

**ORDINANCE NO. 08-330**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS AMENDING CHAPTER 2.12 OF THE LOS ALTOS MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO CITY COMMISSIONS.**

WHEREAS, the City of Los Altos City Council Norms and Procedures adopted by the City Council hold that the City Council is responsible for appointing members of the community to the City's Commissions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that the adoption of reasonable standards, restrictions, and requirements concerning the membership requirements of its commission members are necessary to protect Los Altos's unique character and existing land uses; and to further protect the health, safety and welfare of its residents and its community; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance amendments set forth below have been reviewed and considered by the City Council in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended ("CEQA"), and the guidelines promulgated thereunder and, further, said Council finds that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that said amendments may have a significant effect on the environment and said amendments are therefore exempt from the requirements of the CEQA pursuant to the provisions of Section 15061(b)(3) of Division 6 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. The City Council of the City of Los Altos does hereby ordain as follows:

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT OF CODE:** Section 2.12.030 of Chapter 2.12 is hereby repealed in its entirety and a new Section 2.12.030 is added to read as follows:

**"2.12.030 Powers and duties.**

The historical commission shall be advisory only. It shall advise the city council, the planning commission and the agencies and departments of the city. The historical commission shall establish liaison and work in conjunction with such authorities to implement the purposes of this chapter. The historical commission shall have the following powers and duties:

- A. Conduct, or cause to be conducted, a comprehensive survey of properties within the boundaries of the city for the purpose of establishing the historic resources inventory. To qualify for inclusion in the historic resources inventory, a property must satisfy the criteria listed in this chapter. The inventory shall be publicized and periodically updated, and a copy thereof shall be kept on file in the planning department;
- B. Recommend to the city council specific proposals for designation as an historic landmark or historic district;
- C. Recommend to the appropriate city agencies or departments, projects and action programs for the recognition, conservation, enhancement and use of the city's historic resources, including standards to be followed with respect to any applications for permits to construct, change, alter, remodel, remove or otherwise affect such resources;
- D. Review and comment upon existing or proposed ordinances, plans or policies of the city as they relate to historic resources;
- E. Review and comment upon all applications for building demolition or grading permits

involving work to be performed upon or within a designated historic landmark or historic district, and all applications for tentative map approval, rezoning, building site approval, use permit, variance approval, design review or other approval pertaining to or significantly affecting any historic resource. The commission's comments shall be forwarded to the city agency or department processing the application within thirty (30) days after receiving the request for such comments;

F. Investigate and report to the city council on the availability of federal, state, county, local or private funding sources or programs for the rehabilitation and preservation of historic resources;

G. Cooperate with county, state and federal governments and with private organizations in the pursuit of the objectives of historical preservation, with the approval of and at the direction of the city council;

H. Provide resource information on the restoration, alteration, decoration, landscaping or maintenance of any cultural resource including the landmark, landmark site, historic district, or neighboring property within public view;

I. Participate in, promote and conduct public information and educational programs pertaining to historic resources;

J. Perform such other functions as may be delegated to it by resolution or motion of the city council;

K. Cooperate with the Association of the Los Altos Historical Museum; and

L. Submit an annual report to the city council.

M. Review and make its recommendation to the planning director on all permit applications pursuant to Article 3, Section 12.44.100-12.44-170.

**SECTION 2. CONSTITUTIONALITY.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this code is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this code.

**SECTION 3. PUBLICATION.** This ordinance shall be published as provided in Government Code section 36933.

**SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This ordinance shall be effective upon the commencement of the thirty-first day following the adoption date.

The foregoing ordinance was duly and regularly introduced at a meeting of the City Council of the City of Los Altos on August 12, 2008 and was thereafter, at a regular meeting held on August 26, 2008 passed and adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: PACKARD, SATTERLEE, CASAS, BECKER, CARPENTER

Noes: NONE

Absent: NONE

  
Valorie Cook Carpenter, MAYOR

Attest:

  
Susan Kitchens, CITY CLERK

Date: August 29, 2008