

Proposed Motion to Revise Procedures for Street Width Verification

Whereas, many substandard hillside limited streets (defined in Section [12.03](#) of Los Angeles Municipal Code as "A Street which does not meet the minimum requirements of a Standard Hillside Limited Street as defined in Section [12.03](#) of Los Angeles Municipal Code (public or private) with a width less than 36 feet and paved to a roadway width of less than 28 feet, as determined by the Bureau of Engineering)" have less than 20 ft wide improved roadway along the entire length or in parts of them;

Whereas, Hillside Referral Forms (HSRF) available on [NavigateLA.lacity.org](https://navigate.la.lacity.org) often do not indicate actual correct Roadway Width and Continuous Paved Roadway width of these streets but in spite of this fact the Department of City Planning and Department of Building and Safety rely upon the erroneous HSRFs to determine street width during planning and plan check review process respectively;

Whereas, having erroneous data on HSRFs leads to many projects located on Hillside Limited Streets failing to obtain required discretionary entitlements and de facto allow these projects to exceed multiple limits set by LAMC, such as grading and export quantities, setbacks, dedications and other required entitlements subject to LAMC 12.24.X.28

https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/los_angeles/latest/lapz/0-0-0-7378;

Whereas, during the period between June 2017 and June 2021 Doheny Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association and Laurel Canyon Association repeatedly notified the Bureau of Engineering about multiple projects where Hillside Referral Forms errors had occurred, but personnel of the Bureau of Engineering did not make any attempts to correct them.

Therefore, we move to request the following:

- For all future projects that are fronting Substandard Hillside Limited streets, permit applicants shall be required to apply and pay fees for "basic investigation" by the Bureau of Engineering to verify street width from the driveway apron of the property to the boundary of the Hillside area (per LAMC Section 12.21.A.17.e.3). Such investigation shall be completed as a pre-requisite for a review of the project by all City agencies;
- The Bureau of Engineering shall use obtained measurements to update Hillside Referral Forms for ALL properties along the streets where the width has been verified;
- Application forms for project planning review and plan-check review shall be modified to include the requirement for a mandatory "basic investigation" for all properties.
- All relevant forms and applications used by the Bureau of Engineering shall be modified to include the proposed requirement.