



TO: Butte County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Tim Snellings, Development Services Director

SUBJECT: January 29, 2008 Progress Report #25 on Butte County General Plan 2030

This memo is the 25th 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. January 17, 2008 Informational Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

(The meeting will be broadcast in its entirety on Community Access Channel 11 on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 at 7:00 pm)



January 17, 2008 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

The January 17, 2008 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting was attended by 21 Citizens Advisory Committee members and approximately 27 members of the public. The meeting started with Director of Development Services Tim Snellings providing a meeting overview and introducing Paul Gosselin, Director of the Butte County Department of Water Resource and Conservation. Mr. Gosselin's information-packed presentation included discussion on the topics of: Groundwater Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 33), Well Spacing Ordinance (Chapter 23B), Basin Management Objectives Ordinance (Chapter 33A), Creation of the

Department of Water and Resource Conservation, Butte County Integrated Water Resource Plan, State Water Project Allocation, and the Basin Management Objectives.

Dan McManus, Senior Engineering Geologist with the Department of Water Resources, presented detailed information on ground and surface water resources in Butte County. Mr. McManus covered the topics of Butte County water purveyors, sources of water resources, water supply and demand, geology, alluvial aquifers, and groundwater.

Jon Mulder, Associate Engineering Geologist with the Department of Water Resources discussed potential aquifer recharge zones within Butte County and provided detailed spatial data and methodology used in determining these areas.

Dan Breedon, Principal Planner with the Butte County Department of Development Services, briefly discussed the Butte Regional Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) and its use in the General Plan 2030 process, as well as how baseline data is being collected in areas of Butte County that are not covered by the HCP (such as the mountain areas of the County).

Jon Clark, Director with the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG), provided an overview of BCAG's functions and the role of BCAG in the HCP process. Chris Devine, Planning Manager with BCAG, defined the HCP process, discussed covered species, stakeholders involved, public involvement and the relationship of the HCP with the Butte County General Plan 2030 process.

Paul Cylinder of Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC) discussed the biological constraints mapping that has been generated by the HCP process. SAIC is the consultant firm handling the HCP process for BCAG.

Citizen Advisory Committee members had numerous questions for all of the presenters and staff. Several questions were also taken from members of the public.

In closing, Tim Snellings announced the date of the next Citizens Advisory Committee meeting, to be held on February 28, 2008 at the Butte College Cafeteria from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

All of the PowerPoint presentations from this meeting are available on the General Plan website, www.buttegeneralplan.net. In addition, a video of the entire meeting is available for downloading at the website. A short meeting summary has been posted and a more detailed meeting summary will be posted to the website soon.

2. February 28, 2008 Informational Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

A third informational Citizens Advisory Committee meeting is to be held on Thursday, February 28, 2008. This meeting will again be held at the Butte College Cafeteria, from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Speakers will be providing information to Citizens Advisory Committee members and the public on the subjects of Sustainability, the Butte County Fire Safe Council, and Butte County's Deer Range. The information provided at each of the three informational

meetings is designed to equip Citizens Advisory Committee members with information that can be used during the Butte County General Plan 2030 process.

3. Butte County General Plan 2030 Alternatives Evaluation Report

The Butte County General Plan 2030 Alternatives Evaluation Report will be sent to Board members in early to mid-March, 2008, prior to the start of the Public Workshop for Meeting Series #4. This is the evaluation of the alternatives and 34 Study Areas (which includes 3 Study Areas within incorporated cities) being prepared by DC&E. The Alternatives Evaluation Report will help to inform the Meeting Series #4 process, including the Board of Supervisors Study Session, the Planning Commission Study Session, and the Citizens Advisory Committee meetings. This will be a large document (in excess of 300 pages, with over 30 color maps). This extensive evaluation will examine the Alternatives with respect to Transportation and Circulation, Fiscal Impacts, Agricultural Impacts, Water Supply, Wastewater Infrastructure, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Public Services, and Safety/Hazards.

4. Butte County Deer Herd Mapping

The Butte County General Plan 2030 Scope of Work includes the updating of maps showing deer herd ranges within Butte County. Gallaway Consulting Inc., under contract with Design, Community & Environment (the County's primary General Plan consultant) has completed a set of draft data and maps for this project. Further coordination and review of this draft information is taking place at this time between Development Services staff and the California Department of Fish and Game. This mapping and data will be used in the Alternatives Evaluation Report (see Item #3 above) to evaluate the Alternatives with respect to deer range constraints. The deer herd maps and data will continue to be used as an important tool throughout the Butte County General Plan 2030 process. This project will be discussed at the February 28, 2008 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting (see item #2 above) and presentations will be made by local Fish and Game Biologist Henry Lomelli, project manager Kevin Sevier of Gallaway Consulting, and Development Services staff.

5. City of Oroville General Plan Process

The City of Oroville recently sent out a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for their General Plan. The City of Oroville's Preferred General Plan Land Use Alternative has been selected and the new General Plan is being drafted at this time. The City requested comments pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to help address issues and subjects to be addressed by the PEIR. Development Services staff provided a comment letter to the City concerning the preparation of the PEIR, which is attached to this update. The "1 on 1" meeting process, involving coordination between County and City staffs, and Board and City Council members, will continue with another meeting in the coming weeks.

6. Schedule: Meeting Series #4 –Selection of a Preferred Alternative

Meeting Series #4 will kick-off on Thursday, March 27, 2008, in Chico at the Little Chico Creek Elementary School Multi-purpose Room at 5:00 pm, with a Public Workshop devoted to the Selection of a Preferred Land Use Alternative. This meeting will focus on public participation and will provide the public with an opportunity to weigh-in on their preferences for a preferred alternative.

The entire schedule for Meeting Series #4 is provided as follows:

- ◆ Public Workshop -Thursday, 3/27/08
- ◆ 1st CAC Meeting -Thursday, 4/10/08
- ◆ 2nd CAC Meeting -Thursday, 4/17/08
- ◆ 3rd CAC Meeting -Thursday, 4/24/08
- ◆ Planning Commission Study Session -Friday, 5/9/08
- ◆ Board of Supervisors Study Session: -TBA