



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE AGENCY Planning Services Division

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AVALANCHE APPEAL

The Placer County Planning Services Division accepts applications online and over the counter. To use the County's convenient automated online application system, visit the County's [Online Permit Services](#) page to get started. Alternatively, you may submit a [Universal Application](#) with the required supplemental application materials in person at the Community Development Resource Agency (CDRA) front counter. An appointment to submit your application may be made using the County's automated appointment scheduling system [here](#). Applications are also accepted without an appointment on a walk-in basis.

All supplemental application materials are required to be submitted electrically in accordance with the County's Electronic Document Submittal Requirements detailed in the [Electronic Application Filing Instructions](#), which specifies file naming conventions, formatting requirements, and file types that are accepted. For applications submitted at the CDRA front counter, all supplemental applications materials shall be delivered on a portable storage device, such as a flash drive or CD.

The following is a checklist of application materials required to submit an Avalanche Appeal application online or at the CDRA front counter.

- Completed Universal Application: Select the [Appeal](#) application type under Section 1 of the application form. Under Section 6 of the application form, Project Description, include a detailed description of the basis for the appeal of the established avalanche boundaries. Alternatively, provide this information in the Project Description step when making an application online or submit a project description as a separate document to detail the Avalanche Appeal request.
- Completed [Avalanche Study](#) from an engineer, geologist or another recognized expert in the field of avalanche science detailing information pertaining to avalanche area boundaries, slopes, slide path, runout distances, frequency of occurrence, precipitation and weather characteristics that affect type and frequency of avalanche events, applicable Building Code provisions for structures constructed within areas that may be subject to avalanche risk, and other relevant information to detail the basis of the appeal request. Placer County Code Section 12.40.030 (PAHA Boundaries Identified) is included below for reference.
- Application fees are required to be paid in full at the time of application submittal. The most current version of the Planning Services Division Fee Schedule is available [here](#).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT AVALANCHE APPEALS

Placer County Code Section 12.40.030 of the Placer County Code – PAHA Boundaries Identified

- A. The PAHA boundaries shall be those specifically identified areas within the county subject to potential avalanche danger, as shown on any study or mapping commissioned by the board of supervisors and maintained by the Placer County planning department to include any amendments authorized

through the appeals process of the county, which designates an occurrence probability greater than one in one hundred (100) per year, or documents avalanche damage after the adoption of this ordinance.

- B. Applications for amendments to the PAHA boundaries shall be submitted to the Placer County planning department and processed in the same manner as administrative review permits pursuant to Chapter 30 of the Placer County Code. Approval of boundary amendments will be in a form that may be recorded by the owner.
- C. **WARNING.** Avalanches occur naturally, suddenly, and unpredictably. The PAHAs designated are based on the limited scientific evidence available which is not definitive in nature. The studies and reports do not represent or imply that compliance with the provisions of this article will protect from avalanche danger, nor does it represent or imply that areas outside the PAHA are free from avalanche danger. (Prior code § 35.05)