



**COLUSA COUNTY GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
STEERING COMMITTEE**

AGENDA PACKET

Meeting #6 – January 12, 2011

TO: Steering Committee Members

FROM: Steve Hackney, Director of Planning and Building; Ben Ritchie and Beth Thompson, De Novo Planning Group

SUBJECT: Community Services and Facilities

DATE: January 3, 2011

INTRODUCTION

Please note that this meeting packet includes an agenda for the upcoming meeting, an updated Steering Committee meeting schedule, identifies specific reading materials related to community services and facilities, and raises key issues to consider prior to the sixth Steering Committee meeting. Select pages from the 1989 General Plan, Existing Conditions Report, and Issues and Opportunities Report have been identified with this packet; please make sure to read these materials prior to the meeting. These materials are included in the large binder you were given.

This Steering Committee meeting will focus on the topic of community services and facilities. This topic is considered an optional element of the General Plan update, and while it is not required, it will be included in the updated General Plan.

The Community Services and Facilities Element will generally focus on the provision of services and infrastructure for water, wastewater and telecommunications. Additionally, services such as police, fire, emergency services and schools will also be addressed. Roadway infrastructure will be addressed in the Circulation Element, and flooding and drainage infrastructure will be addressed in the Safety Element.

As part of the Visioning process, County residents and stakeholders identified the following priorities to address:

- Lack of wastewater (sewer) infrastructure;
- Lack of potable water supplies;
- Lack of broadband access in rural areas of the County;
- Insufficient funding for infrastructure improvements;
- Allowing new growth only in areas where municipal services and infrastructure are available; and
- Need to increase water supplies for agricultural use.

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The County's 1989 General Plan includes a stand-alone Community Services Element.

REQUIRED READING

Prior to the meeting on January 12th, please review the following materials:

1. January 12, 2011 General Plan Steering Committee Agenda
2. General Plan Background Report: Section 3
3. Issues and Opportunities Report: Section 2.5
4. Colusa County 1989 General Plan

Goals and Objectives: pages 4-5

Community Services Element: All policies on pages 1 through 35.

WORK EXERCISE

As you are reading through the Issues and Opportunities Report chapter related to Community Services and Facilities, please review and think about the questions posed at the end of each topic. Please also consider, and be prepared to discuss, the following questions:

- a) Should the County take on an increased role in the provision of water and wastewater services?
- b) Does the County need to work with utility districts to restructure infrastructure fees to better provide services and infrastructure?
- c) How should water and wastewater capacity influence growth and land use decisions?
- d) Should the County phase out septic systems and require sewer standards for residential and commercial development in the areas surrounding established communities?

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND MATERIALS

The Colusa County General Plan Update website is an excellent source of information for this project. Full copies of the Background Report, Issues and Opportunities Report, the 1989 General Plan, and the General Plan newsletters can be viewed and downloaded from the website located at: www.countyofcolusageneralplan.org.