

11/24/07 - FOSP supports adding sustainability evaluations to Planning Commission and City Council staff reports

November 24, 2007

To: City Council

From: Board of Directors, Friends of Sunset Park

Re: Nov. 27 Agenda Item 13-C – Adding sustainability evaluations to Planning Commission and City Council staff reports

One of the ways in which continued development in our city has concerned many of us has to do with the unexamined impacts on cumulative sustainability. The Planning Commission recently asked the City Council to have **sustainability evaluations** added to the staff report for every project. The city's Task Force on the Environment supports the Planning Commission's request.

The Board of Directors of Friends of Sunset Park agrees with both the Planning Commission and the Task Force on the Environment regarding this issue. We therefore support Councilmember McKeown's request that the Council direct staff on November 27th to recommend criteria for analyzing planning and land use decisions for consistency with the Santa Monica Sustainable City Plan (http://www.Santa-Monica.org/epd/scp/pdf/SCP_2006_Adopted_Plan.pdf), so that objective sustainability evaluations of policies and projects may be added to Planning Commission and City Council staff reports.

We prefer Councilmember McKeown's approach to this issue, as expressed in Agenda Item 13-C, to that of Councilmember O'Connor, as expressed in Agenda Item 13-D.