



TO: Butte County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Tim Snellings, Development Services Director

SUBJECT: April 7, 2009 Progress Report #52 on Butte County General Plan 2030

This memo is the 52nd 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. March 26, 2009 Public Workshop on Housing Element



March 26, 2009 Housing Element Public Workshop

The Public Workshop for the Housing Element was held on March 26, 2009 at the Oroville Sports Club. About 17 members of the public attended. Five members of the Citizens Advisory Committee were also in attendance. Matt Kowta who is the lead consultant on the Housing Element presented information on the Preliminary Housing Needs Assessment and updated Housing Element policies. Mr. Kowta also facilitated a discussion with those present on Housing Element Policy Recommendations. The results from this meeting will be provided to the Citizens Advisory Committee for review at their upcoming meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2009 (Butte College Cafeteria, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, --see Item #3 below). Detailed notes and recommendations from this meeting are attached to this update, and are also available on the County's General Plan 2030 website at www.buttegeneralplan.net.

2. April 14, 2009, Special Board Meeting Butte County General Plan 2030 Countywide Land Use Map Draft #2

At the February 19, 2009 Special Study Session, the Board of Supervisors reviewed and approved Draft #1 of the Countywide Land Use Map. The Board approved several changes to this map, which will be included in the final Countywide Land Use Map. Staff additionally apprised the board that additional corrections and refinements to Draft #1 of the Countywide Map would be brought forward for consideration. The Board will hold a special meeting on April 14, 2009 from 9:00 – noon to consider these final corrections.

As part of this process, the Department of Development Services conducted a review of Draft #1 of the Butte County General Plan 2030 Countywide Land Use Map. All of the new designations were re-reviewed by staff, particularly those new designations that were replacing the current Butte County General Plan's extensive "Agricultural Residential" General Plan designation. Defined communities such as Forest Ranch and Cohasset were also reviewed for appropriate designations and deer herd areas.

There are also a number of areas where the designation originally recommended needed further refinement, and where established land uses had inconsistent designations, which needed correction. Corrections have also been made to ensure that discrepancies between the existing General Plan and zoning designations are made consistent in accordance with State Law.

About 29 individual sites have been added to a new General Plan 2030 designation called "Agriculture Services". These properties have been identified under the draft Agriculture Re-use Ordinance as suitable for adaptive re-use that will help serve the agricultural areas where they are located.

Additional requests were brought forward by several property owners who made specific requests or identified problems associated with split General Plan designations. These have been reviewed by staff and individual recommendations will be made to the Board of Supervisors.

A complete Board Staff Report will be provided to the Board of Supervisors concerning the April 14, 2009 special meeting on the Butte County General Plan 2030 Final Countywide Land Use Map this week. Once the Board approves the final draft map, work will begin on the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Butte County General Plan 2030.

3. April 16, 2009 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting on Housing Element

Butte County will hold a Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on the new Housing Element on Thursday, April 16, 2009 from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the Cafeteria located on the Main Campus of Butte College, 3536 Butte Campus Drive, Oroville.

The Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting is open to the public and all parties and agencies interested in Butte County General Plan 2030 Housing Policy are encouraged to attend and provide comment.

At the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, County staff and consultants will provide an overview of State Housing Element requirements and the process for updating the Housing Element. Consultants will then make a presentation on the draft Housing Needs Assessment prepared to support the Housing Element Update process, as well as its implications for revisions to the existing Butte County Housing Element. The Citizens Advisory Committee will be reviewing the draft Housing Needs Assessment and a Preliminary Housing Element Update. These documents are available for review via the County's web site, www.buttegeneralplan.net. The Citizens Advisory Committee will also review input from the Housing Element Public Workshop held on March 26, 2009 (see Item #1, above).

The Citizens Advisory Committee will make specific recommendations to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, who will hold a Housing Element Joint Study Session on May 29, 2009. After receiving direction from the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors, the County will prepare an updated Draft Housing Element Update, to submit to the State Department of Housing and Community Development for compliance with State law.