



TO: Butte County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Tim Snellings, Development Services Director

SUBJECT: November 6, 2007 Progress Report #22 on Butte County General Plan 2030

This memo is the 22nd 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. Butte County Board of Supervisors Special Study Session
Tuesday, November 27, 2007, 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm, Meeting Series #2/3-4
Development of Alternatives**

The Butte County Board of Supervisors will hold a Special Study Session on Tuesday, November 27, 2007 from 1:30pm – 4:30pm at 25 County Center Drive, Oroville. The Study Session is open to the public. This meeting is the final meeting of Series #2/3 devoted to the Development of Alternatives for the Butte County General Plan 2030 update. Information from previous meetings, including a Public Workshop, three Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings, and two Planning Commission Study Sessions will be provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. At this meeting, the Board of Supervisors will review and finalize:

- A) Three alternative land use scenarios that provide differing approaches for over 40 individual study areas. Alternative 1 provides for minimal change in land use and intensity and would be consistent with the existing General Plan designations. Alternative 2 directs growth to the existing urban areas while retaining agricultural and open space areas. Alternative 3 provides for development that is distributed more widely throughout the county, with less emphasis on existing urban areas.

- B) Three land use alternatives proposed for County Roadway Improvements and Bicycle Improvements.
- C) A Policy Alternatives document that has been created from input received from a Public Workshop, the Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Planning Commission. The final Policy Alternatives document will be used during the General Plan 2030 process to help focus debate around policy issues that have arisen during the General Plan update process.

The Board of Supervisors Study Session will be used to solicit final direction from the Board of Supervisors on the development of the three land use alternatives. The final alternatives will be used during the next phase (Meeting Series #4) of the General Plan 2030 process, the Selection of a Preferred Alternative, scheduled to begin in early 2008. Prior to Meeting Series #4, an extensive evaluation will take place for each of the three alternatives and the county as a whole. This evaluation will examine many different factors such as Transportation and Circulation, Fiscal Impacts, Agricultural Impacts, and other factors (See Item 4 below) that will help identify areas suitable for growth and conservation.

For additional information about this meeting and the General Plan 2030 process visit www.buttegeneralplan.net, or contact Butte County Principal Planner Dan Breedon at 538-7629.

2. Economic Summit Broadcast Times

The Butte County 2030 General Plan Economic Summit held on October 15, 2007 will be broadcast in its entirety on the following dates and times on Local Access Channel 11:

- Part 1, Thursday, November 8th at 7:00pm
- Part 2, Monday, November 12th at 7:00pm

3. Butte County General Plan 2030 DRAFT Setting and Trends Report on CD

The Department of Development Services would like to remind everyone that copies of the Butte County General Plan 2030 DRAFT Setting and Trends Report are available free to the general public. Should anyone be interested in receiving a copy of this comprehensive look at Butte County's existing setting and trends please drop by 7 County Center Drive, Oroville, or contact Principal Planner Dan Breedon at 538-7629, or by email: dbreedon@buttecounty.net. and a CD will be mailed to you. A full copy of the Setting and Trends Report is also available on the General Plan website, www.buttegeneralplan.net.

4. Contract Amendment #1 for Butte County General Plan 2030

Development Services staff has worked with the General Plan consultant, Design, Community & Environment to address several areas of work that are not currently part of the existing Butte County General Plan 2030 Contract. This item is on the Board of Supervisor's Agenda (Item 4.03) this morning for consideration and approval. The subject areas of this amendment include:

- A) A change to Task F of the Contract –Alternatives Evaluation and Selection. The current Task F work calls for the evaluation of the alternatives concerning three topic areas including: Circulation, Economics, and Agriculture. Staff is recommending that the following additional topic areas be included in the alternatives evaluation:
- Water Supply;
 - Wastewater Infrastructure;
 - Biological Resources;
 - Cultural Resources;
 - Public Services (fire protection, emergency response, schools, police and parks); and,
 - Safety and Hazards.
- B) A change to Task B of the Contract –Existing Conditions Analysis. Updating of General Plan Exhibits –Erosion and Expansive Soils. The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) recently completed a new and comprehensive soil survey of Butte County (“Butte Area, California, Parts of Butte and Plumas Counties”). Information from this survey can be utilized to update both the Erosion and Expansive Soil exhibits of the current General Plan. These new maps can in-turn provide information necessary to evaluate Hazards associated with Item #A above.
- C) The inclusion of a Task M to the Contract. This new section would fund additional meetings on an as-needed basis. It has been staff's experience that the Citizens Advisory Committee and Planning Commission Study Sessions require additional meetings in order to carry out their duties, and support the General Plan 2030 process. Additionally, the City/County “1 on 1” meetings have all been held but follow-up meetings are needed to continue this cooperative process with each city. The additional meetings needed in these areas will be funded through Task M.
- D) A change to increase the expense budget to cover the cost of plotting maps for workshops and meetings. The workshop and meeting maps have increased in complexity and sometimes require the use of color mapping instead of black and white, which adds to printing costs.

5. Other Upcoming Meeting Dates

- A) The Butte County General Plan 2030 Citizens Advisory Committee will be meeting on December 6, 2007 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Butte College Cafeteria. This meeting will be focused on providing the Citizens Advisory Committee information on various subjects, including the latest legal requirements concerning greenhouse gas emissions/climate change and the General Plan, agricultural preservation, city/county revenue sharing, and services and infrastructure. This meeting will be open to the public.

- B) Development Services staff will be attending and presenting information at a meeting entitled "Groundwater and the General Plan" sponsored by the Butte County League of Women Voters on Thursday, November 8, 2007 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Masonic Family Center in Chico. The meeting's agenda includes speakers on water related topics such as history, hydrology, geology, and management.