

BUTTE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA TRANSMITTAL	<u>CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY</u> MEETING DATE: AGENDA ITEM:
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AGENDA TITLE: Butte County General Plan 2030 -Public Hearing to certify the Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR); Adopt the Final Butte County General Plan 2030 and associated amendments to related Specific Plans; Adopt Findings of Fact and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan pursuant to CEQA; Adopt an Amendment to the Housing Element; and initiation of a General Plan Amendment solely to consider the re-designation of approximately 4,566 acres of land currently designated Agriculture to Rural Residential in the Biggs, Gridley, and Palermo areas.

DEPARTMENT: Development Services	DATE: October 19, 2010	MEETING DATE REQUESTED: October 26 , 2010
CONTACT: Tim Snellings, Director; Dan Breedon, Principal Planner	PHONE: 530-538-6821; 530-538-7629	REGULAR <u>X</u> CONSENT _____

DEPARTMENT SUMMARY: The purpose of this public hearing is to consider final actions necessary for the adoption of Butte County General Plan 2030.

-REFER TO ATTACHED AGENDA REPORT-

REQUESTED ACTIONS:
Approve each of eight Board Resolutions referenced below, certifying the Final EIR and adopting Butte County General Plan 2030 and related action as identified, directing the following actions:

1. Certification of the Draft Butte County General Plan 2030 Final Environmental Impact Report (FIER) pursuant to CEQA.
2. Adoption of Butte County General Plan 2030,
3. Adoption of Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan pursuant to CEQA.
4. Approval of associated amendments to the North Chico Specific Plan.
5. Approval of associated amendments to the Stringtown Mountain Specific Plan.
6. Approval of a General Plan Amendment to the Housing Element and associated Addendum to the Negative Declaration.
7. Approval of the General Plan 2030 Action Plan.
8. Direction to staff to initiate a General Plan Amendment solely to consider the re-designation of approximately 4,566 acres of land currently designated Agriculture to Rural Residential in the Biggs, Gridley, and Palermo areas.

**AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTALS REQUIRE THE ORIGINAL AND TWELVE (12) COPIES
ATTACH EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM AND OTHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION AS NECESSARY**

Budgetary Impact: Yes _____ No <u>X</u> _____ If yes, complete Budgetary Impact Worksheet on back Budget Transfer Requested: Yes _____ No <u>X</u> _____ If yes, complete Budget Transfer Request Worksheet on back. (Deadline is one business day prior to normal agenda deadline) Will Proposal Require an Agreement: Yes _____ No <u>X</u> _____ Auditor-Controller's Number (if required): _____ County Counsel's Approval: Yes <u>Pending</u> No _____ Will Proposal Require Additional Personnel: Yes _____ No <u>X</u> _____ Number of Permanent: _____ Temp _____ Extra Help _____	<p align="center"><u>CAO OFFICE USE ONLY</u></p> Administrative Office Review _____ Administrative Office Staff Contact _____ 4/5's Vote Required: Yes: _____ No: _____ Date Received by Clerk of Board: _____ _____
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Previous Board Action Date: _____ Additional Information Attached: Yes X _____ No _____
Describe: _____

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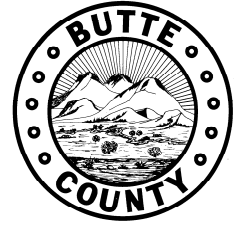
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**Butte County Board of Supervisors
AGENDA REPORT
Draft Butte County General Plan 2030**

October 26, 2010

Butte County Board of Supervisors
25 County Center Drive
Oroville, CA

Subject: Public Hearing to certify the Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR); Adopt the Final Butte County General Plan 2030 and associated amendments to related Specific Plans; Adopt Findings of Fact and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan pursuant to CEQA; Adopt an Amendment to the Housing Element; and initiation of a General Plan Amendment solely to consider the re-designation of approximately 4,566 acres of land currently designated Agriculture to Rural Residential in the Biggs, Gridley, and Palermo areas.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS

Approve each of the Board Resolutions referenced below, certifying the Final EIR and adopting Butte County General Plan 2030 and related actions as identified under Attachments A through H, directing the following actions:

Attachment A

Certification of the Draft Butte County General Plan 2030 Final Environmental Impact Report (FIER) pursuant to CEQA.

Attachment B

Adoption of Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan pursuant to CEQA.

Attachment C

Adoption of Butte County General Plan 2030.

Attachment D

Approval of associated amendments to the North Chico Specific Plan.

Attachment E

Approval of associated amendments to the Stringtown Mountain Specific Plan.

Attachment F

Direction to staff to initiate a General Plan Amendment solely to consider the re-designation of approximately 4,566 acres of land currently designated Agriculture to Rural Residential in the Biggs, Gridley, and Palermo areas.

Attachment G

Approval of a General Plan Amendment to the Housing Element and associated Addendum to the Negative Declaration.

Attachment H

Approval of the General Plan 2030 Action Plan.

II. BACKGROUND

The Butte County General Plan 2030 (GP 2030) Update process was initiated by action of the Board of Supervisors, including the adoption of Resolution 06-085 on May 23, 2006, which created the Butte County General Plan Citizens Advisory Committee and set in motion a process of holding public workshops and meetings regarding the County's GP 2030 Update

The purpose of the GP 2030 Update is to set policy guidelines for future conservation and development in the County and to address changed conditions since the last revision of the General Plan, which took place for various elements from 1971 to 1995. The GP 2030 Update is a comprehensive, long-term general plan for Butte County and establishes an overall framework and set of land use planning goals for the unincorporated area of the County over a 20-year planning horizon.

The purpose of this public hearing is to consider final actions necessary for the adoption of Butte County General Plan 2030. The Planning Commission's resolutions recommending the adoption of all final actions for Butte County General Plan 2030 are attached for the Board's reference.

The GP 2030 process included extensive input from the public, twenty-three Citizens Advisory Committee Meetings, twenty-four community meetings within unincorporated communities and areas, and eight major Meeting Series devoted to:

1. Issues Identification
- 2/3. Alternatives Creation and Finalization
4. Alternatives Evaluation and Selection
5. Housing Element
6. Goals and Policy Development
7. Creation of Draft General Plan 2030
8. Draft Zoning Ordinance

In addition, Butte County developed a set of Guiding Principles used to help guide discussion, decision-making and the overall General Plan 2030 Process. The Guiding Principles are reflected in Butte County General Plan 2030, Chapter 2. The Citizens Advisory Committee developed a Vision Statement, later approved by the Board of Supervisors, which describe Butte County in the year 2030, especially regarding future development and conservation, Butte County's youth, and overall sustainability of the community, economy and environment. The Vision Statement may be found under Chapter 1 of General Plan 2030.

Each Meeting Series shown above included a Public Workshop to inform the public and accept public written and oral comment, one or more Citizens Advisory Committee meetings, one or more Planning Commission Study Sessions, and one or more Board of Supervisors Study Sessions. In total, 48 meetings were held in conjunction with the eight major meeting series, not including Meeting Series #8 concerning the Draft Zoning Ordinance, which is still underway.

For all public workshops, the Butte County Department of Development Services conducted extensive outreach, using a wide variety of tools and methods to inform and encourage the community to participate in the process. Additionally, outreach material included information on alternative methods for participation, including email, phone calls, standard mail and an online forum available on the Butte County General Plan 2030 website. The following is a list of methods and tools used to inform the public of upcoming meetings:

- ♦ County Website. The Department of Development Services maintains a website (www.buttegeneralplan.net) devoted to informing the public about, and

encouraging participation in, the Butte County General Plan 2030 process. This website also includes a video library of all meetings related to the Butte County General Plan 2030 process and an electronic E-Binder, which includes hundreds of entries chronicling the 4-year journey beginning with a public meeting attended by 142 people on April 13, 2006.

- ◆ Local Newspapers. Public notices, display ads, press releases and public service announcements were sent to the following press outlets ten days prior to dozens of public meetings: Chico Enterprise Record, Chico News & Review, Paradise Post, Oroville Mercury News and the Gridley Herald.
- ◆ Press Releases. Prior to each of the seven area-wide workshops, press releases were sent to local television and radio stations and newspapers
- ◆ Local Radio Stations. Interviews regarding the Butte County General Plan 2030 were held with KPAY.
- ◆ Postcards. Over 25,000 postcards were sent throughout the county to inform the public of upcoming workshops and community meetings.
- ◆ Posters. 8.5-inch x 11-inch posters were sent to City Halls, Butte County libraries, local post offices and community centers for posting on kiosks and bulletin boards. Additionally posters were sent to community organizations, agencies, and meeting participants.
- ◆ Roadside Signs. 18-inch x 24-inch roadside signs announcing community meetings and area-wide workshops were posted at key roadway intersections. Signs were posted two weeks in advance.
- ◆ Email and Direct Mail. Prior to public meetings, emails were sent to the buttegeneralplan.net listserv that includes over 800 email addresses. This list is comprised of stakeholders, various community groups and individuals who signed up on the General Plan 2030 website. In addition, the County mailed meeting announcements directly to participants from past meetings.
- ◆ Butte County General Plan 2030 T-Shirts. T-shirts with a decal of the General Plan 2030 project schedule were provided to staff, CAC members and members of the public to help generate discussion and awareness of the update process. T-shirts were also used as prizes for participants at public meetings.
- ◆ Butte County Department of Development Services. An area devoted to General Plan 2030 has been established in the Development Services Department lobby with outreach materials and information. Here, members of the public may read about the process and are provided with a free copies of the *Existing Conditions Briefing Book*, which summarizes the setting and trends in Butte County, newsletters, and other General Plan 2030 literature.
- ◆ Butte County Libraries. General Plan 2030 information and documents were provided at all branch libraries in the Butte County Library system.

- ◆ Butte County Fair. General Plan 2030 information was provided at a booth at the annual Butte County Fair for the past three years.
- ◆ Newsletters. After the land use alternatives were developed, Butte County released a newsletter summarizing the General Plan 2030 process to date, as well as the next steps and upcoming meeting series. This newsletter was sent to all residential addresses within the county. In addition, Butte County released a second newsletter following the Goals and Policies development phase to provide an update on the overall process, as well as to advertise upcoming meetings.
- ◆ Board of Supervisors Updates: Butte County staff provided 85 bi-weekly updates to the Board of Supervisors concerning the status of General Plan 2030 to keep the Board apprised of progress on the General Plan.
- ◆ Planning Commission Updates: The Planning Commission was provided an update prior to each of their meetings on General Plan 2030.
- ◆ Water Commission Updates: The Water Commission was provided with an update prior to each of their meetings.
- ◆ Other Presentations and Updates. Butte County staff has provided General Plan 2030 presentations to a wide range of organizations and groups throughout the process. In addition, Butte County staff provided updates on the General Plan 2030 processes to the Butte County User's Group, a group of contractors, builders, engineers, surveyors and residents interested in development and permitting processes in the county.

The Butte County Planning Commission held public meetings to consider the GP 2030 Update on April 13, September 28, October 11, 2007, May 9, May 30, June 13, July 22, November 7, November 14, December 11, 2008, including joint meetings held with the Butte County Board of Supervisors on January 19, January 21, 2010.

On September 9, 2010, the Planning Commission provided final recommendations to the Board on the GP 2030 Update. The Planning Commission's recommendations are set forth within 6 attached (**Attachment I**) resolutions, which recommend, 1) the Certification of the Final EIR, 2) Adoption of Butte County General Plan 2030 with Findings of Fact and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, 3) associated amendments to the North Chico Specific Plan and 4) Stringtown Mountain Specific Plan; 5) Amendment of the 2009 Housing Element, and 6) approval of the General Plan 2030 Action Plan.

This meeting is limited to the discussion, public comment, and consideration of items on the Agenda, which would not negatively affect the General Plan 2030 Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR). Further requests for changes to the Draft General Plan 2030 Land Use Map or Draft General Plan 2030 document will not be considered at this meeting.

Public Comment

Public comment received on Butte County General Plan 2030, the Final EIR, the Housing Element Amendment and all other actions under consideration at this public hearing is provided under **Attachment J**.

III. Draft Butte County General Plan 2030 Overview (Butte County General Plan 2030, dated October 27, 2010, and Summary of Changes provided to the Board of Supervisors under separate cover)

- ◆ Staff Recommendation: Approve the Board Resolution provided under, **Attachment C**, adopting Butte County General Plan 2030.
- ◆ Staff Recommendation: Approve the Resolutions under **Attachment D and E** amending the North Chico Specific Plan and the Stringtown Mountain Specific Plan.
- ◆ Staff Recommendation: Approve the Board Resolution provided under **Attachment F**, providing direction to staff to initiate a General Plan Amendment solely to consider the re-designation of approximately 4,566 acres of land currently designated Agriculture to Rural Residential in the Biggs, Gridley, and Palermo areas.

The Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission concluded Meeting Series #7 devoted to the development of the Draft General Plan 2030 document and Land Use Map on January 19 and 21, 2010. At these meetings, the Board and Planning Commission provided final direction to staff on a broad set of policy issues and requests related to Draft Butte County General Plan 2030 and the associated Land Use Map. A revised Butte County General Plan 2030 draft was released dated January 21, 2010 incorporating all of the Board's direction.

Since the release of the General Plan 2030 Draft dated January 21, 2010, Special Meetings on General Plan 2030 have been held on April 13, 2010, July 27, 2010, August 24, 2010, September 14, 2010 and September 29, 2010 with the Board of Supervisors. A summary for each of these meetings is provided below, including a summary of the September 9, 2010 Planning Commission meeting. All of the changes approved by the Board at these Special Meetings have been incorporated into the Final Butte County General Plan 2030, dated October 26, 2010.

Related to the adoption of General Plan 2030, two area plans must be amended to become consistent with General Plan 2030. General Plan designations within both the North Chico Specific Plan and Stringtown Mountain Specific Plan must

be updated to reflect new General Plan 2030 designations. Resolutions addressing both of these plan updates are provided under Attachments D and E.

April 13, 2010 Special Board Meeting

On April 13, 2010, a Special Meeting took place to address land use designation changes in the Butte Creek Canyon area. At the request of the majority of property owners in this area the Board acted to change 16 parcels from a Foothill Residential designation to an Agriculture designation under General Plan 2030. This approved new designation is reflected on the General Plan 2030 Land Use Map.

July 27, 2010 Special Board Meeting

During a comprehensive review of the Draft Zoning Map, staff identified mapping clean-ups, which in-turn required the consideration of additional changes to the Draft General Plan 2030 Land Use Map.

At a Special Meeting held July 27, 2010, the Board of Supervisors reviewed an initial set of staff-supported cleanups to General Plan 2030, and provided direction to staff on five additional public requests. The cleanups included staff supported refinements to the Deer Herd Overlay involving approximately 900 parcels to render them consistent with the Deer Herd Overlay. The Board additionally received public input concerning the migratory deer herd mapping and Deer Herd Overlay.

At this meeting, the Board approved the majority of the cleanups to the Draft General Plan 2030 Land Use Map, and denied several of the public requests. The Board approved a request from the Butte Creek Canyon Coalition to include a new Action item in General Plan 2030 directing the development of a planning strategy and zoning overlay in the Butte Creek Canyon area; additionally including new background information on the importance of salmon fisheries in Butte Creek and other creeks. The Board also made minor corrections and amendments to the Butte County General Plan 2030 policy related to Timber Resources and Energy contained in the Conservation Element.

The Board of Supervisors directed staff to bring other cleanup items and other public requests back for further consideration at a Special Meeting to be held on August 24, 2010 including the staff supported refinements to the Deer Herd Overlay.

August 24, 2010 Special Board Meeting

At the August 24, 2010 Special Meeting, staff provided background information concerning the Deer Herd Overlay and guest speakers, including Jody Gallaway of Gallaway Consulting and Henry Lomeli, Associate Wildlife Biologist with the Department of Fish and Game provided input and answered questions concerning the migratory deer herd mapping prepared for Butte County General Plan 2030. Further public input was received concerning the deer herd mapping.

The Board directed staff to make further refinements to the Deer Herd Overlay parcels, excluding the smaller residential parcels, while including the larger parcels in the Deer Herd Overlay. The Board also supported staff directed cleanups to the retail office designations along the Skyway in Magalia and all of the other staff supported cleanups to the General Plan 2030 Land Use Map.

Two changes of countywide significance approved by the Board on August 24 involved:

- 1) A public request to designate an area along Coal Canyon Road near North Table Mountain in Oroville adjacent to SR-70 with a Unique Agriculture Overlay. This overlay is approximately 1,214 acres in size and generally covers an area occupied by the Berkeley Olive Grove. This Unique Agriculture Overlay area is now reflected on the General Plan 2030 Land Use Map.
- 2) Making Butte County General Plan 2030 consistent with the 2000 Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. This directs that land uses that are within the compatibility zones surrounding local airports will be regulated under the 2000 Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan through an Airport Overlay. The Airport Overlay is now reflected on the General Plan 2030 Land Use Map.

September 9, 2010 Planning Commission Hearing on GP 2030

The Planning Commission finished their review of Butte County General Plan 2030, the Final Environmental Impact Report, a General Plan Amendment to the Housing Element, approval of the General Plan 2030 Action Plan, and the consideration of two public requests concerning General Plan 2030 with a public hearing held September 9, 2010. This meeting concluded the Planning Commission's final recommendations concerning the General Plan 2030 update.

The Planning Commission reviewed changes to the General Plan 2030 document and Land Use Map (September 2, 2010 Draft) since the last major revisions that took place at the January 19 and 21, 2010 joint meetings with the Board of Supervisors, and the August 30, 2010 Final EIR for General Plan 2030. Development Services staff briefed the Planning Commission on changes recommended by the Board of Supervisors at the Special Meetings held on April 13, July 27, and August 24, 2010.

The Planning Commission unanimously approved six resolutions recommending that the Board of Supervisors (see **Attachment I**):

- 1) Certify the Draft Butte County General Plan 2030 Final Environmental Impact Report
- 2) Adopt Butte County General Plan 2030, Draft Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan pursuant to CEQA, and associated amendment to include the Chapman Mulberry Neighborhood Plan and Durham Dayton Nelson Plan in General Plan 2030 as an Area and Neighborhood Plans Element
- 3) Amend the North Chico Specific Plan and Stringtown Mountain Specific Plan to update land use designations necessary to reflect General Plan 2030 designations
- 4) Approve a General Plan Amendment to the Housing Element and associated Addendum to the Negative Declaration; and
- 5) Approve the General Plan 2030 Action Plan

The Planning Commission also provided recommendations on two individual requests: 1) Approving changes to Health and Safety Element Policy HS-2.4h regarding development in the floodplain, and 2) Denying, on a 4-1 vote a property owner request for a change in General Plan 2030 designation on a parcel located Kennedy Avenue in west Chico (APN: 042-100-005).

September 14, 2010 Special Board Meeting

At this meeting, the Board reviewed the Butte County General Plan 2030 Action Plan and provided final recommendations to staff. The final Action Plan is included under **Attachment H**.

In other matters, the Board took the following actions at this meeting:

- 1) Approved a staff-supported change to Health and Safety Element Policy HS-P2.4h, which permitted certain work in the floodplain when other discretionary actions have been approved authorizing such work.
- 2) The Board asked staff to work with County Counsel to address Policy Health and Safety Element Policy HS-P2.4g wording and applicability, especially with respect to the wording “body of water”
- 3) Referred two items to the General Plan 2030 Subcommittee for further review, including 1) Property owner request for change in GP 2030 designation from Agriculture to Rural Residential on Kennedy Avenue in west Chico (APN: 042-100-005, Roney), and 2) Property owner request for change in GP 2030 designation from Timber Mountain to Agriculture on Merchant’s Bar Road in Magalia ((APN: 065-540-027, Faulkner)

- 4) Approved recommendations from the Airport Land Use Commission making minor corrections to Land Use Element Policy LU-A12.3
- 5) Approved the incorporation of the Durham Dayton Nelson Plan and the Chapman Mulberry Neighborhood Plan into General Plan 2030
- 6) Directed staff to include a statement in an appropriate General Plan 2030 document to outline a process for addressing mistakes under General Plan 2030 through a county initiated General Plan Amendment.

September 29, 2010 Special Board Meeting

On September 29, 2010, the Board of Supervisors held a special meeting on Butte County General Plan 2030 and took the following actions:

- 1) Continued to October 26, 2010 at 1:30 pm, as an open public hearing, the certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report; adoption of General Plan 2030 and associate amendments to related specific plans; adoption of an Amendment to the Housing Element and approval of the General Plan 2030 Action Plan.
- 2) Approved the removal of Health and Safety Element Policy HS-P2.4 (g) concerning floodplain impacts because of redundancy with other policy statements under HS-P2.4 and within the Water Resources Element.
- 3) Approved a property owner request for a change in General Plan 2030 designation for a parcel in Magalia on Merchant's Bar Road (APN: 065-540-027, Faulkner) from Timber Mountain to Agriculture due to existing and surrounding land uses.
- 4) Denied a property owner request for a change in General Plan 2030 designation on a parcel located on Kennedy Avenue in west Chico (APN: 042-100-005, Roney) from Agriculture to Rural Residential due to conflicts with the Chico Area Greenline, Williamson Act, and the General Plan 2030 Preferred Land Use Alternative.
- 5) Approved a change in General Plan 2030 designations on seven parcels located on Pentz Road near Kunkle Reservoir from Agriculture to Foothill Residential due to existing and surrounding land uses.
- 6) Tentatively approved changes to General Plan 2030 designations from Agriculture to Rural Residential near Biggs, Gridley and Palermo due to existing land uses and development pending consistency review with the Draft EIR and coordination with the Cities of Biggs and Gridley. The Board also directed that the Rural Residential designation include a 10-acre minimum parcel size in addition to the 5-

acre minimum parcel size currently provided for under General Plan 2030.

At the September 29, 2010 meeting, the Board directed further review concerning staff proposed changes to the General Plan 2030 designations from Agriculture to Rural Residential for five areas totaling approximately 4,566 acres near Biggs, Gridley, and Palermo (Item #6 above). The Board directed a consistency review of the General Plan 2030 EIR. Upon completing this review, staff has determined that additional review is required prior to initiating this change under General Plan 2030.

In order to perform the necessary review of this proposal, staff recommends the Board approve the attached Resolution (**Attachment F**) directing staff to initiate a General Plan Amendment solely to consider the re-designation of approximately 4,566 acres of land currently designated Agriculture to Rural Residential in the Biggs, Gridley and Palermo areas. The General Plan Amendment process will allow for additional analysis, appropriate environmental review, input from the public and agencies, and further coordination with the cities of Biggs and Gridley. This will return to the Board in spring 2011 for Board consideration. The Board direction to include a 10-acre minimum parcel size within the Rural Residential designation does not require additional review and has been included in General Plan 2030.

Water Resources Element

This section provides an overview of one of the new optional elements under Butte County General Plan 2030, the Water Resources Element, which was developed during the General Plan update process with substantial public input and review. This section also provides context for which the Water Resources Element was developed.

Water is a finite and critical resource that provides the lifeblood to our economy, communities and ecosystem. The Butte County General Plan confirms the County's commitment to protecting its water resources by bolstering existing water policies and programs with new policies and actions into the General Plan. The General Plan recognizes that policy linkages between water and land use planning must be built on data and sound science. The General Plan presents a comprehensive suite of policies and actions that will achieve the goal of protecting and sustaining water resources.

Extensive water resource research, data and analyses provide the foundation for the General Plan. The data and analysis not only comes from existing reports, but also from the most current monitoring data and analyses. The *General Plan Update: Settings and Trends* report presents a compilation of these data and information. Data and information on the County's water resources, water

demands and water resource planning referenced in the *General Plan Update: Settings and Trends* report comes from the Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation and can be accessed at <http://www.buttecounty.net/waterandresource>.

The General Plan utilized the full suite of water resource data and analyses. One of the primary analyses comes from the 2001 *Water Inventory and Analysis* report. The report provides a detailed analysis of water demand and availability for agriculture, urban and the environment through the year 2030. The *Water Inventory and Analysis* was updated in 2008. The analysis found that overall, water supply demands including the demand on the groundwater is adequate during normal years. Temporary water shortages during drought years can occur in some locations in the county. Additionally, during drought periods groundwater demand increases and recharge decreases due to lower precipitation. These forces result in a temporary lowering of groundwater elevations. The *Water Inventory and Analysis* report became part of a countywide Integrated Water Resource Plan that was adopted in 2004. Groundwater analysis is based on groundwater elevation data compiled by the County on a quarterly basis and summarized in the annual *Groundwater Status Report*. The General Plan utilized the most currently available data. The analysis in the General Plan identified that an increase in groundwater use could pose concerns in identified areas (i.e., Chico and Durham) that are experiencing a decline in groundwater elevations and that reliance on groundwater in the Paradise Ridge area could be problematic due to geologic conditions.

The General Plan identified the protection of groundwater recharge as a priority and adopted measures to protect recharge in most areas of the county. Most areas have some capacity to recharge to groundwater. The General Plan recognizes that adoption of practices that promote groundwater recharge will assure that groundwater recharge pathways will not be interfered from future land use practices. In fact, the General Plan goes further by promoting land use practices that may enhance groundwater recharge and strengthen groundwater resources.

The General Plan primarily through the Water Resource Element identifies existing county policies, ordinances and programs that protect groundwater and recharge. Additional policies and actions are included to strengthen the protection of groundwater. One of the policy goals is to require that major developments demonstrate that an adequate water supply exists and to provide an evaluation of potential cumulative impacts to surrounding groundwater users and the environment. The General Plan establishes standards to protect critical recharge areas and watersheds. Promoting efforts to minimize pollution and water use efficiency are policy goals in the General Plan. To achieve these policies will require in many instances the development of standards based on scientific data. The General Plan recognizes the importance of science since it states that water resources shall be planned and managed in a way that relies on

sound science. Looking to the future, water resource research pursued by the Department of Water and Resource Conservation will be integral to sound land use planning envisioned in the General Plan.

The General Plan recognizes that the County's water resources and particularly groundwater resources are fragile and are finite. In response, the General Plan establishes policies, programs and actions to protect groundwater, promote recharge and assure water supply reliability based on the most up to date data and scientific understanding.

Circulation Element and Emergency Evacuation

In more remote parts of the county, the potential risk of losses from wildland fires is exacerbated by the relatively poor access offered by rural roads and the general lack of pressurized fire systems with fire hydrants.

As the devastating fires of the summer of 2008 revealed, most areas of Butte County face some level of threat from wildland fire. As shown in General Plan 2030 Figure HS-7, fire hazard severity zones in the foothills and mountainous areas of the county, extending from Cohasset in the north to Forbestown in the south, have been designated by the State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as "very high," or "high," with the majority of the area in the "very high" classification. These hilly portions of Butte County contain homes and dense vegetation that provide fuel for fires, and steep slopes that help to hasten the spread of fire.

Fire safety issues are a concern for the Paradise and Magalia area and other unincorporated communities on the Upper Ridge due to limited road access to and through the area. The Skyway, the major County arterial that serves Paradise and the Magalia area, has a limited capacity that could negatively affect evacuation and access by emergency vehicles in the event of a natural disaster. The Upper Ridge communities are especially vulnerable to wildfires because they are isolated on top of a relatively narrow, wooded ridgeline. The existing two-lane roadway across the Magalia Reservoir dam also creates a potential bottleneck for evacuation during catastrophic events. In addition to the anticipated problems created by emergency access and congestion during an evacuation, an earthquake is capable of causing the main earthen Magalia Reservoir dam to subside, which would result in partial or total loss of the roadway.

Although work is underway to address evacuation issues in the Magalia and Upper Ridge areas, it will not be sufficient to address all of the evacuation issues. In 1998, the County Board of Supervisors acted on the recommendations of the 1996 Skyway Improvement Program Feasibility Study by directing the Department of Public Works to proceed with a project study of possible design alternatives to widen the Skyway from two to four lanes from Pentz Road to

South Park Drive. The Board of Supervisors adopted an Environmental Impact Report for this project in 2005. Since then, the project has been on hold due to lack of funding.

A number of different transportation alternatives were studied during the Alternatives Development phase of Butte County General Plan 2030. During the February 19, 2009 Study Session devoted to the development of Alternatives, the Board of Supervisors provided specific direction on many Transportation Alternatives. The Board directed support of the Forest Highway 171 (Inskip to Butte Meadows) project as a top priority. Further the County will work with federal funding sources to create a funding plan to implement improvements for emergency access, evacuation, fire protection, public safety, water quality protection, and circulation, and work with appropriate agencies to identify and prioritize projects (Circulation Element Policy CIR-A9.1).

During the 1993/94 Fiscal Year, the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) prepared a study to evaluate the viability of extending State Route 191 from its current ending point at Pearson Road in Paradise, to Forest Ranch. The extension would have gone up Clark road to the Skyway, then cut over to Forest Ranch along Doe Mill/Garland Road. This alternative was not supported however because BCAG, the County and Town of Paradise would have had to bring these roads up to State Highway Standards which would have cost hundreds of millions of dollars. The study then focused on the Doe Mill/Garland gravel Road between Skyway and Forest Ranch. The main issues regarding this section of the route were ownership and structural concerns regarding a bridge, which was not suitable for use by emergency vehicles. The Study concluded that the County should re-grade the road if possible and try to identify funds for the bridge replacement. This would however require an environmental document and more studies which at the time there were no funds to support further study.

A few years later BCAG identified that the upper Skyway Road between Inskip and Butte Meadows was part of the Forest Highway designated routes, and was eligible for funding. Being that there was a funding source tied to this route, BCAG and the County pursued development of what is now Forest Highway 171 which is under construction. This route serves and meets the needs of the route that was earlier contemplated in the SR-191 Extension Study.

Construction on Forest Highway 171 began in the fall of 2009, resumed in the spring of 2010 and is currently under construction. It is possible the project can be completed by January 2011, weather permitting. If not, additional work will be required to complete the project in the spring of 2011.

BCAG and the County of Butte continue to work with FHWA and the Forest Service to find additional funding needs to advertise the Phase 2 project, which would complete the long awaited road to Butte Meadows. Given the current constraints with federal spending, it may be necessary to develop a less

expensive Phase 2 project to utilize remaining and unused federal dollars. BCAG and the County of Butte are considering how to best move forward with remaining work needed in consideration of the necessary funding to complete the project.

Discussion of Risks of Wildland Fire to People and Structures from FEIR

Much of Butte County faces threats from wildland fires. General Plan 2030 would allow new development, particularly in the foothill and mountain areas of the county where there are high fire risks that could expose new populations to loss, injury, or death due to wildfires.

Although the majority of the land within the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones is designated for Timber Mountain and Agriculture, Foothill Residential and Rural Residential land uses are also allowed in these areas. The development of single-family homes on existing vacant parcels would not be subject to additional discretionary review or associated environmental review prior to the issuance of a building permit.

In particular, fire safety and evacuation concerns on the Upper Ridge and Paradise area present a significant challenge due to the lack of alternative circulation routes. Fire safety and evacuation concerns are even more pronounced for the Paradise Pines and Magalia communities due to a single point of ingress and egress over the Magalia Reservoir dam. A Capitol Improvement Program administered by the Butte County Department of Public Works includes the road improvements along the Skyway, and for Forest Highway 171 as discussed in the previous section.

However, General Plan 2030 includes a number of goals, policies and actions that would reduce wildfire impacts. Health and Safety Element Goal HS-11 and its associated policies and actions seek to reduce risks from wildland and urban fire. Specifically, Policy HS-P11.1 requires that the County consider fire hazards in all land use and zoning decisions, environmental review, subdivisions review, and the provision of public services. Since all structures, even those without discretionary review, are subject to the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance, this policy will reduce the risk for new development on existing vacant parcels.

In addition, Policy HS-P11.4 requires that new development meet current fire safe ordinance standards for adequate emergency water flow, emergency vehicle access, signage, evacuation routes, fuel management, defensible space, fire safe building construction, and wildfire preparedness, which would help to reduce the wildfire impacts on new development. Furthermore, Action HSA11.1 directs the County to complete roadside fuel reduction projects to reduce wildfire risk, increase visibility, and maintain safe evacuation routes, which would help to reduce wildfire hazards.

In addition, Health and Safety Goal HS-12 and its associated policies and actions seek to protect people and property from wildland and urban fires. Specifically, Policy HS-P12.1 maintains regulations regarding vegetation clearance around structures, and Policy HS-P12.3 requires the use of fire resistant landscaping and fuel breaks in residential areas. In addition, Policy HSP12.2 requires fuel breaks along the edge of developing areas in High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, and Policy HS-P12.4 requires all developments in wildland urban interface areas in High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones to provide, at a minimum, small-scale water systems for fire protection.

Finally, Health and Safety Element Goal HS-13 and its associated policy and actions seek to identify safe and effective evacuation routes and access for fire prevention and suppression. Policy HS-P13.1 requires that new development in High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones identify access and egress routes and make improvements or contribute to a fund to develop, upgrade, and maintain these routes. Action HS-A13.1 directs the County to delineate and publish alternative evacuation routes for communities in foothill and mountain areas with high fire potential. In addition, Action HS-A13.2 directs the County to seek funding to conduct a study to identify evacuation routes for areas in High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, and then to seek funding to implement the necessary improvements to the routes.

In addition to the proposed goals, policies, and action in General Plan 2030, other State and local policies and regulations would mitigate wildfire risk impacts, such as the State Fire Safety Regulations summarized in Section A.2.f, above. The County's Wildfire Mitigation Action Plan will help to reduce damage and prevent injury from wildfire through wildfire mitigations, including a fuel reduction program, a weed abatement program, construction codes requiring the use of fire resistant building materials in new construction, and improvements to the water supply and hydrant system. Additionally, the Butte County Community Wildfire Protection Plan of 2005 will mitigate impacts associated with wildfire in developed areas through evaluation and assessment of proposed structures, implementation of mitigation measures associated with construction and education programs for private landowners and public agencies.

Development allowed by General Plan 2030 would also comply with safety regulations set forth by Chapters 20 and 38A of the Butte County Code. Specifically, Chapter 20 lists standards for efficient emergency evacuation plans that are required in subdivisions, parcel maps, and site improvement projects. Chapter 38A would help to mitigate the impact by requiring occupants and property owners to maintain property in such a way that reduces the risk of fire and supplementing other fire prevention and protection regulations that pertain to the county.

Together, the proposed goals, policies, and actions of General Plan 2030 and the other local policies and regulations discussed above would reduce wildfire

impacts to a less-than-significant level.

IV. Final Environmental Impact Report and CEQA Overview (August 30, 2010 Final EIR and April 8, 2010 Draft EIR provided to the Board of Supervisors under separate cover)

- ◆ Staff Recommendation: Approve the Board Resolution under **Attachment A**, which certifies the Final EIR, and approves the additional language requested by Caltrans regarding the FEIR's discussion concerning the Airport land Use Compatibility Plan as set forth below. Approve the Board Resolution under **Attachment B** adopting Findings of Fact, a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and a Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program pursuant to CEQA.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) a Notice of Preparation (NOP) was prepared on September 15, 2008, indicating that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) would be prepared for the Butte County General Plan 2030 project. An initial Scoping Meeting was held by the Department of Development Services on October 1, 2008.

The Department of Development Services and Butte County contracted with the consultant firm of Design, Community & Environment to prepare the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Butte County General Plan 2030 project.

A Draft EIR was prepared, which provided an assessment of the potential environmental consequences of adoption and implementation of the proposed Butte County General Plan 2030. The DEIR is intended to inform county residents, decision-makers, and responsible and trustee agencies of the nature of the General Plan 2030 project, and its effect on the environment. The DEIR was prepared in accordance with and in fulfillment of the CEQA requirements.

The DEIR is a countywide program EIR that analyzes potential environmental impacts of the adoption of the proposed General Plan 2030. Program EIRs are not project-specific and do not evaluate the impacts of specific development projects that may be proposed under General Plan 2030. Program EIRs are distinct under CEQA as follows:

- ◆ For a General Plan a Program EIR examines broad policy objectives, alternatives, impacts and mitigation measures
- ◆ Provides an opportunity for more exhaustive consideration of effects and alternatives than would be practical within individual project-level EIRs

- ◆ By using a tiered approach, the environmental review for subsequent projects can be limited to those project-specific significant effects not analyzed in the General Plan's Program EIR
- ◆ Subsequent projects may rely upon a Program EIR; however, impacts for a specific project will generally require additional CEQA review

The Draft EIR was made available for public review on April 8, 2010. A sixty-day public review period ensued concluding on June 7, 2010. On April 22, 2010 a Planning Commission hearing was held to receive comments on the Draft EIR during the official public review period.

Twenty comments were received during the review period, from state and regional agencies, county agencies, local governments and municipal providers, non-profit associations, and individual members of the public. In addition, two comments were provided orally at the Planning Commission hearing.

The Draft EIR analyzes three alternatives to the proposed General Plan 2030 project:

- ◆ No Project Alternative
- ◆ Concentrated Growth Alternative
- ◆ Rural Extension Alternative

A complete description of the Alternatives is contained under Chapter 5 of the Draft EIR.

The Final EIR for Butte County General Plan 2030 was released for public review on August 30. The Final EIR is the CEQA document that responds to all of the comments received during public review of the Draft EIR. The Final EIR revises the Draft EIR as necessary in response to these comments. None of the revisions results in significant changes to the Project Description or findings of the Draft EIR that would trigger the need to recirculate the Draft EIR.

It should be noted that one major policy change that influenced the FEIR concerned the consistency of General Plan 2030 with the 2000 Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). References to the inconsistency of Butte County General Plan 2030 with the 2000 ALUCP have been removed from the FEIR, due to the new policy direction approved by the Board.

The Final EIR, together with the Draft EIR, constitutes the Final EIR if the Board of Supervisors certifies it as complete and adequate under CEQA.

The Final EIR consists of:

- ◆ Revisions to the DEIR

- ◆ List of Commentors
- ◆ Response to Comments
- ◆ Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Butte County General Plan 2030 has been developed to be largely self-mitigating. Meaning the goals, policies and actions as well as the preferred land use alternative assessed by the EIR combine to minimize significant impact. While General Plan 2030 strives for self-mitigation, the Final EIR determines that General Plan 2030 has the potential to generate 24 significant environmental impacts. Of these impacts, 18 are the result of the proposed General Plan 2030 and six are the result other cumulative development within the larger region combined with the General Plan 2030 project.

All of the impacts identified under the Final EIR are considered Significant and Unavoidable under CEQA, because they cannot be avoided, even with the implementation of feasible mitigation measures. Impacts were identified for the following topic areas:

- ◆ Agriculture
- ◆ Hydrology and Water Quality
- ◆ Biological Resources
- ◆ Noise
- ◆ Transportation and Circulation
- ◆ Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Traffic Impacts TRAF-1 through TRAF-13 were determined to be significant prior to mitigation but are considered Significant and Unavoidable after mitigation, because the facilities where these mitigations would be implemented are not within the County's jurisdiction (Caltrans, City of Chico, and Town of Paradise) and therefore the County cannot guarantee implementation of the mitigation measures. Each of these jurisdictions was contacted concerning future plans for their facilities (**Attachment K**). In most cases, improvements are not contemplated, are conceptual, or are ultimately planned over the next 20 years with no specified timeframe. In other cases, other improvements are planned, but implementation of the County's mitigation measures is not contemplated.

For the reasons stated above, a Statement of Overriding Considerations is recommended for inclusion in the required CEQA findings setting forth the economic, social, and other benefits of the proposed project that render these significant effects acceptable.

The Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the Board certify the Final EIR at a public hearing held on September 9, 2010.

Caltrans Comment on FEIR

The California Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics requests further change in language pertaining to the Land Use section of the Final EIR concerning a discussion on the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). Caltrans proposes the following additional changes to this discussion shown on page 3-37 of the Final EIR (referencing page 4.9-40 of the Draft EIR):

The County's General Plan 2030 includes an Airport Overlay General Plan designation that applies to areas that are within the Airport Land Use Commission's Airport Land Use Land Use Compatibility Zones as defined in the 2000 Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). Properties within the Airport Overlay are subject to additional restrictions under the ALUCP, such as lot sizes, density, intensity, use and height and location of structures . In addition, land uses and densities within the Airport Land Use Compatibility Zones Airport Overlay must comply with the regulations of the current adopted ALUCP. where those allowed land uses and densities differ from General Plan 2030 land use designations unless a deviation from the ALUCP is approved by a two-thirds majority of the Butte County Board of Supervisors. If the ALUC determines that the GP or individual project uses and densities are inconsistent with the ALUCP standards, the County may overrule the ALUC by a two-thirds majority vote of the Butte County Board of Supervisors. The County can then approve the plan or project over the recommendation of the ALUC.

Caltrans indicates that these changes help clarify the relationship between the General Plan and the ALUCP. Staff finds that these changes are not substantive in nature, but help to define various roles and responsibilities and is an improvement over the previous language. Staff therefore supports this change to the Final EIR. The revised language shall be read into the record on October 26, 2010, and an erratum shall be prepared listing these changes to the FEIR.

V. General Plan Amendment to the 2009 Housing Element (Attachment G)

- ◆ Staff Recommendation: Approve the Board Resolution under, **Attachment G**, adopting a General Plan Amendment to the 2009 Housing Element, and approving the Addendum to the Negative Declaration.

The revisions to the Housing Element address the statutory requirements required under State Housing Element law. The most substantial changes pertains to Housing Element Action H-A1.8, which requires approximately 73 acres of land under General Plan 2030 to be designated High Density Residential. Housing and Community Development indicates that this change will facilitate a variety of housing types, increase housing affordability, address climate change and preserve open space and agricultural resources. It should be noted that these changes have been updated on the current Draft General Plan 2030 Land Use Map. The revised draft also provides new and updated actions pertaining to farmworker housing.

The revised draft housing element will comply with State housing element law (Article 10.6 of the Government Code) when adopted and submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development, pursuant to Government Code 65585 (g).

An Addendum to the previously adopted Negative Declaration (ND) for the Butte County Housing Element has been prepared by the Butte County Department of Development Services. This Addendum identifies minor technical changes and additions to the original Negative Declaration prepared for the 2009 Housing Element of the General Plan and discloses changes in the project conditions that do not require the preparation of a subsequent negative declaration (as described in 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15162), in accordance with 14 CCR Section 15164 (b). This Addendum and the adopted Negative Declaration do not need to be recirculated, per 14 CCR Section 15164 (c), but will be filed with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research/State Clearinghouse

The Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the Board adopt a General Plan Amendment to the 2009 Housing Element and the approval of the addendum to the Negative Declaration at a public hearing held on September 9, 2010.

VI. Butte County General Plan 2030 Action Plan (Attachment H)

- ◆ Staff Recommendation: Approve the Board Resolution under, **Attachment H**, approving the General Plan 2030 Action Plan.

The Draft Action Plan reflects all of the actions contained within the current Draft Butte County General Plan 2030 and Housing Element. Actions are placed with Goals and Policies within Draft General Plan 2030. Each element of Draft General Plan 2030 contains a series of goals, policies, and actions. Policies and actions are at the same level of importance, and are all intended to implement goals:



An action as defined under Draft General Plan 2030 is an implementation measure, procedure, or technique intended to help achieve a specified goal. The County must take additional steps to implement each action in the General Plan. An action is something that can and will be completed.

At a Special Meeting held on September 14, 2010, the Board of Supervisors reviewed a preliminary Draft of the Action Plan. At this meeting, staff provided a detailed overview of the Action Plan and the Board made recommendations necessary to finalize the Action Plan. Changes to the Action Plan directed by the Board are shown in Table 1 below. All of these changes have been incorporated into the final Action Plan and the Butte County General Plan 2030 document.

Post General Plan 2030 Adoption Strategy

In addition to the changes noted under Table 1, staff also incorporated a “Post General Plan 2030 Adoption Strategy” into the Action Plan per board direction provided at the September 14, 2010 Special Meeting. This strategy provides constructive knowledge to the public concerning the correction of errors in the General Plan 2030 document and/or Land Use Map. The strategy outlines a procedure whereby a potential error is brought to the attention of Development Services staff and is presented to the Board of Supervisors. If the Board directs, Butte County would be responsible for initiating a General Plan Amendment in

accordance with Section 65358 of the Government Code. The procedure for a county initiated amendment calls for the presentation of all relevant facts and information, which clearly demonstrates the error.

All other instances of amendment to Butte County General Plan 2030 must follow Section 65358 of the Government Code, any rules contained within the Zoning Ordinance, and require payment of all fees and submittal of all applications under County rules to consider a General Plan Amendment and/or Rezone.

Adoption of the Action Plan

The Board of Supervisors will adopt the Action Plan by a resolution separate from adoption of the General Plan. Scheduling and estimated costs for the Action Plan may be updated by resolution on an annual basis, concurrent with annual reporting to the Board of Supervisors and the State on progress in implementing the General Plan.

Table 1 – Action Plan Changes	
Description of Change	Specific Wording Change
Add Action W-A2.3	<u>W-A2.3 Encourage and cooperate with water purveyors to support the delivery of surface water for the economic development of agriculture.</u>
Change Action COS-A17.1	COS-A17.1 Adopt development guidelines that limit <u>mitigate the impacts of</u> ridgeline development near scenic resources.
Delete all but 1 st sentence of LU-A11.1	LU-A11.1 Hold annual or more frequent “one-on-one” meetings with each of the municipalities to discuss planning and land use issues of concern. Two Supervisors and two Council members shall attend these meetings. Publish summary notes of the findings of the meetings.
H-A1.1.d – Change “community facilities and community service districts” to “the appropriate mechanism”	d. Provide <u>technical assistance</u> to developers interested in establishing community facilities and community service districts <u>the appropriate mechanism</u> to finance needed infrastructure and services where these are financially feasible, at full cost to the developer; and

<p>H-A1.4 – Delete “Negotiate” and strengthen language to “Take all steps necessary to effectuate the transfer...”</p>	<p>H-A1.4 Negotiate <u>Take All Steps Necessary to Effectuate the</u> Transfer of a Portion of the County’s Regional Housing Need Allocation in Conjunction with Annexations: If cities will annex residential sites that would accommodate a portion of the County’s current RHNA, the County will work with the affected cities, LAFCo, and BCAG, to transfer an appropriate portion of the County’s RHNA to the City.</p>
<p>H-A4.5 – Strike agency names, substitute “Butte County”</p>	<p>H-A4.5 Need for Homeless Services: In order to plan for homeless services, the Butte County Office of Education and Butte County Behavioral Health shall continue to participate in the annual Butte County Continuum of Care Point in Time Homeless County Report.</p>
<p>H-A6.1 – Change “2010” to “2011”</p>	<p>H-A6.1 Building Code Standards: The County will stay informed of the impending regulations related to green building as the State government enacts laws in accordance with the Building Energy Efficiency Standards, Part 11 of Title 24 of California’s new Green Building Standards Code. The codes were adopted in 2008, and the currently voluntary standards will become mandatory for all new construction, both residential and nonresidential, in 2010 <u>2011</u>.</p>
<p>ED-A2.1 – Change “Identify....” to “Review and update....”</p>	<p>ED-A2.1 Identify <u>Review and update the list of</u> sites suitable for the development of a regionally focused agricultural center.</p>
<p>CIR-A4.1 – Change implementation schedule to 2010/2011. Write a letter asap supporting these efforts so that this item can be marked “Complete”.</p>	<p>Modify Action schedule; do not change wording.</p>
<p>CIR-A5.1 – Re-adopt the existing Master Plan so that it is shown as updated. This</p>	<p>None</p>

will allow priority ranking in grant applications. Work with BCAG to bring this item back to BOS asap.	
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VII. NEXT STEPS

Zoning Ordinance

The Citizens Advisory Committee met to consider the Zoning Ordinance on March 11, 2010. A Public Workshop took place on July 28, 2010, at the Southside Community Center. The Planning Commission is currently conducting a series of eight meetings to complete a comprehensive review of the new Draft Zoning Ordinance and Map. Once the Planning Commission completes their review and final recommendations in November, the Board of Supervisors will consider final adoption of the new Zoning Ordinance and Map in March 2011.

Should you have any questions regarding any of the information provided within this Agenda Report, please do not hesitate to contact me at 530-538-6821 or Principal Planner Dan Breedon at 530-538-7629.

Sincerely,



Tim Snellings, Director
Butte County Department of Development Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Attached to this Agenda Report:

Attachment A

Board Resolution certifying the Draft Butte County General Plan 2030 Final Environmental Impact Report (FIER) pursuant to CEQA.

Attachment B

Board Resolution adopting Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan pursuant to CEQA.

Attachment C

Board Resolution adopting Butte County General Plan 2030.

Attachment D

Board Resolution approving associated amendments to the North Chico Specific Plan.

Attachment E

Board Resolution approving associated amendments to the Stringtown Mountain Specific Plan.

Attachment F

Board Resolution directing staff to initiate a General Plan Amendment solely to consider the re-designation of approximately 4,566 acres of land currently designated Agriculture to Rural Residential in the Biggs, Gridley, and Palermo areas.

Attachment G

Board Resolution approving a General Plan Amendment to the Housing Element and associated Addendum to the Negative Declaration.

Attachment H

Board Resolution approving the General Plan 2030 Action Plan.

Attachment I

Butte County Planning Commission Resolutions recommending to the Board of Supervisors 1) the Certification of the Final EIR, 2) Adoption of Butte County General Plan 2030 with Findings of Fact and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, 3) associated amendments to the North Chico Specific Plan and 4) Stringtown Mountain Specific Plan; 5) Amendment of the 2009 Housing Element, and 6) approval of the General Plan 2030 Action Plan.

Attachment J

Public Comment

Attachment K

Comment from Caltrans and City of Chico and Town of Paradise on traffic mitigations.

Attachment L

Summary of Changes to General Plan 2030

Provided separately to the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Butte County General Plan 2030 (October 26, 2010)
- 2) August 2, 2010 Final EIR
- 3) April 8, 2010 Draft EIR