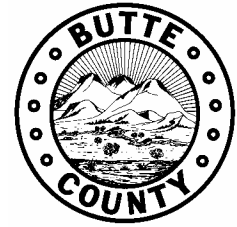


Butte County Department of Development Services

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 07, 2006 – 1200 hours
Contact: Dan Breedon, Principal Planner, 530-538-7629

The Butte County Department of Development Services is beginning a process to comprehensively update the Butte County General Plan and Zoning Ordinance. An informational forum entitled “Charting the Course” will be held at the Southside Community Center, 2959 Wyandotte Avenue, Oroville on April 13, 2006, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

Tim Snellings, Director of Butte County’s Department of Development Services stated, “This is a great opportunity for the public to get involved on the ground floor of this exciting community effort. We have a variety of speakers who will help equip all of us for the challenging journey ahead”.

A General Plan is a collection of county policies regarding long-term development in the form of maps and accompanying text. The General Plan is a legal document required of each local agency by the State of California under Government Code Section 65301, and is adopted by the Board of Supervisors. In California, the General Plan has seven mandatory elements (Circulation, Conservation, Housing, Land Use, Noise, Open Space, Safety and Seismic

Safety) and may include any number of optional elements that address topics that are relevant to the community and its development.

This meeting will begin a multi-year effort to update the Butte County General Plan that is divided into six parts as follows:

Part 1) Detailed Work Plan and analysis of existing General Plan,

Part 2) The analysis of data, trends, opportunities and constraints,

Part 3) The refinement of goals, policies and growth scenarios,

Part 4) The analysis of alternatives and Draft General Plan and Zoning Ordinance,

Part 5) Completion of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR),

Part 6) Adoption of General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and Certification of the EIR by the Board of Supervisors.

The Department of Development Services will be hiring a consultant to work with the County to complete the process of updating the General Plan, Zoning Ordinance and Environmental Impact Report. The consultant will work cooperatively with County staff and individuals from the public, who will be selected by the Butte County Board of Supervisors.

Please visit <http://www.buttegeneralplan.net>, where you can view this meeting's agenda and register to receive your own copy of meeting materials or if you'd like to register by phone, please call 530-538-6571.

Helpful Information:

Butte General Plan Website: <http://www.buttegeneralplan.net>

Link to a variety of helpful Butte County Maps:

<http://www.buttecounty.net/dds/GIS/maps.htm>

Department of Development Services Homepage:

<http://www.buttecounty.net/dds>