



TO: Butte County Board of Supervisors

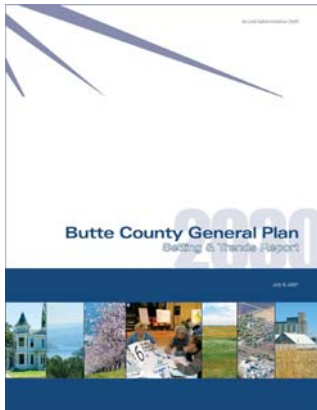
FROM: Tim Snellings, Development Services Director

SUBJECT: August 14, 2007 Progress Report #16 on Butte County General Plan 2030

This memo is the Sixteenth in a series of updates provided to the Board of Supervisors at the beginning of each meeting to assist Board members in staying apprised of the progress on the Butte County General Plan 2030 process.

I have the following to report concerning progress on the Butte County General Plan 2030 process:

1. Settings and Trends Report Public Draft Released August 2, 2007 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting



Pages from the Setting and Trends Report

Butte County Development Services staff is pleased to announce the release of the “*Butte County General Plan 2030 Setting and Trends Report Public Draft.*” Previously referred to as the “Background Report” for the Butte County General Plan 2030 update, the new title reflects this document’s main purpose, to describe Butte County’s existing setting within 19 different subject areas, and to describe trends in growth and development throughout the County. Chapter 19 of the Setting and Trends Report is devoted to the community meeting and outreach process, and provides summaries for each of the 19 community meetings

held throughout the county as well as an overview of Meeting Series #1 devoted to Issue Identification.

A vital component of the Butte County General Plan process, the *Setting and Trends Report* will be used in the Program Environmental Impact Report required for the General Plan update. The *Setting and Trends Report* also provides a valuable source of information for the remaining phases of the update process, including the Alternatives Development and Selection, the Goals and Policies Development, Drafting the New General Plan, the Housing Element Update, and Zoning Ordinance Update.

The *Setting and Trends Report* can be viewed on the General Plan 2030 website: www.buttegeneralplan.net, is available at all Butte County libraries, and at the Butte County Department of Development Services in Oroville. In addition, Compact Discs containing the full report are available at Development Services upon request at no charge, or by emailing dbreedon@buttecounty.net.

The release of this **Public Draft** provides an opportunity for public review and comment. Comments on the Public Draft of the Setting and Trends Report may be provided to:

Dan Breedon, AICP, Principal Planner
7 County Center Drive
Oroville, CA 95965
Email: dbreedon@buttecounty.net

2. Meeting Series #2/3 Alternatives Development and Finalization



August 2, 2007 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, CSU Chico

For the Board's convenience, the following provides an overview of important dates and meetings for Meeting Series #2/3:

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| 1. May 17, 2007 | Public Workshop |
| 2. May 31, 2007 | 1 st CAC Meeting |
| 3. August 2, 2007 | 2 nd CAC Meeting |
| 4. September 6, 2007 5-9pm, Little Chico Creek School | 3 rd CAC Meeting |
| 5. September 28, 2007 9am – 3pm, Oroville | Planning Commission Study Session |
| 6. October 16, 2007, 9am – 3pm, Oroville (tentative) | Board of Supervisors Study Session |

The Citizens Advisory Committee held its second meeting associated with Series 2/3 on Thursday, August 2, 2007, at CSU Chico. The evening began with a presentation by Dr. Timothy Lawrence from UC Davis. Dr. Lawrence provided an excellent overview of Low Impact Development Strategies, focusing on surface water runoff, drainage and infiltration issues.

The goal of the evening was to evaluate the 34 different growth area alternatives and assess the accuracy of the growth area boundaries and the range of alternatives. The CAC broke into 6 work groups and evaluated alternatives for the unincorporated growth areas around Biggs, Chico, Gridley, Oroville and Paradise as well as an unincorporated county area. After an hour's worth of debate and discussion, each group reported their results. The outcome was a further refinement of the potential growth areas and confirmation/modification of the range of options.

Next, the group discussed Transportation and Bicycle alternatives. Some excellent information was received from members of the CAC and the general public.

Finally, there was brief direction about the need to evaluate a list of Policy questions/answers and determine if the questions were sufficient (or in need of change) and if the range of answers provided was sufficient (or in need of change).

As the evening concluded, there was a recognition that the work product was not yet ready to forward to the Planning Commission for review due to the changes made during the evening and the fact that the Department of Development Services had recently received an additional request for approximately 20,000 acres of change areas for additional consideration. For this reason, a third CAC meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, September 6, 2007 at the Little Chico Creek Elementary School, 2090 Amanda Way, Chico from 5:00 – 9:00 pm.

At the end of this meeting, the Setting and Trends Report (Public Draft) was provided to the CAC members and CDs were provided to the public. A requested Williamson Act/Public Lands Ownership Map was also distributed to the CAC.

After the September 6 meeting the CAC's comments and work will be provided to the Planning Commissioners in anticipation of the Planning Commission Study Session scheduled for Friday, September 28, 2007.

3. Butte County General Plan 2030 Economic Summit

On Monday, October 15, Butte County will host a countywide Economic Summit, focusing on key economic development strategies for Butte County, in coordination with the ongoing General Plan Update. The County has engaged a wide range of expert speakers and panelists for the event, including local business leaders, industry and tourism sector representatives, and representatives from other California counties, all of whom will share their insights and perspectives on economic development issues facing the county and the region.

All members of Butte County business and industrial community, those involved in recreation and tourism activity, local economic development organizations, business associations, workforce development agencies, and members of the public are warmly invited to attend. The Economic Summit will be held at the Sierra Nevada Brewery in Chico from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm on Monday, October 15, 2007. Tickets for the event are \$35, to include lunch and all refreshments.

The Summit will include presentations by Butte County staff, the General Plan consultants and other business leaders on topics ranging from national, statewide and countywide economic development trends to the role of entrepreneurs in economic development strategies. In addition, representatives from other counties will share their experiences linking land use planning to economic development.

There will also be three panel discussions, each focusing on a Butte County industry sector, including agriculture; tourism and recreation; and manufacturing, office and commercial. Each panel discussion will include a presentation on the setting, trends and prospects for the sector in Butte County, case study examples, and a discussion among key industry leaders about how to improve and expand the sector, as well as the land use implications of that goal.

A key component of the meeting will be to develop a range of ideas and suggestions about how Butte County can best position itself with new and emerging industries, and challenges and opportunities to attracting and maintaining a diverse economic base and skilled workforce.

On-line registration for the Economic Summit and the meeting's agenda is available at www.buttegeneralplan.net.

4. City of Oroville Proposed New Sphere of Influence

The City of Oroville has selected a preferred land use alternative and is in the process of updating their Sphere of Influence. Under Oroville's proposed new Sphere of Influence over 8,760 acres (of which approx. 2,130 acres is "developable" according to their consultant) of new land would be added its sphere, and over 2,433 acres would be subtracted from the sphere, resulting in a net increase of 6,328 acres.

The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) strongly encourages each City within the County to include sphere projections in its General Plan, allowing one EIR to cover the General Plan update and the Sphere amendment. LAFCO encourages cooperation between Cities and the County to ensure General Plan consistency with LAFCO goals.

Towards this end, the City and County met on May 17, 2007 in a "One-on-One" meeting that followed-up on the January 27, 2007 City/County Summit Meeting. Both the Sphere of Influence, and Oroville's future annexation areas were discussed during this meeting. Notes from this meeting are available for viewing on the General Plan website. The new

information concerning Oroville's Sphere of Influence warrants additional discussion with the County. Staff is currently working to schedule an additional follow-up meeting to discuss the proposed changes to Oroville's Sphere of Influence as well as planned annexations.

5. General Plan 2030 Presentation to Butte Pioneers Leadership Program

On Wednesday, August 8, 2007, Development Services Director Tim Snellings provided a presentation on Butte County General Plan 2030 to a local leadership training program, the Butte Pioneers. Mr. Snellings covered the importance of the General Plan update and its process, major milestones that have taken place within the last year, and what critical and controversial issues have arisen so far. The complete presentation is available for viewing on the General Plan website.