



ST. CHARLES PARISH

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LEON C. VIAL III
DIRECTOR OF
LEGAL SERVICES

May 8, 2014

TO: Kim Marousek
Planning & Zoning Director

FROM: Leon C. Vial, III,
Director of Legal Services

RE: Trailer Skirting Recourse

Councilman Hogan has drafted a proposed Ordinance for the purpose of defining the steps to be taken of the Planning Office to effectuate mobile home skirting. It contains multiple references to and detailed instructions already in existence in the skirting policies formulated by the Planning Office.

Promulgation of statutes and ordinances is ordinarily done in simple and direct terms, without clutter and detail, in order that the general will of the legislative body becomes evident. Ordinances, here, are naturally compartmentalized into their appropriate departments and the departments formulate the procedures by which the legislative enactments are to be put into effect. These procedures, when adopted become the policies of the department and can be amended or deleted, as necessary, without any other time consuming legislative input. The ultimate goal is the creation of a standard and uniform process, readily understood by those elected to use them. The proposed ordinance supposedly applies to skirting but needlessly addresses setback compliance, tie-downs, grade certificates, sewer inspections, plumbing inspections, culverts, parking spaces, municipal numbers, exemptions and enforcement. The legal department does not concur with this kind of legislation and while legal has not tested the current system in Court, the first skirting violation is in its primary stages and should be allowed to proceed without additional regulations.

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