

CITY OF FOSTER CITY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
PLANNING/CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

Subject: Copper Gutters, Downspouts and Flashings on Single-Family Residential Units

Policy Number: P-03-001

Authorization for Policy: 17.06.060

Date of Approval of Community Development Director: July 21, 2003

Effective Date of Policy: July 21, 2003

Background and/or Problem Statement: For a number of years it has been the policy of the City that when new rain gutters and downspouts are installed on a house (as well as other metal features including flashings and vents) that they are required to be painted a color to match or that is compatible with the colors used on the house or the roof.

Copper rain gutters and downspouts were installed at 470 Port Royal Avenue. The property owner does not want to paint the copper gutters but rather, would like to allow them to weather (as copper typically does) to a greenish patina. Through the manufacturer of the gutters and the roofer who installed them, she requested that the Planning Commission evaluate her request and allow the copper used on her gutters and downspouts to remain unpainted and to naturally "weather".

At the Planning Commission meeting of July 17, 2003, the Planning Commission advised staff that the copper gutters should be allowed to remain unpainted so that they can weather naturally.

Purpose of Policy:

1. To clarify the Department's position on whether copper gutters must be painted.
2. To establish a written procedure that can be consistently followed by staff.

POLICY:

- A. Copper gutters, downspouts and flashings will be allowed to remain unpainted so that they can weather naturally.

Richard B. Marks
Community Development Director

Attachments:

Memorandum to Planning Commission dated July 17, 2003
Letter from S&L Payton, Inc. dated June 25, 2003
Photographs of 470 Port Royal Avenue