



# PLANNING COMMISSION

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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FEBRUARY 14, 2007

### **Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Public Safety Exceptions for Structural Alterations amending Berkeley Municipal Code Chapter 23C.04, Conforming and Nonconforming Buildings, Structures and Lots, to exempt specific structural alterations for the purposes seismic improvements from certain zoning regulations.**

The Planning Commission of the City of Berkeley will hold a public hearing on the above matter, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance Section 23A.20.030, on **Wednesday, February 14, 2007** at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave. (at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way), Berkeley (wheelchair accessible). The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** A modification to BMC Chapter 23C.04, Conforming and Nonconforming Buildings, Structures and Lots, including but not limited to exempting public safety structural alterations to buildings subject to the Soft Story Ordinance (BMC 19.39) and the Unreinforced Masonry Ordinance (BMC 19.38) from discretionary review and waiving yard setbacks, lot coverage, height limits, and allowing parking reductions to the extent necessary to perform seismic retrofits and complimentary screening with the intent to protect the lives of Berkeley residents in the event of an earthquake.

**LOCATION:** Citywide

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW STATUS:** The proposed revisions to the Zoning Ordinance are categorically exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15301. Additionally under Guideline Section 15301(f) additions to safety devices or health protection devices for use in conjunction with existing facilities are exempt from CEQA.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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Comments may be made verbally at the public hearing and in writing before the hearing. Those wishing to speak at the hearing must submit a speaker card. Written comments concerning this project should be directed to:

Planning Commission  
**Jordan Harrison, Secretary**  
Land Use Planning Division  
2120 Milvia Street  
Berkeley, CA 94704

Fax: (510) 981-7490  
E-mail: [jharrison@ci.berkeley.ca.us](mailto:jharrison@ci.berkeley.ca.us)

To assure distribution to Commission members prior to the meeting, **correspondence must be received by 12:00 noon, seven (7) days before the meeting.** 15 copies must be submitted of any correspondence with more than ten (10) pages or any item submitted less than seven days before the meeting.

**COMMUNICATION ACCESS**

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To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille, or on audiocassette, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, call (510) 981-7410 (voice) or 981-6903 (TDD). Notice of at least five (5) business days will ensure availability. Agendas are also available on the Internet at: [www.ci.berkeley.ca.us](http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us).

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

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Questions should be directed to **Erin Dando, AICP**, at (510) 981-7410 or [edando@ci.berkeley.ca.us](mailto:edando@ci.berkeley.ca.us).