

DRAFT

Minutes

GENERAL PLAN UPDATE – REFINEMENT GROUP

Thursday, December 18, 2003, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

At the Salinas Valley Builders' Exchange, 590-A Brunken Ave., Salinas.

Those present: Brian Finegan, Wendy Elliot, Tom Carvey, Aaron Johnson, Christine Gianascol, Bob Perkins, Mike Caplin, Nancy Isakson, Gwen Miller, Sheryl McKenzie, Pete Scudder, Ralph Riva, Tom Rowley, Juan Uranga, Rich Smith, Chris Steinbruner, Chris Bunn Sr.

Visitors: Christopher Bunn, Jr., Mary Mecartney

- I) Public Comment Period (Public Comment for issues not on the agenda)
Christopher Bunn Jr. said that he would be playing his music at Rollick's Coffee House, 210 Main Street on Friday night at 7:00 PM.
- II) Approval of agenda for December 18, 2003
Public comment: none
Nancy Isakson suggested that we discuss the Planning Commission hearings on the GPU. It was decided to include this under VI g (1)
Agenda was approved
- III) Approval of minutes from December 11, 2003
Public comment: none
Minutes were approved.
- IV) **Environmental Resource Management Element (ERME)**
Public comment: none
Using the two part ERME handouts from the ERME subcommittee, the group began with Element 6.2 and 6.3 which had been deferred from the previous week. Brian Finegan read the state public resources code on mineral extraction which contain strong policies for conservation of known mineral deposits. Bob Perkins suggested using the state language in place of the current GPU language. There was discussion about the use of buffer zones around mining areas. Aaron Johnson, Mike Caplin and Bob Perkins will work on language for 6.2.

Nancy Isakson said that individual property owners as well as mining operations have been affected by the current ordinances.

ERME-9.3: Dedication of Scenic Easements: Mike Caplin presented the Coast Property Owners' Association (CPOA) version of ER-1.3 having to do with setbacks. The CPOA version would prohibit the County from imposing additional

regulations. Juan Uranga will work on language that will strike a balance between property rights and the policy powers of the County. It was agreed that Juan Uranga, Mike Caplin, Aaron Johnson and Bob Perkins would work together to develop language for this policy.

Rich Smith said that undefined policies are subject to the interpretation by staff which can result in the loss of property rights. There was discussion about Title 21.02.040 which prohibits the taking or damaging of private property.

ERME-9.3: Dedication of scenic easements: There was discussion over the definition of “Common public viewing area,” which is given in the GPU as a point from which the general public can ordinarily view. There was discussion over the extent of public viewing areas and the effect on property rights. The group agreed that Brian Finegan would work with Mike Caplin and develop language to be presented to the group at the next meeting.

ERME-9.4: Scale and Character: Mike Caplin suggested changing “critical viewshed” to “public viewshed” throughout this section. The group decided to add a sentence at the end of the section to say, “These policies shall not be interpreted to preclude new developments within public viewshed.”

ERME-9.5: Ridgeline Development: There was discussion about excluding routine and ongoing agricultural practices (RAOAP) from this section. There was discussion about changing the language concerning silhouettes. The group decided to accept the subcommittee’s recommendations for this policy, including the silhouette language.

ERME-9.6: Topographic Alteration. Add CPOA language as added sentence.

ERME-9.7: Offsite Signs and Outside Storage: This is a no billboard policy for the whole County. Eliminate the “outside storage” language.

ERME-9.8: Exterior Lighting: remove the “dark sky” provisions, otherwise as per subcommittee recommendation.

ERME-9.9: Satellite dishes, cell towers, and the like. as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-9.10: Solar Collectors and Wind Power Generators: as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-9.11: Overhead Utility Lines: as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-9.12: Scenic Route Network: as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-9.13: Special Scenic Treatment: strike the entire policy.

ERME-9.14: Public Participation in the Designated Scenic Highway: add CPOA language.

ERME-9.15: Vista Points: There was discussion about the definition of a “public road access project.” Mike Caplin offered suggestions to modify the subcommittee’s language.

ERME-9.16: Conservation Easements along New Roads: strike this policy in its entirety.

Goal ER-10: Historic Resources

Brian Finegan handed out copies of the state and County historical ordinances. Discussion ensued concerning this policy. It was pointed out that this is a very powerful area, incorporated into CEQA. Any alteration of a “listed place” would have to have an EIR, and there would be no mitigation, as per state law. The policies in the GPU are therefore serious, because it goes to CEQA, having the same effect as putting the “listed place” on a state or federal list.

ERME-10.1: Historic Review Process: accept as per GPU

ERME-10.2: Historic Resources Review Board: add the word “listed.” Strike the “50 year” language. Accept language as modified during today’s meeting.

ERME-10.3: New Development Near Historic Resources: as per subcommittee recommendation to strike this policy in its entirety.

ERME-10.4 Historic Resource Features: Delete the text box about “heritage corridors.” Approved with today’s modifications. Brian Finegan will track changes.

ERME-10.5 Heritage Corridors: as per subcommittee recommendation to strike in its entirety. Leave the subcommittee’s comment under 10.5.

ERME-10.6: Historic Listings: as per subcommittee recommendation. Leave the subcommittee’s comments after 10.6.

ERME-10.7: Update of Historic Resources Inventory: as per subcommittee recommendation, but strike last sentence. Leave following comment, but remove underline under federal policy Section 106.

ERME-10.8: County an Interested Party: as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-10.9 Historic Resource Protection Regulations: as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-10.10 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-10.11 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-10.12 Integrate historic preservation programs: as per subcommittee recommendation, with modifications explaining that this policy does not concern governmental departments, but rather the physical buildings which the County owns.

ERME-10.13 Public Information Programs: as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-10.14: as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-10.15: as per subcommittee recommendation, but with the change “may support” instead of “shall.”

ERME-10.16: as per subcommittee recommendation, but with change of “may” instead of “shall.” Strike everything past “historic resources.”

Goal ER-11 Archaeological resources

ERME-11.1 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-11.2 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-11.3 as per subcommittee recommendation, modified during meeting. Include RAOAP.

ERME-11.4 as per subcommittee recommendation. Include RAOAP.

ERME-11.5 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-11.6 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-11.7 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-11.8 instead of “could destroy,” say “are likely to destroy.”

ERME-11.9 as per subcommittee recommendation

Goal ER-12: Paleontological Resources

ERME-12.1 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-12.2 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-12.3 as per subcommittee recommendation, include “is likely to” instead of “would.”

ERME-12.4 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-12.5 as per subcommittee recommendation

ERME-12.6 as per subcommittee recommendation

- V) Land use Element
Public comment: none
Include in agenda for next meeting.

- VI) Reports from sub-committees
Public comment: none
 - A) Environmental Resource Management Element (ERME)
 - B) Water
 - C) Transportation
 - D) Land Use
 - E) City/County Agreements
 - F) Public Service
 - G) Update of GPU process
 - (1) Planning Commission process and timeline

- VII) Agenda building for next meeting
Public comment: none
Given the holiday season, it was decided that Tom Carvey would e-mail the group and ask for RSVP's for a tentative meeting date of Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2004 from 1:00 – 4:00 PM.
 - A) Discussion of meeting dates in 2004

- VIII) Adjournment to meeting of January 8, 2004, location to be announced