

To my Council Colleagues,

I apologize for my absence from tonight's meeting. Family obligations have prevented me from attending; however, I thought it important to convey my support for **Ordinance Z-1**.

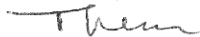
The Zoning and Planning Committee, consisting of Chairperson Marsh, Councilperson Mello, and myself, had a three-way phone conversation, which resulted in unanimous support for the ordinance.

Although I encourage the City Council to support **Ordinance Z-1**, I have two areas of concern that I feel must eventually be addressed:

1. The appeal process needs to be more clearly defined. Courts should not be the only recourse for applicants who wish to appeal a decision of the Zoning Board.
2. The Mayor and the City Council should both be involved in the selection process. I believe the decision to appoint members to the board should not lie solely in the hands of either the Mayor or the City Council. A compromise between these two entities of municipal government is the optimal scenario.

For these reasons I feel the ordinance should be revisited in the near future, and ultimately the Mayor and the City Council should work in collaboration when choosing members, and governing this board.

Sincerely,



Theresa Castellano

1st Ward Councilperson