



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

LONG RANGE PLANNING

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To: Board of Supervisors

From: Shawna Purvines, Principal Planner

Subject: Community Planning Guide Update

Purpose

This is a follow-up to the draft Community Planning Guide presented to the Board on June 24, 2014 and includes: 1) Community Planning Guide (Final, October 2014) refined with community feedback from public outreach meetings held in August; and 2) Summary of community outreach efforts and comments received.

Background

A Community Planning Guide (Attachment 4B) has been developed to provide a process and framework for community-based planning. The Guide describes the community-based planning process in seven (7) steps as shown on a "roadmap." The approach is general by design to allow each community the flexibility to decide how far they want to go down the road towards a formal plan. The Guide explains how and when the County gets involved in the process, providing the community with helpful resources, partnership opportunities, and technical assistance when needed.

The Guide was prepared based on input from the Community Economic Development Advisory Committee (CEDAC) and public comments received during the community outreach effort, summarized in the Discussion section below. Comments and suggestions received and revisions made to the draft Guide are listed in Attachment 4C. On October 23, 2014, staff presented the Community Planning Guide to CEDAC and received positive feedback and support for making the Guide available for public use.

Discussion

In August 2014, nine (9) community meetings were held to discuss the draft Community Planning Guide and to receive feedback. Meeting locations were in Cameron Park, Camino, Coloma, Cool, Diamond Springs, El Dorado Hills, Fairplay, Pollock Pines and Shingle Springs. Input from the Meyers community was provided by phone. Over 110 community members participated in the feedback sessions. A project fact sheet (Attachment 4D) with the meeting schedule and the draft guide was posted on the County website on the home page under "News and Hot Topics," and on the Long Range Planning and Economic Development web pages. Hard copies of the guide were made available and additional time was allowed to give community members more time to provide comments.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board:

1. Receive and file the Community Planning Guide; and
2. Discuss next steps for implementing General Plan Goal 2.4 – Maintain and enhance the character of existing rural and urban communities, emphasizing both the natural setting and built design elements which contribute to the quality of life, economic health, and community pride of County residents.

Reason for Recommendation

At the direction of the Board, staff has revised the Community Planning Guide incorporating public comments received during the two (2) public outreach efforts and will make the Guide available for public use. The Guide was crafted to assist with the implementation of General Plan Goal 2.4. Staff recommends the Board discuss the County's next steps and preferred option for initiating community planning, including but not necessarily be limited to the following options:

1. Allow communities to initiate community planning efforts and wait for individual members of a community to contact the County; or
2. Proactively approach and initiate contact with communities regarding the preparation of a community plan.

Next Steps

The Community Planning Guide, a new tool for community-based planning efforts, will be available on the Long Range Planning's website: <http://www.edcgov.us/LongRangePlanning/> under "Community Planning" for use by communities interested in local community planning. This guide is a "living" document whereby the County will update when additional helpful information and resources is identified during the ongoing community planning process.

At the direction of the Board, guided by General Plan Goal 2.4 and the Community Planning Guide, the County will assist in the development of community design guidelines and community plans in concert with members of each community that choose to initiate the development of a community plan.