

**Bliss, Sandi**

153

**From:** Oswald, Jesse  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 17, 2019 1:26 PM  
**To:** Mahre, Kali  
**Cc:** Trupiano, Nicole; Bliss, Sandi  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: Adoption of 2019 California Fire Code, Item 15.3, 11/19/19 Agenda  
**Attachments:** cc\_11\_19\_19\_fire\_code\_ltr\_final\_1.pdf

This did not go to the "allcouncil" email.

No response is required and it can be added to public correspondence.

Thank you,

Jesse Oswald | Chief Building Official Planning & Economic Development | 100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Room 3 | Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Tel. (707) 543-3249 | Fax (707) 543-3219 | joswald@srcity.org

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sonia Taylor <great6@sonic.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 17, 2019 8:57 AM  
**To:** Schwedhelm, Tom <tschedhelm@srcity.org>; Rogers, Chris <CRogers@srcity.org>; Combs, Julie <jcombs@srcity.org>; Fleming, Victoria <VFleming@srcity.org>; Olivares, Ernesto <EOlivares@srcity.org>; Sawyer, John <jsawyer@srcity.org>; Tibbetts, Jack <hjtibbetts@srcity.org>; Oswald, Jesse <JOswald@srcity.org>; Schmitt, Will <will.schmitt@pressdemocrat.com>; Jim Sweeney -Press Democrat <jim.sweeney@pressdemocrat.com>  
**Cc:** Moon, Scott <SMoon@srcity.org>; Hardage, Ian <ihardage@srcity.org>; Guhin, David <dguhin@srcity.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Adoption of 2019 California Fire Code, Item 15.3, 11/19/19 Agenda

Mayor Schwedhelm, and members of the Santa Rosa City Council:

Attached please find my letter regarding your adoption of the California Fire Code, which you will consider as Item 15.3 on your agenda this coming Tuesday.

Thank you for your consideration. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sonia

Sonia Taylor  
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17 November 2019

Tom Schwedhelm, Mayor  
Chris Rogers, Vice Mayor  
Julie Combs  
Victoria Fleming  
Ernesto Olivares  
John Sawyer  
Jack Tibbetts  
Santa Rosa City Council

Via email

Re: Adoption of 2019 California Fire Code, Item 15.3, 11/19/19 Agenda

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm and Members of the Santa Rosa City Council:

As you will recall, on November 4<sup>th</sup>, I sent you a letter discussing the California Fire Code, identified what I see as four deficiencies in the Code, and made four suggestions to make Chapter 4 of the Code "Emergency Planning and Preparedness" more effective.

Since this item was continued to this Tuesday's City Council meeting, I would like to offer clearer thoughts about the second deficiency and how to resolve it.

My original second identified deficiency was "No requirement for any public review or vetting of any required "fire safety and evacuation plan," and no publicly available "library" of approved plans."

It now occurs to me that some projects/businesses required to prepare these Plans do not have to go through any public process prior to approvals of their Plans, and it would probably be excessive to require them to undertake a public process. Therefore, I would like to suggest that when any project does have to go through a public process, that the applicant be required to make their proposed Plans part of their submittals as part of the public process, so that elected/appointed officials and the public has an opportunity to review and comment on the plans prior to their adoption.

However, if there is no public process required prior to adoption of a final Plan, I would request that, at a minimum, the adopted/approved Plans be required to be added to a library of approved Plans so that elected/appointed officials and the public have easy access to the approved Plans. While Santa Rosa performs excellently when presented with a Public Records Act Request (and many thanks for that superior behavior), there should be no requirement that any interested party be required to do a PRA just to see a Plan that is required by law to be approved.

As always, thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Sonia E. Taylor

**Attachment**

**Cc: Scott Moon, Division Chief Fire Marshal, Prevention Bureau  
Ian Hardage, Assistant Fire Marshal  
David Guhin, Director of Planning and Economic Development  
Jesse Oswald, Chief Building Official  
Will Schmidt, Press Democrat  
Jim Sweeney, Press Democrat**