

Board approves new General Plan

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Calaveras County has a new General Plan update after a 13-year odyssey.

The Calaveras County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Tuesday morning to adopt the update that began in 2006.

“I’m honored to have my name associated with this General Plan,” said District 3 Supervisor Merita Callaway, who was on the board back in 2006 when it was decided to update the previous plan dating back to 1996.

California law requires that each county and city in the state develop and adopt a General Plan. The General Plan addresses important community issues such as new growth, housing needs and environmental protection.

“The General Plan update is not an elixir to all of the county’s problems,” said District 2 Supervisor and Board Chairman Jack Garamendi prior to the vote. “It gives us a road map, a map that we can adjust should we choose as the world changes. It is a guide. It doesn’t dictate everything that we must do.”

The old General Plan was seriously outdated, but “there are those who are going to be disappointed we are closing this dysfunctional chapter in our history,” Garamendi added.

Compromises were reached and he cautioned those who did not get 100 percent of what they wanted and are considering litigation to reconsider, because it will “only benefit the attorneys.”