Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead

Bruce W. McClendon FAICP
Director of Planning

January 14, 2009

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Bruce W. McClendon, FAICP
Director of Planning

SUBJECT: WEBSITE REDESIGN – DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

A long-term goal of the Department of Regional Planning has been to provide timely information to the public regarding land use planning and the development process. Our department website has been a key tool in that endeavor. The look and feel of our website was updated in 2007; however, it continued to present challenges for users to quickly locate the information they needed. During much of last year we have worked diligently to completely overhaul our website. The site was released to the public on January 7, 2009.

Our new website does the following:

- Adds search functionality, dynamic content, categories and RSS (ability to subscribe to feeds)
- Adds image galleries and thumbnail previews
- Adds new organization with expanded downloads, forms and FAQs
- A new, intuitive interface for our customers and stakeholders
- Changes the underlying technology (now database driven)
- Provides a much simpler editing/maintenance interface (thus reducing operational costs)

This is consistent with our department's strategic initiatives, as well as the County's Strategic Plan organizational goals of Service Excellence and Organizational Effectiveness.

The existing URL for access to our site remains unchanged:

http://planning.lacounty.gov

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We will be working with other County departments and the County's Public Information Officer to update their websites with current links as soon as possible. The Department of Regional Planning proudly looks forward to announce further developments with public access to our planning information. Future enhancements will probably include newsletters, web casting of Regional Planning Commission (RPC) hearings (an integral part of our permit and process improvements), archived minutes of RPC hearings and more multilingual areas.

Should you have any questions on the content of this site, our staff is anxious to hear them.

BWM:ems

Attachment

c: William T Fujioka, CEO
All Department Heads
Nicole Englund, First District
Daniel A. Rosenfeld, Second District
Benjamin Saltsman, Third District
Julie Moore, Fourth District
Paul Novak, Fifth District

bc: Sheehan, CEO
Sanchez, CIO
Hamai, BOS
McClendon
Sanabria
Elias
Deputy Directors
Slavin
Franchino
X

SCREEN SHOT FROM THE NEW DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING WEBSITE