Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead

Richard J. Bruckner
Director

January 8, 2014

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

FROM: Richard J. Bruckner
Director

QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT ON BOARD MOTION REGARDING RURAL ISSUES AND THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE (DECEMBER 9, 2008, ITEM 39-B)

On December 9, 2008, the Board instructed the Director of Planning to take the following actions:

1. Formulate draft standards for development of rural communities within the General Plan Update;
2. Identify provisions that relate to development of rural communities in future outreach efforts concerning the General Plan Update;
3. Make a presentation to the Association of Rural Town Councils (ARTC) no later than April of 2009, concerning rural issues and the General Plan Update; and,
4. Report back to the Board of Supervisors every 90 days identifying how the Department is addressing rural issues in the General Plan Update.

This quarterly report, as directed by the Board Motion, summarizes the progress of the Department of Regional Planning (Department) in addressing the actions outlined above.

The General Plan Update is scheduled for public hearing before the Regional Planning Commission (Commission), beginning in February 2014, and will be conducted over the course of several months. The Department will also release for public review the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the General Plan Update in April 2014. The Department anticipates bringing all components of the General Plan Update before the Board for consideration in September 2014. An updated draft of the General Plan is available for public review at: planning.lacounty.gov/generalplan.

During the past quarter, Department staff continued to reach out to major stakeholders to discuss issues of concern in rural communities. On October 31, 2013, the staff provided an overview of the General Plan Update and Housing Element Update to the Association of Rural Town Councils.

The staff also provided informational briefings on the General Plan Update to the Commission. On October 23, 2013, the staff provided the Commission with an overview of the Draft General

Plan and zoning consistency efforts, including a discussion of two proposed rural zones: Rural Commercial Zone and Rural Mixed Use Zone. More information on the zoning consistency effort can be found at: planning.lacounty.gov/generalplan/zoning.

On December 11, 2013, the staff provided an overview of proposed implementing ordinances for hillside management and for the Significant Ecological Areas (SEA). More information on the proposed hillside management ordinance can be found at: planning.lacounty.gov/hma, and on the SEA Program at: planning.lacounty.gov/sea.

In addition, the Board approved and indicated its intent to adopt the Housing Element Update. Upon adoption, the Department will submit the Housing Element to the State Department of Housing and Community Development for certification review. The Department is also developing an online, user-friendly version of the Housing Element to facilitate its implementation. A copy of the approved Housing Element can be found at: planning.lacounty.gov/housing.

Finally, the staff continued to develop the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) for the unincorporated areas of the County. The staff is currently developing a draft CCAP, which will be available for public review in January 2014. Information on the CCAP can be found at: planning.lacounty.gov/ccap.

The next quarterly report on rural issues and the General Plan Update will be delivered no later than April 7, 2014. Should you have any questions regarding the General Plan Update, Housing Element Update, or CCAP, please contact Connie Chung at (213) 974-6417 or cchung@planning.lacounty.gov. For questions related to the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update, or the proposed implementing ordinances for hillside management and the SEAs, please contact Susan Tae at (213) 974-6476 or stae@planning.lacounty.gov. For questions regarding the proposed rural zones, please contact Bruce Durbin at (213) 974-6432 or bdurbin@planning.lacounty.gov.

RJB:MPC:CC:ems

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)
Association of Rural Town Councils (Vance Pomeroy, Director)

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