

Appellant's Summary Letter

Appeal of BLD2016-00684.

When it comes to accessibility, the City is not free to disregard State laws and regulations ("the Building Codes").

Unfortunately, that is what has happened here in approving BLD2016-00684, an application to approve a one foot wide strip of pebbles, as a substitute, equivalent in safety and accessibility, to what the Building Codes require to protect pedestrians on private property.

The California Building Code provides that an alternative design or material may be substituted for the design or material required by the Building Codes, if accessibility and safety are unaffected, or improved, by the substitution.

The Santa Barbara Municipal Code similarly provides that the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals may approve such a substitution, only if the substitution is "at least the equivalent of that prescribed in the technical codes in accessibility. . .".

There has been no substantial evidence presented to the Board of Appeals which would allow it to make this required finding.

Therefore, Appellant Accessible Santa Barbara respectfully requests that this Board deny the request to substitute a one foot wide pebble strip for what the Building Codes require to be installed in this \$100 million development at 3714-3744 State Street in Santa Barbara