



City of Santa Barbara
Planning Division

Memorandum

DATE: March 8, 2010

TO: Water Commission

FROM: Bettie Weiss, City Planner
John Ledbetter, Principal Planner

SUBJECT: PlanSB – Open House and Availability of Draft General Plan Update Documents and Draft EIR

We are pleased to announce an Open House and the availability of draft documents for the City's General Plan Update (PlanSB).

General Plan Update

We appreciate the participation from your Commission to review prior documents associated with the General Plan Update. The last document prepared was the Draft Policy Preferences Report that included the draft policies that have now been incorporated into the draft General Plan Update documents.

The General Plan Update includes the new and existing goals and policies that will shape development of the City over the next 20 years. Policy direction is proposed to manage both residential and non-residential growth, and new standards are recommended for residential development in commercial and multiple family areas of the City. A Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) has also been prepared to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed PlanSB General Plan policy amendments and future growth to 2030 and beyond. The DEIR evaluates citywide impacts for various environmental topics.

The Planning Commission is expected to consider the content of these draft documents in April and May (see below) and ultimately make recommendation to Council before the end of the year. The release of these documents is the opportunity for all interested parties to review and comment. There will be a 60-day public review period for the DEIR and other Draft General Plan documents (March 18 through May 17, 2010).

We encourage you to review and comment on the Draft General Plan documents and DEIR.

Planning staff is planning on attending your April 12, 2010 Water Commission meeting to discuss the documents and provide any assistance needed in preparing written comments from the Water Commission to the Planning Commission.

Open House

We encourage you to attend the Open House. The purpose of Open House is for interested parties to review the maps of areas recommended for changes, to obtain documents (in CD format), get information and to talk to staff.

Draft documents will first be available at the Open House on March 18, 2010, from 10 am to 7 pm at the Faulkner Gallery of the Central Library. Anyone can drop in any time between those hours.

Your documents CD can be picked up there, however, if you are unable to attend, your copy will be provided to your committee staff person by Monday, March 22. A printed copy will also be provided to your staff.

Available Documents

Draft documents that will be included in CDs include:

- General Plan Update including:
 - Draft Housing Element (w/goals, policies and implementation measures)
 - Draft Land Use Element (w/goals, policies and implementation measures)
 - Draft General Plan Land Use Map
 - New policies to be incorporated into other General Plan elements that will be updated at a future time
- Draft EIR

Printed copies of all documents can be reviewed at: the Planning Division, 630 Garden Street, Main Library 40 E. Anapamu Street, and Eastside Library, 1102 Montecito Street. The documents are also available on our website www.YouPlanSB.org.

Next Steps:

Hearing to receive verbal and written public comment on the documents will be held before the Planning Commission on the following dates. No formal Planning Commission action will be taken on the PlanSB Draft documents or Draft EIR at these hearings. Formal Planning Commission recommendation to Council and subsequent Council action on the documents is scheduled for later this fall.

Wednesday April 28, 2010	9 a.m. (Staff Presentation and Public Comment)
Thursday, April 29, 2010	1 p.m. (If necessary for additional public comment)
Thursday, May 6, 2010	1 p.m. (Planning Commission discussion & comments)

For More Information:

The Public Notice announcing the availability of documents and public review period of the EIR as well as upcoming meetings can be found on our website.

If you have any questions about the Open House or upcoming meetings, please contact John Ledbetter, Principal Planner at 564-5470.

We look forward to your continued participation.

Cc: Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager
Bill Ferguson, Water Resources Supervisor