

## **False statements on plan update**

Letter to the Editor, The Valley Springs News  
May 14, 2010

Editor:

MyValleySprings.com would like to offer clarification on some Valley Springs Community Plan update statements made at the 5/4 Board of Supervisors meeting and in recent newspapers.

- 1) The land use map questionnaire was designed to register individual computer IP addresses, which were verified to screen for duplicates. It would be inaccurate to assume it was “easy to manipulate the questionnaire process with multiple voting.”
- 2) Response to the land use map questionnaire was not 1%, as reported. 114 responses received from 1800 notifications mailed is a return of 6.3%. This was in addition to previous community meeting feedback.
- 3) The Planning Department received two Alternative land use maps on March 22, for consideration concurrent with the Alternatives Report for Countywide growth policy. “On April 20, at a joint meeting of the Board and the Planning Commission on the general plan, the Planning Department still had nothing from Valley Springs” is incorrect.
- 4) Statements were made that CCOG should not be the lead in the community plan process, and CCOG should now remove itself. The real question is, “what is the Community saying they want for their town in the next 25 years and how can the County work with the CCOG to maximize the opportunity being given by the grant?” CCOG is the grant administrator, and has played a prominent role in the project due to inconsistent staffing in County departments. The grant application was supported by two County Supervisors, the Community Development Agency, the CCOG board, CUSD, and community groups.
- 5) “We didn’t have a map of what individual property owners want to do” is simply incorrect. A map of current and proposed subdivisions (provided by the Planning Dept.) was shown at the August community workshop and incorporated into the Alternative 1 land use map presented in February. The Alternative 2 map reflects additional property owner desires. The recent questionnaire included a land use map showing current planning projects within the boundary area (posted on the CCOG VSCP web page).
- 6) Preserving agricultural lands in community plans is not new (see existing Mokelumne Hill, San Andreas, and Murphys plans).

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