



TO: Butte County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Tim Snellings, Development Services Director

SUBJECT: September 9, 2008 Progress Report #39 on Butte County General Plan 2030

This memo is the 39th 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. September 8, 2008 Public Workshop on Goals and Policy Development



September 8, 2008 Public Workshop

Approximately 50 members of the public attended the Public Workshop devoted to Goals and Policy Development (Meeting Series #5) for Butte County General Plan 2030. The event took place at the Southside Community Center in Oroville from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The evening included an open house session during which members of the public could circulate to 13 open house stations staffed by various officials from Butte County government including CAL-FIRE/Butte County Fire, Public Health, Agricultural Commissioner, Public Works, Administration, Water and Resource Conservation and Development Services.

Presentations were provided on the Preferred Land Use Alternative and the recently approved outline describing the organization of Butte County General Plan 2030. Over 25 small group discussions took place regarding goals and policy development in 13 subject areas including:

1. Urban Growth Boundaries
2. County Character, New Development
3. Regional and Local Coordination
4. Agriculture
5. Water Resources
6. Economic Development
7. Transportation, Circulation and Scenic Highways
8. Utilities, Services and Airport
9. Parks, Recreation and Trails
10. Habitat Conservation
11. Green Building, Greenhouse Gases and Energy
12. Cultural Resources and Tribal Coordination
13. Community Health and Safety

The policy alternatives document formed the basis of discussion concerning these areas (see Item #3 below) and group members were asked to each provide one goal pertaining to these areas that they would like to see addressed by the General Plan. A 30 minute discussion ensued during which facilitators recorded additional detail and ideas concerning Goals and Policy development. All of the information garnered from these discussions will be assembled for review by the Citizens Advisory Committee scheduled to begin a series of meetings on October 2, 2008. A more formal summary and official meeting notes from this Public Workshop will be posted to the Butte County General Plan 2030 website soon.

2 Board of Supervisors Preferred Land Use Alternative

The goal of the Evaluation and Selection of a Preferred Land Use Alternative (Meeting Series #4) was to complete an evaluation of 31 County Study Areas and for the Board of Supervisors to review the work of the Public, the Citizens Advisory Committee and the Planning Commission. The Board then completed a review and adopted how each Study Area should be included in the Preferred Alternative. The Preferred Alternative chosen by the Board is being evaluated by our Economic Consultant, Bay Area Economics, to determine the fiscal viability of this proposed strategy of land use mixes. This analysis will suggest financing strategies to help ensure the County's fiscal sustainability during the General Plan 2030 horizon. This may include actions such as establishing new revenue sources, adjusting General Plan land use mixes, or adjusting service standards. The Fiscal Analysis will be made available as soon as it is completed during the first week of October.

Included in this update are exhibit maps showing the Preferred Land Use Alternative chosen by the Board of Supervisors and a table that presents various data on each Study Area. A general overview of the dwelling unit and job projections at a county-wide level can be reviewed by referring to the Preferred Land Use Alternatives Table. The table shows that up to a total of 53,000 potential dwelling units and 50,000 potential jobs can be accommodated

with the selected land use designations at maximum build-out. This shows that the Board of Supervisors arrived at a Preferred Land Use Alternative selection that was close to balanced for jobs and housing, with a ratio of 1 job for every 1 dwelling unit. The numbers in the table represent a 'theoretical' maximum number of potential dwelling units and jobs for that particular location and land use type. However, staff must analyze this 'potential' from an impact perspective, even though projects rarely build to this maximum potential.

3. Policy Alternatives Document

The Policy Alternatives Document is intended to establish a framework for the development of Goals and Policies during this phase of Butte County General Plan 2030 (Meeting Series #5), and was used extensively at the Public Workshop held last night, September 8, 2008. The public is encouraged to review the Policy Alternatives Document for any areas of interest that will be discussed during this phase of the Butte County General Plan 2030 update.

As Butte County creates Butte County General Plan 2030, a series of policy statements for topics such as land use and rural development, transportation, agricultural enhancement, and economic development were developed. During the Existing Conditions and Issue Identification phase of Butte County General Plan 2030 (Meeting Series #1), and in the first two meetings in the Alternatives Development phase (Meeting Series #2/3), a series of policy questions were identified, and ideas were put forth about how these questions should be resolved through the Butte County General Plan 2030 meeting series.

These ideas were refined and condensed into a list of policy questions and solutions called the Policy Alternatives Document, focusing on those where there was both a high level of community concern and a broad range of suggestions and ideas. The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) reviewed this list on September 6, 2007, the Planning Commission reviewed it on October 11, 2007, and the Board of Supervisors reviewed it on November 27, 2007.

This document presents the most recent set of policy questions and solutions based on the Board's direction on November 27, 2007, as well as additional policy input received during the Evaluation and Selection of a Preferred Alternative phase of the General Plan update (Meeting Series #4). It also captures information received from the public at the October 15, 2007 Summit held on Butte County's economic future, information provided to the Citizens Advisory Committee at their June 5, 2008 meeting held on General Plan organization, and information provided by the public at the July 22, 2008 Joint Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission meeting held on Butte County Deer Ranges and the Deer Herd Study.

4. Butte County General Plan 2030 “Goes for the Gold” at the Butte County Fair, August 20-24, 2008



Butte County General Plan Fair Booth

For the second year in a row, Butte County General Plan 2030 hosted a fair booth in cooperation with the Butte County Board of Supervisors at the Butte County Fair in Gridley. Fair goers had the opportunity to review a variety of Butte County General Plan 2030 resources, including the Guiding Principles, Briefing Book, Setting and Trends Report, Alternatives Evaluation Report, Newsletter, and staff reports from the Board of Supervisor’s July 29, and July 30, 2008 Special Study Sessions on the Preferred Land Use Alternative. Visitors also had an opportunity to sign-up to receive automatic email updates on General Plan 2030. The fair also provided the opportunity to drum-up interest in the September 8, 2008 Public Workshop on Goals and Policy Development.

5. Board General Plan 2030 Subcommittee Discussion on Revenue Sharing

On September 2, 2008 the General Plan 2030 Subcommittee discussed the issue of revenue sharing between the County and the 5 incorporated cities/town. The Chief Administrative Officer is the lead for this effort. Since it is connected with the finalization of goals/policies and the preferred land use alternative, it is imperative that these discussions proceed. Since each jurisdiction presents unique circumstances surrounding this issue, it is clear that there will be no single or standard solution that will be applied. More information will be provided to the Board of Supervisors as this process develops.

6. Development Services Staff to Update the Chico City Council on October 7, 2008 on Butte county General Plan 2030 Preferred Land Use Alternative

The Chico City Council will be holding a public hearing and reviewing recommendations concerning the Land Use Alternatives associated with their General Plan 2030 process on October 7, 2008 at 6:30 pm. Development Services staff will provide an overview of the County Board of Supervisor’s Preferred Land Use Alternative for the Chico area to the City Council.