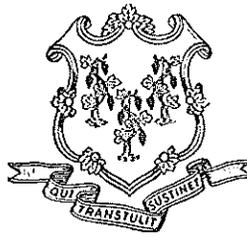


SENATOR GAYLE SLOSSBERG

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State of Connecticut
SENATE
Fourteenth District

Chair
Education
Vice Chair
Human Services
Member
Appropriations
General Law
Regulation Review

November 16, 2015

Dear Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the Planning and Zoning Commission:

After many months of speaking with our residents, I would like to respectfully request that the Commission consider changing the internal procedure regarding public notice in development applications. While I encourage you to develop a uniform process for all applications if possible, this request comes in response to frustration expressed as part of the process relating to 8-30(g) applications.

As I understand the current procedure, when a developer seeks to present an application to the Commission, generally, they first meet with the City Planner, then the proposal is circulated to the requisite city departments for review and approval. Once the reviews and approvals are complete, the necessary public notice is issued and the application is presented to the Commission. Our residents would like the opportunity to be present when those city department reviews occur and to have the opportunity to present their opinions and knowledge to the various departments reviewing the applications. It seems to me to make more sense to give public notice at the time the proposal is being circulated to the departments rather than waiting until the proposal is on the Commission's agenda and the reviews have been completed.

I value the knowledge and expertise of our neighbors and I know you do as well. Thus, in any case where a developer must give public notice, we should require that the public notice is given at the earliest reasonable time to allow for meaningful input from the residents.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that you move up the public notice process to better facilitate the public's participation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gayle".

Gayle Slossberg
State Senator, 14th District