

From: [David Biggs](#)
To: [Dave Winnacker](#)
Cc: [Jeff Isaacs](#)
Subject: Orinda City Council Initial Review of Fire Code Amendments
Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 1:44:00 PM

Chief Winnacker –

Thank you to you and your team for all your efforts to make Orinda a more fire safe community, and in particular, your recent efforts to timely adopt the new Fire Code and local amendments. I appreciate that we had the opportunity to comment as City Staff and having had the benefit of your response to our comments and questions.

We shared the proposed Fire Code and local amendments, together with our staff comment letter and your responses with the Orinda City Council last night, together with the updated draft ordinance and the Town of Moraga comments and your response. They asked that I pass on their insights and comments to you and the Fire Board as they take up the matter on January 18th.

The City Council comments related to the previously identified staff area of concern regarding the proposed restrictions on certain types of traffic calming devices being prohibited in the Very High Fire Severity Zones or in single access neighborhoods. Traffic calming opportunities are of tremendous value to the Council and our neighborhoods. They would request the Board to consider alternatives to an outright ban and would like to engage with the Fire District to ensure that there is a shared understanding of what types of devices are covered, there is a process to consider exceptions to any type of ban, and that fire related considerations be balanced against other public safety concerns including traffic.

We look forward to receiving the final proposed Fire Code amendments as introduced by the Board, if that occurs as planned next week, and to commenting further, to ensure that any issues are addressed prior to the City Council being asked to ratify the new Fire Code after adoption.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss this prior to the Board meeting next week.

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