Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead

Richard J. Bruckner
Director

July 9, 2015

TO: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
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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 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 and final report, as directed by the Board motion, summarizes the progress of the Department of Regional Planning (Department) in addressing the actions outlined above. With the approval of General Plan Update, and the completion of the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update and associated efforts, the Department will conclude its quarterly status reports on Item 39-B.

Antelope Valley Area Plan Update

During this quarter, the Department continued its efforts to complete the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update (AV Plan Update). After the November 12, 2014 public hearing before the Board, staff has been working with County Counsel to prepare the final documents for Board adoption. The AV Plan Update was scheduled for the Board's June 2, 2015

meeting for final consideration and adoption of the project, and was continued to June 16, 2015. On June 16, 2015, after hearing a brief staff presentation and comments from 22 people, the Board adopted the AV Plan Update, which includes the AV Plan, and associated zone changes and Los Angeles County Code Title 22 Zoning Code amendments (Zoning Code). More information on the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update effort can be accessed at the following link: planning.lacounty.gov/tnc.

General Plan Update

During this quarter, the Department continued its efforts to complete the General Plan Update. On March 24, 2015, the Board conducted a public hearing on the General Plan Update. After hearing testimony, the Board voted unanimously to indicate its intent to approve the General Plan Update. The Board also instructed staff to prepare a report in 90 days on equitable development tools and concepts. Staff is working with County Counsel to prepare the final documents for Board adoption. Staff has submitted the report to the Board, which can be accessed at the following link: file.lacounty.gov/bc/q2_2015/cms1_230225.pdf. More information on the General Plan Update can be found at the following link: planning.lacounty.gov/generalplan.

Other Efforts Related to Rural Issues

During this quarter, the Department continued work for the Draft Renewable Energy Ordinance. On April 22, 2015, the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) held a public hearing (contined from March 18, 2015 and April 8, 2015) on the proposed ordinance. After public testimony from 11 people, the RPC closed the public hearing and by a 4-0-1 (absent) vote, the RPC recommended approval of the ordinance and for the Board to conduct a public hearing. The County Airport Land Use Commission also considered the project during a public hearing on April 22, 2015, and found the project to be consistent with the County Airport Land Use Plan and the Fox Field Airport Land Use Compatbility Plan. The Board public hearing on the matter has been scheduled for July 14, 2015, with the Final Environmental Impact Report, including response to comments, available by July 3, 2015.

During this quarter, the Department also prepared a proposed amendment to the Zoning Code that establishes *animal facilities* as a land use and creates new requirements to regulate the use. This draft ordinance was initiated in 2009 by a Board motion that directed the Departments of Regional Planning, Animal Care & Control, Public Health, and Public Works to review their requirements and provide recommendations on how to better regulate the boarding and breeding of cats and dogs. The Animal Facility Ordinance is intended to better align the Zoning Code regulations with the existing requirements of the Title 10, the Animal Code. The Ordinance was scheduled to be presented to the RPC on May 27, 2015, but staff

requested the hearing be continued to conduct additional community outreach. The Department is currently revising the Ordinance based on public comments, and the Ordinance is expected to now be heard by the Regional Planning Commission in September 2015.

The Department also continued to support efforts by the County Arts Commission for a placemaking art grant in the communities of Sun Village and Littlerock. Staff attended a community meeting on May 13, 2015, regarding this project.

The Department also continued to participate in meetings with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority (Metro) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) on the Northwest 138 Corridor Improvement Project.

The Department also continued to coordinate and provide information to the State Energy Commission in association with the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) and related efforts.

Stakeholder Outreach

During the past quarter, staff continued to reach out to stakeholders to discuss issues of concern in rural communities. Staff met with the following stakeholder groups:

- Los Angeles County Farm Bureau (April 22, 2015)

Should you have any questions regarding the General Plan Update, please contact Connie Chung at (213) 974-6417 or cchung@planning.lacounty.gov. For questions related to the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update and the Renewable Energy Ordinance, please contact Susan Tae at (213) 974-6476 or stae@planning.lacounty.gov. For questions regarding the Animal Facilities Ordinance, please contact Bruce Durbin at (213) 974-6432 or bdurbin@planning.lacounty.gov.

RJB:MC:CC:SMT:BD:cc:lm

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Chief Executive Office
Association of Rural Town Councils (Susan Zahnter, Interim Director)

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