



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

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RAUL M. ROJAS, DIRECTOR • CITY ENGINEER

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Public and Private Sector Designers

RE: **Design Policy Directive  
Specific Plan Lines**

Dear Sirs:

This policy directive is being issued to formalize the City of Bakersfield's long-standing criteria as to when the adoption of a Specific Plan Line is necessary. The Circulation Element of the General Plan places arterials on the section lines and collectors on the half-section lines. Any deviation from this is usually accomplished via the adoption of a legal description and a plat showing the deviation. This is adopted at a public hearing by the City Council as a Specific Plan Line.

The basic principal underlying the need for Specific Plan Lines is notice. If multiple property owners are affected by a change in the alignment of a roadway from the section/half-section alignment, then a noticed public hearing for the new alignment is required. Every property owner within 300 feet of the new alignment receives notice of the hearing for the Specific Plan Line. As a result of this notice, the property owners can review the new alignment, and they can attend the hearing or otherwise relay their concerns which are reviewed by the advisory agency.

However:

- if the change of alignment affects only one property owner,
- and that property owner is the one proposing the change - say within the "blue boundary" of a tentative tract,
- and the change is minor in nature (no elimination of collectors or arterials, no severing of direct connections, etc.),
- and if the points of connection on the boundary of the tract have not changed,

then no specific plan line is needed because there is no one else to notice.

  
**RAUL ROJAS**  
Public Works Director

  
**STANLEY C. GRADY**  
Development Services Director

cc: Jim Movius, Planning Director  
Marian Shaw, Civil Engineer IV - Subdivisions

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