



Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead



Richard J. Bruckner
Director

October 8, 2014

TO: Esther L. Valadez, Chair
Laura Shell, Vice Chair
David W. Louie, Commissioner
Curt Pedersen, Commissioner
Pat Modugno, Commissioner

FROM: Emma Howard, Regional Planning Assistant II
Community Studies North Section

LOS ANGELES COUNTY GENERAL PLAN UPDATE - PUBLIC HEARING: PROJECT NO. 02-305 (1-5) - OCTOBER 8, 2014 – AGENDA ITEM #6 - *SUPPLEMENTAL MEMO*

BACKGROUND

The Significant Ecological Areas (SEA) Program Update has been presented to your Commission as a component of the General Plan Update at a series of public hearings. The implementation of the SEA Program is primarily regulated through the SEA Ordinance, a component of the County Zoning Code ("Title 22") which establishes the permitting standards and process for development within SEAs. The SEA Program Update has also created several draft materials to support the proposed SEA Ordinance: the SEA Development Map, the SEA Connectivity and Constriction Map, and the SEA Program Guide.

ONGOING RECENT SEA ORDINANCE QUESTIONS

At your Commission public hearing on September 27, 2014 to consider the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update ("Town and Country"), which is a separate but concurrent effort than the General Plan Update, staff noted that there were many questions regarding how the provisions of the draft SEA Ordinance would affect specific uses.

Following this public hearing, staff has met with and heard from additional stakeholders including town councils, the Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC), and additional stakeholders. These meetings have included questions and concerns specific to the SEA Program. The various groups have asked for more time and more information regarding the SEA Program overall, and the SEA Ordinance in particular.

CONCLUSION

In order to respond to these additional questions and concerns regarding implementation of the SEA Program and to provide more detailed, community-level outreach and follow-up, staff recommends that your Commission continue the SEA Ordinance and its components (the SEA Ordinance Program Guide, SEA Development Map, and the SEA Connectivity and Constriction Map), off calendar.

Staff recommends that the public hearing on the rest of the General Plan Update, referred to as Project Number 02-305-(1-5), be continued to December 10, 2014, and that the focus of the hearing be to recap the General Plan Update.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

I MOVE THAT ADVANCE PLANNING CASE NO. 201200001, REGARDING THE SEA ORDINANCE AND ASSOCIATED COMPONENTS, BE CONTINUED OFF CALENDAR.

I FURTHER MOVE THAT ALL THE REST OF THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE, REFERRED TO AS PROJECT NUMBER 02-305-(1-5), BE CONTINUED TO DECEMBER 10, 2014.

MC:SMT:EH