ORDINANCE NO. 752
(AS AMENDED THROUGH 752.2)
AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO.
752 ESTABLISHING A PRE-APPLICATION REVIEW (PAR) PROCEDURE

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside Ordains as Follows:

Section 1. PURPOSE. Pre-Application Review (PAR) is an optional procedure for all development proposals identified below as Category I, Category II, or Category III Proposals. The purpose of PAR is to:

A. Advise a prospective applicant of current County standards and requirements.

B. Assess whether a prospective applicant’s development proposal is consistent with current County standards and requirements before an application is actually filed and fees are paid.

C. Shorten the length of time required to process a development proposal once it has been accepted for processing.

D. Encourage development proposal designs which are sensitive to environmental and developmental constraints and which lessen the need for subsequent costly and time consuming redesigns.

E. Provide a written record of staff’s assessment of a development proposal in the form of a PAR letter.

F. Limit requests for special studies to those identified in the PAR letter.

Section 2. CLASSIFICATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS. Development proposals which are subject to PAR are divided into three categories on the basis of their relative complexity. The simplest proposals are classified as Category I Proposals. The most complex proposals are classified as Category III Proposals.

A. CATEGORY I PROPOSALS consist of the following:

1. Temporary Outdoor Events.
2. Temporary Use Permits.
3. Variances Filed Alone.

B. CATEGORY II PROPOSALS consist of the following:
1. General Plan Amendments.
2. Amendments to Specific Plans.

5. Public Use Permits.
6. Plot Plans.

7. Revised Permits.
10. Tract Maps - Revised Multi-Family.

C. CATEGORY III PROPOSALS consist of the following:
1. Specific Plans.
2. Surface Mining Permits.
3. Parcel Maps - Commercial and Industrial maps.
4. Tract Maps - Multi-Family.
5. Tract Maps - Single Family Residential.
6. Vesting Maps:
   a. Parcel Maps - Commercial and Industrial.
   b. Tract Maps - Statutory Condominiums.
   c. Tract Maps - Single Family Residential.

Section 3. APPLICATIONS. Every PAR application shall be made in writing to the Planning Director on the forms provided by the Planning Department. The application shall be accompanied by the filing fee set forth in Ordinance No. 671. All primary
exhibits or maps submitted with an application must be clearly drawn and legible.

The amount of information which an applicant must submit with a PAR application increases with the complexity of the development proposal. The information required under Sections 3.A. and 3.B. below is considered to be the minimum required, and the Planning Director may require additional information if the information submitted does not adequately define the proposal.

A. Applicants with CATEGORY I PROPOSALS must submit a PAR exhibit containing the following information:

1. Name, address, and telephone number of the applicant.
2. Name, address, and telephone number of the land owner.
3. Name, address, and telephone number of the map or exhibit preparer.
4. Assessor’s parcel number(s) and, if available, the property's address.
5. Scale of the exhibit (i.e., number of feet per inch). The exhibit must use an engineer's scale (i.e., 1 inch equals 10 feet or an even multiple of 10 feet). An architect's scale is only acceptable for floor plans, elevations and landscaping plans.
6. North arrow.
7. Title of the exhibit (e.g., "Temporary Use Permit", "Plot Plan", "Tract Map No.", etc.).
8. Proposed improvement schedule (i.e., Schedule "A", "B", "C", etc.) where applicable.
9. Overall dimensions and approximate total net and gross acreage of the property.
10. Project boundary lines.
11. Existing and proposed zoning and land use of property as well as existing zoning and land use of surrounding property.
12. Circulation:
   a. Location and dimensions of existing and proposed ingress and egress, and methods of vehicular circulation.
   b. Any off-site rights-of-way that may be required for access or alternate access to or from the project site as may be required by
Ordinance No. 460 Section 3.2-I.

13. Waste disposal system proposed (i.e., subsurface septic system or sewer).

14. Location and dimensions of existing dwellings, buildings or other structures, labeled as existing, and indicating whether they will remain or be removed.

15. Setback dimensions of existing structures and paved areas that are to remain.

16. Uniform Building Code occupancy group and construction type for all existing and proposed structures.

17. Vicinity map inset showing the site’s relationship to major highways, access roads, and cities. Paved roads both existing and proposed must be labelled or shown by heavy dark lines. Streets, alleys, and rights-of-ways providing legal access to the property must be indicated. A north arrow for the vicinity map inset is also required.

B. In addition to the items listed for Category I Proposals, applicants for CATEGORY II and CATEGORY III PROPOSALS must submit a PAR exhibit containing the following additional items:

1. Contour lines showing the existing topography of the property, with the source(s) of the contour lines identified. When adjacent property is unimproved or vacant, the contour lines must extend sufficiently beyond the boundaries of the subject property to include land needed for off-site improvements such as roads, channels, or manufactured slopes. When adjacent property is not unimproved or vacant, contour lines need only extend enough beyond the boundaries of the subject property to determine compatibility with adjacent property. Maximum contour interval should be five feet with no less than two (2) contour lines provided on any application. Flood Control District and Transportation Department base maps are acceptable sources of information. Topography from U.S.G.S. maps may be used only when more detailed information is not available. Additional topography may be required if deemed necessary.

2. FEMA mapped floodplains and floodways including zone designations.

3. The above and below ground location(s) and amount(s) of flammable/combustible liquids and waste oil.

4. For land divisions:
   a. Proposed lot lines and approximate lot dimensions; or
b. Proposed boundary lines and approximate dimensions for each lot or space in the case of mobile homes or recreational vehicles.

The exact dimensions of each lot, space, or site are unnecessary. For example, although there may be some variation in size and/or shape, if most lots are expected to be a 60 foot wide and 100 foot deep rectangle, then all lots may be represented this way on the PAR exhibit.

5. If the project is within a Specific Plan, the Specific Plan Planning Area number and the land use designation of the subject property and all surrounding property.

6. For condominiums, mobile home parks, or recreational vehicle parks:
   a. Number each condominium, mobile home, or recreational vehicle space and indicate the total number of each type of unit, lot, or space.
   b. Delineate common areas, open space, and recreational areas. For each area, give its dimensions, acreage, any proposed uses, and the name of the proposed owner(s) or entity(ies) who will maintain it.

The exact dimensions of each lot, space, or site are unnecessary. For example, although there may be some variation in size and/or shape, if most lots are expected to be a 60 foot wide and 100 foot deep rectangle, then all lots may be represented this way on the PAR exhibit.

7. As required by Ordinance No. 460, a Restricted Single-Family Residential Subdivision (i.e., R-2 Zone), shall provide the following: building footprints, floor plan assignments, proposed setbacks, pad elevations, street grades, and all cut and fill slopes in excess of one foot in vertical height.

Section 4. PROCEDURES. Once the Planning Director determines that a PAR application is complete, the Planning Director shall:

A. Notify affected County departments and agencies and affected special districts that the applicant has submitted a PAR application.

B. Conduct a PAR session concerning the development proposal at the next regularly scheduled review session occurring after the affected departments, agencies and special districts have had at least two weeks to review the
proposal; the applicant and a representative from each affected department, agency and special district (hereinafter "staff") shall be present during the session and if any such representative is not present, the County shall immediately refund to the applicant the full amount of the filing fee referenced in Section 3. hereof.

C. Within three weeks after the PAR session, prepare and mail the applicant a PAR letter, described in Section 6. hereof, summarizing the requirements and recommendations of staff.

Section 5. PRE-APPLICATION REVIEW. At the PAR session, the applicant shall present a brief overview of the development proposal. Staff shall be prepared to discuss the proposal in detail and to identify any major issues that may arise if the proposal is processed. The session shall be limited to one hour in duration. If additional time is required, this can be arranged at an additional cost to the applicant. If, at the end of the session, the status of some issues remain unresolved, staff shall identify those issues and/or include any additional recommendations or study requests in the applicant's PAR letter described Section 6. hereof.

Section 6. PRE-APPLICATION REVIEW LETTER. The PAR letter shall contain staff comments on the applicant's development proposal, but shall not constitute or be considered approval of the development proposal. Although the content of the PAR letter will depend on the type of proposal, its proposed location, the background information provided by the applicant, and other factors, the letter shall generally provide the applicant with the following types of information:

A. Any applications which must be filed to process the proposal as well as any timing requirements associated with filing such applications. Applications which may be required include but are not limited to the following: general plan amendments, specific plans, changes of zone, tract maps, and parcel maps.

B. Any special studies which must be filed to process the proposal as well as any timing requirements associated with filing such special studies. Special studies which may be required include but are not limited to the following: fiscal impact, service and infrastructure impact, private debt burden, biological, archeological, paleontological, geological, flood, traffic, slope stability and noise studies.

C. Any special plans which must be filed to process the proposal. Special plans which may be required include but are not limited to the following: conceptual grading plans, detailed grading plans, storm water pollution prevention plans, dust control plans, and area development plans.

D. Current fees including but not limited to the following: application fees, mitigation fees (e.g., signal mitigation fees or area drainage fees), and special district fees administered by the County (e.g., road and bridge benefit district fees).
E. Any major environmental issues associated with the proposal, including the possible need for an EIR subject to the anticipated environmental assessment.

F. Any major design considerations associated with the proposal (e.g., internal drainage design or limitations on density).

G. The availability of water, sewer, and fire flow rate.

H. The concerns remaining for the proposal, if any.

I. The changes that staff will require before making an approval recommendation, or a statement that an approval recommendation will not be made given the proposal's present configuration.

J. Findings required for the necessary permit or approval.

No issues other than those identified in the PAR letter shall be raised by staff during processing of the development proposal. The PAR letter shall be valid for two years from the date thereof, unless a shorter period is specified in the letter.

Where the Planning Director subsequently determines, however, that conditions have changed or that the existing information does not fully address all significant concerns, staff may require an additional study or studies not specified in the PAR letter. Similarly, County and special district policies may change during the letter's two year life, and policy recommendations, which were valid when the letter was issued, may or may not be valid when the development proposal is filed and processed. In such cases, the development application will be subject to County and special district policies in effect at the time of filing or hearing, whichever is appropriate. State and federal policies and laws unknown or not effective at the time of PAR may also affect the subsequent application.

Notwithstanding the above, the PAR letter shall not in any manner whatsoever bind the appropriate hearing officer or body and shall not preclude such hearing officer or body from requiring additional information or studies or from making additional recommendations in the course of the decisionmaking process.

Section 7. REVISIONS. The PAR letter shall apply to the development proposal described in the PAR application and discussed at the PAR session. Substantial revisions to the proposal after issuance of the PAR letter which do not conform to the comments of the letter shall invalidate the letter. To process a substantially revised proposal, a new PAR application and a new application fee will be required of the
applicant. For purposes of this section, the Planning Director shall determine whether or not revisions made are substantial.

**Section 8.** This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption.

**Adopted:** 752 Item 3.4 of 06/06/1995 (Eff: 08/12/1995)

**Amended:** 752.1 Item 3.2 of 07/23/1996 (Eff: 08/22/1996)
752.2 Item 12.5 of 06/03/1997 (Eff: 07/03/1997)