

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-33

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS ADOPTING ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE BEHIND THE COUNTER AT CITY HALL

WHEREAS, the City of Los Altos desires to be regarded as maintaining the highest ethical standards regarding land use decisions; and

WHEREAS, the public's perception of being fair and impartial is, in many ways, just as important as in fact being fair and impartial; and

WHEREAS, regardless of economic conditions, there has been a continual stream of private real estate developments in the City, along with occasional larger private developments, which often involve requests for variances, conditional uses, development bonuses, and other benefits or exceptions; and

WHEREAS, volunteers at City Hall may be perceived by the public as having undue influence on various City decision makers; and

WHEREAS, these concerns are heightened if the volunteer has a history of being financially involved in significant private real estate developments in Los Altos; and

WHEREAS, these policies are adopted as a preventative measure;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Volunteer Service Policy adopted by the City Council on July 28, 2009 is hereby rescinded and replaced with the following policies as ethical standards for Los Altos, and do not replace or diminish all other ethical standards imposed by federal, state, or local rules or laws:

1. Any person who are either currently involved or has a history of being financially involved (whether as a developer, investor, lender, adviser, or otherwise) in private real estate developments (other than personal residence) in Los Altos, where such developments have gone before the Planning Commission and/or the City Council for variances, design approvals, development bonuses, etc., should not regularly serve as a volunteer behind the counter at City Hall. This policy is not intended to apply to service on various committees or commissions, or attendance at various meetings that occur at City Hall.

2. Any person who serves as a volunteer behind the counter at City Hall will sign an agreement prepared by the City Manager to treat as confidential the various documents and information such person may see, hear, or handle during such volunteer service.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Altos at a meeting thereof on the 25th day of August 2009 by the following vote:

AYES: PACKARD, CARPENTER, CASAS, BECKER, SATTERLEE
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE


Megan Satterlee, MAYOR

Attest:


Susan Kitchens, CITY CLERK 9-2-09