



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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RAUL M. ROJAS, DIRECTOR • CITY ENGINEER

September 29, 2006

ATTN: ALL ENGINEERS AND DEVELOPERS

**RE: Design Policy Directive
Street Grades in the Hillside Development Overlay Zone**

Dear Sirs:

Any area zoned HD – Hillside Development – is subject to the requirements of Bakersfield Municipal Code Section 17.66.030, "Maximum Grade of Access". This section references "A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets," American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) 1990, for design of maximum grades for arterials, collectors and local streets. The pertinent section of this document is titled "Control Grades for Design", beginning on page 233.

The maximum grade of streets is a major concern for both the Public Works Department and the Fire Department as it affects the health and safety of the community. Therefore, effective immediately, the AASHTO criterion has been simplified as follows:

"For any street grade in excess of 7%, the maximum length of sustained grade shall be 500 feet, with a "plateau" or "landing" at both ends of the grade to be a minimum of 150 feet in length with a slope of less than 5%. No street grade in excess of 10% shall be allowed. These limits can, under special circumstances, be modified with the approval of both the Public Works Director and the Fire Chief."


RAUL ROJAS
Public Works Director


RON FRAZE
Fire Chief

cc: Reading File