very happy to...

(Supervisor Ashley) I'd be willing to help out...

(Supervisor Benoit)

What I would suggest is that we have them come back in three weeks, and that also we could appoint our representatives at that same time, and have that discussion, and then set a goal for completion, etc.

So, it, - could be move to do that and bring it back in three weeks for that discussion?

(Supervisor Stone) Sure.

(Supervisor Benoit) I'll second that.

(Supervisor Stone) Thank you.

(Supervisor Benoit) That would be on December the 11th.

**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Request to Speak**

Submit request to Clerk of Board (right of podium),
Speakers are entitled to three (3) minutes, subject
Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form.

SPEAKER'S NAME: Larry Markham

Address: _____
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone #: 909 322 8482

Date: 11.20.12 **Agenda #** 3.59

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:
 Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed
for "Appeal", please state separately your position on
the appeal below:

Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

BOARD RULES

Requests to Address Board on "Agenda" Items:

You may request to be heard on a published agenda item. Requests to be heard must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board before the scheduled meeting time.

Requests to Address Board on items that are "NOT" on the Agenda:

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Power Point Presentations/Printed Material:

Speakers who intend to conduct a formalized Power Point presentation or provide printed material must notify the Clerk of the Board's Office by 12 noon on the Monday preceding the Tuesday Board meeting, insuring that the Clerk's Office has sufficient copies of all printed materials and at least one (1) copy of the Power Point CD. Copies of printed material given to the Clerk (by Monday noon deadline) will be provided to each Supervisor. If you have the need to use the overhead "Elmo" projector at the Board meeting, please insure your material is clear and with proper contrast, notifying the Clerk well ahead of the meeting, of your intent to use the Elmo.

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SPEAKER'S NAME: Joel Morse

Address: _____
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone #: 714 505-6700 X 105

Date: 11-20-2017 **Agenda #** 3.59

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

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 Support X **Oppose** **Neutral**

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SPEAKER'S NAME: Bill Blankenship

Address: 3891 11th Street
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: Riverside **Zip:** 92501
(951)

Phone #: [REDACTED] 781-7310

Date: 11/20/2012 **Agenda #** 359

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:
 Support X **Oppose** **Neutral**

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SPEAKER'S NAME: REBECCA WADSWORTH

Address: _____

(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone #: _____

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