

RESOLUTION NO. P- 13 -00

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FOSTER CITY APPROVING  
PLANNING COMMISSISON POLICY NO. 2-2000 REGARDING RE-ROOFING OF SINGLE-  
FAMILY DWELLINGS – CITY OF FOSTER CITY -- POLICY P-2-2000

CITY OF FOSTER CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission wishes to set forth its policies regarding re-roofing of single-family dwellings; and

WHEREAS, a policy regarding re-roofing of single-family dwellings is necessary to ensure that roof materials and colors are compatible with the original architecture of the dwelling and the surrounding dwelling units and that decisions regarding re-roofing permits are made in a fair, even-handed and consistent manner; and

WHEREAS, the proposed policy will replace and update Administrative Policy P-90-001 to reflect the current policy of the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the proposal has been determined by the Planning Director to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission did duly consider said request at a public meeting on March 7, 2000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Commission finds:

1. The re-roofing policy will not be detrimental to the health, safety, morals, comfort or general welfare of the persons or property in the neighborhood of the proposed use or to the City of Foster City;
2. The re-roofing policy meets the purposes and principles of good architecture as described in Sections 2.28.110-120 and Chapter 17.58 of the Municipal Code because the policy will prevent alterations that are unsightly in appearance or are not properly related to their sites or adjacent uses, and the policy will help preserve the architectural character of neighborhoods; and
3. The re-roofing policy is consistent with the General Plan of the City of Foster City, specifically Land Use and Circulation Goal LUC-A and Policy LUC-7 because it will help preserve the quality of the City's residential neighborhoods, LUC-B because it will promote high quality architectural design for renovation or remodeling; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Planning Commission approves Planning Commission Policy P-2-2000 as contained in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein.



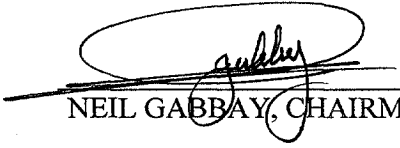
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Planning Commission of the City of Foster City at a Special Regular Meeting thereof held on March 7, 2000, by the following vote:

AYES, COMMISSIONERS: RAIN, WERDEN, CHANG, LAURO AND CHAIRMAN GABBAY

NOES, COMMISSIONERS: NONE

ABSTAIN, COMMISSIONERS: NONE

ABSENT, COMMISSIONERS: NONE

  
NEIL GABBAY, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

  
RICHARD B. MARKS, SECRETARY



## EXHIBIT A

(Approved by the Planning Commission on  
March 7, 2000)

### *Planning Commission Policy*

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### REROOFING FOR SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS

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Subject: Re-roofing permits for single-family detached dwelling units involving a substitution of material or a change in roof color

Policy No.: 2-2000 (replaces Administrative Policy P-90-001)

Date of Planning Commission Approval: *(to be entered upon approval)*

Effective Date of Policy: May 1, 2000 *(tentative, requires prior approval by Planning Commission)*

Background and/or Problem Statement: Increasingly, the Planning/Code Enforcement and Building Inspection Divisions are reviewing requests for re-roofing permits which involve a substitution in the type of roof material or a change in roof color on single-family detached dwelling units. Because the type or color of roof material may have a dramatic impact on the architectural character of an individual unit or its relationship to surrounding units or units along the street, it is important that the roof material be carefully evaluated for architectural compatibility. There are some architectural styles which may lend themselves to a number of variations in roof material and color, such as a basic ranch-style house. There are other, highly stylized forms of architecture which do not easily lend themselves to variations in roof material, such as a Spanish or Mediterranean style house originally constructed with a barrel-vaulted tile roof.

Because a roof is such an obvious architectural element and roof material is one design element that has historically been used to bring architectural consistency to units within subdivisions, it is important that changes in roof materials be sensitive to the architecture of the dwelling unit, the subdivision it is in, and surrounding dwelling units.

Purpose of Policy:

1. To establish a policy with respect to reviewing requests for re-roofing permits for single-family detached dwelling units that can be consistently applied over time by staff of the Planning/Code Enforcement Division and Building Inspection Division which will result in the consistent and fair treatment of residents in the City and which can bring clarity to the review process.
2. To develop a set of criteria that will help to preserve and maintain the original architectural character of single-family detached dwelling units.
3. To establish a set of criteria for evaluating and reviewing re-roofing permit requests which are consistent with the general direction given to the Community Development Director by the Planning Commission.

POLICY: Requests to re-roof a single-family detached dwelling unit shall be subject to the following design criteria and review procedures:



- A. Dwelling Units Originally Approved as Part of a Single Family/Planned Development (R-1/PD) District (Alden Crossing; Alden Park; Antigua; Catamaran Estates; Longwater; Martinique; Martinique Cove; Pitcairn; Plum Island; Sea Colony; Sea Island; Whalers Cove; Whalers Isle; and all future such projects.)

Single-family detached units originally approved as part of a Single-Family/Planned Development (R-1/PD) District are limited to using the originally approved roof materials and colors approved by the Planning Commission for the project or as amended by the Planning Commission. The Dolphin Bay and Greenport developments shall be treated as if they were zoned R-1, because they do not have a homeowners' association to review and propose guidelines for the entire development.

- B. Dwelling Units Located Within an R-1 District

Proposed materials and colors for re-roofing requests must be architecturally in character and compatible with the basic architectural style of the unit, the subdivision within which the unit is located, surrounding properties and the overall roofscape of the street on which the subject unit is located.

Roof Materials

Proposed materials must have the same character as the materials to be replaced and "read" architecturally as being the same with respect to thickness, appearance, "shadowing effect" and texture.

At the February 20, 1990 Planning Commission Study Session, the Planning Commission looked at a number of roof materials including asphalt composition tile (brands reviewed included Elk, Celotex, GS Roofing and Pabco), fiber cement tile (brands reviewed included Hardishake, Cal-Shake and Permatek Shake), metal tile (brands reviewed included Cal-Pac, Gerard, Sierra and Decratile) and cement tile (brand reviewed Duralite). Samples of roof materials and colors have been reviewed by the Planning Commission or a subcommittee of the Commission on several other occasions since 1990 as new materials and colors have become available. For examples of acceptable and unacceptable colors, review "Information on Approved Materials and Colors to Replace Existing Roofs in the R-1 (Single-Family Residence) District" as periodically updated.

The Planning Commission generally felt the fiber cement tiles, metal tiles and cement tiles were of a thickness comparable to and could be used as an acceptable substitute for wood shake/shingle roofs. With respect to asphalt composition shingles, the Planning Commission felt that only the very thickest types (as exemplified by the Celotex/Presidential Shake, 40 year and Elk/Prestique Plus, 30 years plus 10) were comparable to wood shake/shingle roofs and therefore acceptable as a replacement for wood shake shingle roofs.

Direction to Community Development Director:

1. Single-family houses originally constructed with wood shakes or wood shingles or other materials such as 40-year asphalt composition or tile shall be required to use wood shake or wood shingle or the materials and colors on Part A of the list, which include 40-year asphalt composition, fiber-cement, coated metal, and tile.
2. Only those single-family houses originally constructed with 20- or 25-year composition asphalt roof materials may use the 20-, 25-, and 30- year asphalt composition shingle for a new roof according to Part C of the Approved Replacement Materials list contained in



the "Information on Approved Materials and Colors to Replace Existing Roofs in the R-1 (Single-Family Residence) District."

3. Single-family houses with low-pitch roofs originally constructed with tar and gravel or built-up roofing shall be allowed to re-roof with materials from Part C of the list or tar and gravel that is consistent with the colors on Part C of the list. Built-up roofing shall not be allowed on low-pitch roofs that are visible.
4. Single-family houses with flat roofs originally constructed with tar and gravel or built-up roofing shall be allowed to re-roof with similar materials that are grey or tan in color. White shall not be allowed.

### **Roof Material Color**

At the February 20, 1990 Planning Commission Study Session, the Commission directed staff to only approve roof colors that are comparable to a weathered looking wood shake/shingle roof or colors that have a dark appearance. Examples of acceptable colors reviewed by the Planning Commission included medium and dark browns, medium and dark greys, dark green, charcoal (black), grey/brown and grey/green.

Roof material colors the Planning Commission reviewed but did not feel were acceptable colors to use included light brown, light grey, light or medium green, beige, tan, red/brown and red, except that red/brown colors may be used on houses of Spanish or Mediterranean style, as determined by the Community Development Director. A listing materials and colors for roof replacements on Spanish and Mediterranean style houses shall be maintained by the Community Development Director in Part B of the Approved Replacement Materials list contained in the "Information on Approved Materials and Colors to Replace Existing Roofs in the R-1 (Single-Family Residence) District."

For examples of acceptable and unacceptable colors, review "Information on Approved Materials and Colors to Replace Existing Roofs in the R-1 (Single-Family Residence) District" as periodically updated.

#### Direction to Community Development Director:

1. Colors allowed for re-roofing of single-family homes shall be as contained in the lists (Parts A, B, and C) in the "Information on Approved Materials and Colors to Replace Existing Roofs in the R-1 (Single-Family Residence) District" as periodically updated.
2. The Community Development Director shall have the authority to allow materials and colors from Part B of the Approved Replacement Materials list (for Spanish and Mediterranean style houses) to be used on houses that are not Spanish or Mediterranean style, where the material and color will be compatible with the architecture of the house and not be detrimental to the character of the neighborhood.
3. Single-family houses with flat roofs originally constructed with tar and gravel or built-up roofing shall be allowed to re-roof with similar materials that are grey or tan in color. White shall not be allowed.

### **Storage/Roof Material/Color Samples**

Samples of roof materials shall be kept in the Community Development Department and made available for public review.



C. Permits Required/All Dwelling Units

Requests for re-roofing require a re-roofing permit from the Building Inspection Division. Re-roofing permits shall be checked and initialed by a planner to ensure that the material is acceptable for the subject house as follows:

Direction to Community Development Director:

1. For R-1 Districts, the roof material and color are approved replacement material and color according to the list contained in the "Information on Approved Materials and Colors to Replace Existing Roofs in the R-1 (Single-Family Residence) District" as follows:

Part A – Approved replacement materials and colors for existing wood shake roofs;

Part B – Approved replacement materials and colors for roofs on Spanish- or Mediterranean style houses;

Part C – Approved replacement material and colors for existing 20-25-year asphalt shingle roofs.

2. For R-1/PD (Single-Family/Planned Development) Districts, the reroofing material and color for the entire development has been approved by the Planning Commission.