CITY ATTORNEY IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE F

Measure F would add a new chapter to the Oxnard City Code that would set up a streamlined permit review and approval process for certain projects that meet specific criteria. Measure F was placed on the ballot by a petition signed by the requisite number of voters.

In order for the process to be utilized, applications would need to be filed by specified licensed professionals (including architects and civil engineers) who have completed an authorized training program. This training program would include information regarding the program, the process for examining plans for compliance with the City’s building codes and other applicable laws pertaining to public health and safety, and the administrative aspects of permit processing for which the professional will be responsible when certifying plans.

Measure F outlines a detailed process for project application submittal, including attachments. Upon receipt of the application, the City Building Official is to verify that all necessary items have been submitted and all necessary pre-approvals have been obtained. If that has occurred, then the Building Official is to accept the project into the program and notify the applicant and their professional who has been trained in the program within one business day thereafter.

If the Building Official determines that the plans require minor corrections to bring the plans into compliance with City building codes and other applicable regulations, then the Building Official is to inform the applicant and their professional who has been trained in the program within one business day.

If the Building Official determines that the program requirements have not been met, then the application shall be rejected and the applicant and the professional notified within one business day. Projects rejected from the program can be processed through the City’s standard permit application process or the applicant can appeal the denial to the Building Board of Appeals.

Once a determination has been made that all the requirements have been met, the Building Official is to issue a permit for the project.
Measure F includes procedures for auditing plans that have been submitted into the program. If issues are discovered, then the professional who has been trained in the program can be issued a warning and eventually suspended from the program or permanently removed. Adverse audit results, suspensions or revocations are subject to appeal to the Building Board of Appeals and the City Council.

If Measure F is adopted by the voters in November, the new permit review and approval process could not be changed without approval by the voters at a subsequent election. The limited exception to this rule is if the City Council amended the ordinance in a manner that "furthers the purpose and intent of the Act." This term is not defined by Measure F.

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The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure F. If you would like a copy of the measure, please call the Oxnard City Clerk's office at 805-385-7803 and a copy will be mailed to you at no cost. You may also access the full text of the measure and other election materials on the City's home page at www.oxnard.org.