



## RESOLUTION NO.

### OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO

**WHEREAS**, the County of El Dorado is mandated by the State of California to maintain an adequate and proper General Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of El Dorado adopted a General Plan in 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, the adopted 2004 General Plan reflects the agricultural district boundaries of Camino/Fruitridge, Garden Valley, Oak Hill, Gold Hill, Coloma, Fairplay, and Pleasant Valley from the 1996 General Plan (Exhibit A); and

**WHEREAS**, General Plan Implementation Measure AF-J states “Complete an inventory of agricultural lands in active production and/or lands determined by the Agricultural Commission to be suitable for agricultural production. Once the inventory is complete, perform a suitability review (consistent with Policies 8.1.1.1, 8.1.1.2, 8.1.1.3, and 8.1.1.4) and amend the Agricultural District boundaries as appropriate (Policy 8.1.1.7);” and

**WHEREAS**, General Plan Policy 8.1.1.1 states “‘Agricultural Districts’ shall be created and maintained for the purposes of conserving, protecting, and encouraging the agricultural use of important agricultural lands and associated activities throughout the County; maintaining viable agricultural-based communities; and encouraging the expansion of agricultural activities and production. These districts shall be delineated on the General Plan land use map as an overlay land use designation;” and

**WHEREAS**, General Plan Policy 8.1.1.2 states, “Agricultural Districts shall be based on the following criteria: A. Lands currently under Williamson Act contract (i.e., ‘agricultural preserves’); B. Soils identified as El Dorado County ‘choice’ agricultural soil, which consist of Federally designated prime, State designated unique or important, or County designated locally important soils; C. Lands under cultivation for commercial crop production’ D. Lands that possess topographical and other features that make them suitable for agricultural production;’ E. Low development densities; and F. A determination by the Board of Supervisors that the affected lands should be preserved for agricultural production rather than other uses;” and

**WHEREAS**, General Plan Policy 8.1.1.3 states, “The boundaries of Agricultural District overlays shall be based on existing land features including but not limited to soil types, rivers, ridgelines, and other visibly evident features or, otherwise, shall follow legal property boundaries;” and

**WHEREAS**, General Plan Policy 8.1.1.4 states, “The procedures set forth in *The Procedures for Evaluating the Suitability of Land for Agriculture* shall be used for evaluating the suitability of agricultural lands in Agricultural Districts and Williamson Act Contract lands (agricultural preserves). The procedures shall be developed, reviewed, and revised, as appropriate, by the Agricultural Commission, and approved by the Board of Supervisors. Revisions to the procedure shall not constitute a General Plan amendment;” and

**WHEREAS**, on June 30, 2009, the Board of Supervisors received and filed an amended 12 month action plan which included direction to the Department of Agriculture (Department) to begin an update of the current agricultural districts; and

**WHEREAS**, to implement the Board’s direction and General Plan Measure AF-J, the Department and University of California Cooperative Extension staff analyzed parcels adjacent to the agricultural districts using the following criteria: 1. Land Use designations; 2. Parcel size; 3. Elevation; 4. Slope of less than 50 percent; 5. Soil type; 6. Proximity to existing agricultural districts; 7. Present land use; and 8. Current Williamson Act contracts. Parcels were also analyzed by the above staff for removal from the agricultural districts by using the following criteria: 1. Parcel size; 2. Current land use; 3. Adjacent land use; 4. Land Use designations; and 5. Island effect; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 12, 2009, the Department presented to the Agricultural Commission and the concerned public the results of their analysis and review as to suitability of said land for agricultural capability. Nine public meetings were held by the Commission through May 12, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, all contested parcels were reviewed by the Agricultural Commission subsequent to the preparation of their final recommendation for parcel-specific additions to or removal from the agricultural districts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County of El Dorado Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Development Services Department to proceed with the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission, as illustrated in Exhibit B, and prepare a draft revision to the agricultural district boundaries.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that final boundaries shall be established by an action of the Board of Supervisors as an amendment to the General Plan Land Use diagram following public and environmental review.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, by the following vote of said Board:

Attest: Ayes:  
Suzanne Allen de Sanchez Noes:  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Absent:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk Chair, Board of Supervisors

I CERTIFY THAT:  
THE FOREGOING INSTRUMENT IS A CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE.

Attest: Suzanne Allen de Sanchez, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado, State of California.

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk