



**TO: Butte County Board of Supervisors**

**FROM: Tim Snellings, Development Services Director**

**SUBJECT: February 10, 2009 Progress Report #48 on Butte County General Plan 2030**

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This memo is the 48<sup>th</sup> 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 developments to report:

**1. Revised Butte County General Plan 2030 Schedule**

As the Board of Supervisors is aware, several major tasks under the Butte County General Plan 2030 process such as the Development, Evaluation and Selection of Alternatives has taken additional time in order to properly evaluate a variety of complex issues. The Alternatives Evaluation Report was also expanded to provide more information to decision-makers on constraints and opportunities. Additionally, extra meetings were held both at the Citizens Advisory Committee and Planning Commission. This has resulted in a higher quality General Plan process but has also delayed the overall project schedule. A revised Butte County General Plan 2030 schedule is attached. The revised schedule provides timelines for all of the remaining tasks under Butte County General Plan 2030. One additional change is the combination of the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors Study Sessions for Meeting Series 6, 7 and 8. Under the previous schedule these meetings were held separately. Under the new schedule the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission will hold joint study sessions. This change will have the effect of saving time and reducing overall cost while still providing the same overall process.

**2. Housing Element Update**

Butte County's current Housing Element must be updated by August 30, 2009. Originally, it was hoped that this would be completed as a part of Butte County General Plan 2030. With the change in the overall project schedule, this will not be possible. A delay in complying with this State deadline could put several grants which

rely upon the legality of the Housing Element, such as Community Development Block Grants, at risk.

To address this situation, Development Services staff will bring forward a contract modification (Contract Modification #2) in March for the Board of Supervisors consideration. The modification will amend the Butte County General Plan 2030 contract to include an interim update to the existing Housing Element to be completed prior to August 30, 2009 in order to comply with State law. Because the Butte County General Plan 2030 process will continue to influence policy and land use decisions after this time, the updated Housing Element will receive further update and review and will receive final approval in August, 2010.

### **3. Board of Supervisors Study Sessions –February 18 and 19, 2009**

The Board of Supervisors two Study Sessions scheduled for Wednesday, February 18 and Thursday February 19, 2009 are the final meetings under Meeting Series #5, devoted to Goals and Policy development for the Butte County General Plan 2030 process. Each of these meetings will be divided into morning and afternoon sessions, which will involve a review and facilitated discussion of 17 Policy Topic areas that are contained in the Policy Alternatives Document as follows:

#### **1. February 18, 2009, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**

##### ***Morning Session: (9:00am to Noon)***

- ◆ Economic Development
- ◆ Agriculture

##### ***Afternoon Session: (1:00pm to 5:00pm)***

- ◆ Urban Growth Boundaries
- ◆ County Character, New Development & Housing
- ◆ Regional & Local Coordination
- ◆ Community Health & Safety
- ◆ Noise

#### **2. February 19, 2009, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm**

##### ***Morning Session: (9:00am to Noon)***

- ◆ Cultural Resources & Tribal Coordination
- ◆ Parks & Recreation
- ◆ Trails
- ◆ Natural Resources & Habitat
- ◆ Green Building, Greenhouse Gases & Energy

***Afternoon Session: (1:00pm to 4:00pm)***

- ◆ Water Resources
- ◆ Transportation & Circulation
- ◆ Scenic Highways
- ◆ Utilities & Public Services
- ◆ Airports

***Preferred Land Use Alternative – Final Adjustments  
(4:00pm to 5:30pm)***

- ◆ Needed minor refinements to the Preferred Land Use Alternative will be reviewed and approved by the Board.

Each of the Sessions will be facilitated by General Plan Consultant David Early of Design, Community & Environment. The Board of Supervisors will review the Planning Commission's and Citizens Advisory Committee's recommendations concerning Goals and Policy development and will be asked to provide final direction on each of the 17 specific Policy Topic Areas. The Board of Supervisors will also be asked to make recommendations on the Transportation Alternatives. This schedule has been designed to help members of the public plan their attendance around areas of specific policy interest.

A variety of needed minor refinements to the Preferred Land Use Alternative have come to light since it was first approved by the Board on July 30, 2008. Development Services staff and consultant Design, Community & Environment are completing a set of recommendations that will be provided to the Board of Supervisors for consideration on February 19, 2009.

Once this effort is concluded, the Consultant Team and Development Services staff will commence with the drafting of the new General Plan, Zoning Ordinance and Environmental Impact Report for both documents.

The Board of Supervisors Staff Report and all supporting information and attachments for the Goals and Policy Development phase of the General Plan will be posted to the Butte County General Plan 2030 website this week.