

Let's Talk about Why the General Plan Matters 1/21/15

- I. What is the purpose of a General Plan?
- II. What are the elements of a General Plan and how do they relate to each other?
- III. Where we are in the General Plan Update Process, and what is next?
- IV. How can I most effectively review this large document by early March?
 - A) Note the need to provide transparency, respect diversity, and promote unity.
 - B) Evaluate what got included from your community plan.
 - 1) Problems with the map. (See county website for G.P. map.)
 - 2) Problems with the text. (See CPC website for community plans)
 - C) Missing, or Wrong Background Information.
 - D) Missing General Plan Topics
 - Topics List Previously Generated (See CPC Website www.calaverascap.com)
 - E) Missing General Plan Policies
 - Draft Elements & other Community Plans (See CPC Website)
 - F) Missing General Plan Programs
 - G) Problems with the General Plan Text
 - 1) Didn't follow General Plan Guidelines (See CPC Website for Report Card)
 - 2) Didn't Solve Mintier Report Problems (See CPC Website)
 - 3) Didn't follow 2008 Draft Vision & Guiding Principles (See CPC website)
 - H) Problems with the rest of the General Plan Map.

V. Outline & Boilerplate for Comments (See CPC website www.calaverascap.com)

Comments go to: County of Calaveras, Planning Department,
891 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas, CA 95249 or email
pmaurer@co.calaveras.ca.us

Send in comments by early March 2015.

VI. How can I participate in the rest of the General Plan Update?

- Get on the County's list to receive future notices regarding the General Plan Update by sending an email to Peter Maurer at pmaurer@co.calaveras.ca.us
- Get a copy of the 2014 Draft General Plan to read at <http://planning.calaverasgov.us/GeneralPlanUpdate.aspx>
- Ask questions at one of the county's general plan open houses.
- Make written comments on the plan by early March and send them to the planning director, pmaurer@co.calaveras.ca.us, or Calaveras County, Department of Planning, 891 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas, CA 95249
 - If you don't understand, then ask the hard questions.
 - If you know better than the plan, then prove it with evidence.
 - If you suggest solutions, then provide examples and how they are funded.
- When writing comments on the plan:
 - First refer to the page in the plan and the part you are commenting on.
 - “On page LU23, Policy LU-1.5A states....”
 - Next, state your comment or question.
 - “Has that worked in other communities?”
 - “It would help to identify an annual deadline for the report that would make it timely and useful for the County's budget process.”
 - Next, state what you want done in the revised plan.
 - “Please include such a deadline in the revised plan and the project description.”
 - Finally, provide a copy of any evidence that supports your contention.
 - “See Attachment 1 to these comments for the relevant information from the CAO's office.”
- Put your name and contact information on the letter.
- Get the word out in conversations, blogs, in letters to the newspapers, at service organizations, etc. Your neighbors can help if they know what is going on.
- Start a group or join a group that is following the general plan process.
- Talk to all your planning commissioners and supervisors about your comments.
- Participate in Planning Commission and BOS hearings on the General Plan.