



The Town of
Woodside

NEWS RELEASE

February 6, 2022

TOWN OF WOODSIDE WILL ACCEPT SB9 APPLICATIONS

The Town of Woodside will accept applications for SB 9 projects as of Monday, February 7, 2022.

On December 14, 2021, the Town Council adopted an ordinance implementing the required provisions of SB 9, including the provision that excludes habitat for protected species. In January, members of the community asked whether the California Department of Fish and Game Commission's acceptance of a Petition to list the mountain lion as a threatened species in an area that includes Woodside would affect the Town's implementation of SB 9 under that provision.

When the issue was raised at the January 25, 2022, Council meeting, the Town had not yet received guidance on this question from State authorities. As a result, the Town paused acceptance of SB 9 applications while Town staff continued to study and determine the answer to that question.

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In the two weeks since the January 25, 2022, meeting, Town staff has received guidance from the Department of Fish and Wildlife on how to identify habitat, and how to properly implement this provision of the law. The Department of Fish and Wildlife advised that the entire Town of Woodside cannot be considered habitat. As such, the Town Council has directed staff to immediately begin accepting SB 9 applications.

Any interim statements made by any individual member of the Town Council represent personal views that do not represent the collective views of the Town Council.

The Town of Woodside has consistently exceeded its State mandated low- and moderate-income housing commitments and the Town Council remains focused on doing its part to alleviate the regional shortfall in affordable housing.

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