



P.O. Box 935, San Andreas, CA 95249 • (209) 772-1463 • www.calaverascap.com

Protecting our rural environment by promoting citizen participation in sustainable land use planning since 2006

December 31, 2020

For Immediate Release

Contact: Muriel Zeller (209) 772-1723, murielz@comcast.net

New Outreach Coordinator Joins Community Action Project Staff



San Andreas, CA. The Community Action Project (CAP) Governing Committee is pleased to announce the addition of Megan Fiske to its staff as the Outreach Coordinator for both CAP and the Calaveras Planning Coalition (CPC), which is CAP's primary program.

"We are extremely pleased to put Megan's education and experience to work for CAP and the Coalition," said CAP Co-Chair Joyce Techel. "She is already familiar with the county and the issues we address and has previously done similar work in the region."

CAP's mission is to protect and improve the natural and built environments in Calaveras County by empowering people to claim their rights and participate in local government. The CPC, which is a federation of regional

and local organizations, community groups, and concerned individuals, promotes public participation in land use and resource planning to ensure a healthy human, natural, and economic environment now and in the future.

"I truly believe in the mission of CAP/CPC, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to put my passion and skills behind that mission as the Outreach Coordinator," Fiske said. She will apply the insight she has gained with experience, "Spending my adult years working locally in both public and private sectors taught me all about what processes and which people affect the local environment."

Fiske has a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Management and Conservation and spent five years working for a regional conservation organization. She has reviewed land use planning documents and written comment letters relative to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). Her previous job also included the coordination of public outreach events and synthesizing technical information for the public.

Fiske spends most of her personal time enjoying and photographing the natural environment while hiking, kayaking, climbing, birding, backcountry snowboarding, and more. She sells her photography online and at community events. She currently resides in Bear Valley where she teaches snowboarding.

"Megan will be a real asset in helping the public to understand why the CPC had to challenge the General Plan Update in court," said CPC Facilitator Tom Infusino. "And she already has experience testifying at public hearings at the city, county, state, and federal levels which will be a real asset," he added.

Although the CPC and many others consistently advocated over 13 years for a general plan that protects open space values and sufficiently mitigates the impacts of growth and development, the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors adopted a General Plan Update in November 2019 that does not satisfactorily meet these critical requirements.

On December 9, 2019, the CPC filed a case in Calaveras County Superior Court which convincingly argues that the Supervisors violated state planning law and the California Environmental Quality Act. The Petition for Writ of Mandate; Complaint for Injunctive and Declaratory Relief Pursuant to General Plan Law, the California Public Records Act, and the California Environmental Quality Act can be viewed on the CAP/CPC website: www.calaverascap.com. Under "Planning Documents" select "Testimony, Comments & Opinions."