



General Plan Advisory Committee

Riverside County 2008 General Plan Update

MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time: December 2, 2008, 10:00 AM

Location: County Administrative Center, Room 5C

Members Present: Dennis Chinaeff (Chair), Joseph A. Richards (Vice Chair), Barry Burnell, Steve Corona, John Criste, Michelle Randall, Stan Skipworth, Matt Webb and George Hague (Alt. for Anne McKibben)

Members Absent: Tom Kirk, Anne McKibben (sent alternate), Steve Robbins, John Snell, Ronald Sullivan, Borre Winckel

County Present: Ron Goldman, Damian Meins, Juan Perez, John Fields, Mitra Mehta-Cooper, Mike Harrod, Josh Lee, Cindy Thielman-Braun, Phayvanh Nanthavaongdouangsy, Herman Basmaciyani, Farah Korashadi, Sandra Jackson

Guests Present: Matt Raimi, Cindy Ferry, Dan Silver, Trip Hord, Laurie Taylor

1. **Call to Order:** GPAC Chair, Dennis Chinaeff, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Member Skipworth to approve minutes from previous meeting (October 14, 2008); seconded by Member Hague. Approved unanimously.
3. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Information and Guidelines for GPAC:** Presented by Ron Goldman, Riverside County Planning Director
 - b. **Response to Comments:** Mitra Mehta-Cooper, Principal Planner Riverside County, discussed the comment letters from GPAC members and others received since the prior GPAC meeting. Addressed several specific items of concern raised, including background on rural village overlays and study areas, Rural-Commercial proposal and requests for consistency zoning. GPAC Members also discussed rationale behind consistency zoning requirements at the General Plan policy level. Chair Chinaeff also discussed process for GPAC to review project information, provide feedback and, in particular, establish a schedule for managing the GPAC work effort.
4. **New Business:**
 - a. **Presentation: Proposed Circulation Element** – by Juan Perez, Director; Farah Khorashadi, Senior Civil Engineer; and Herman Basmaciyani, Consulting Engineer, Riverside County Transportation Department. Presentation described background

and process undertaken by County Transportation in revising the General Plan's Circulation Plan, as well as the development of a new County-wide traffic model; specific objectives behind the effort; progress so far, with specific examples of changes being considered.

- b. Presentation: Proposed Healthy Communities Element** – by Sandy Jackson, County Public Health Department, and Matt Raimi, Health Consultant. Presentation described background on rationale for adding a new “Healthy Communities Element” to the General Plan, described proposed work effort, desired outcome, relationship of issues to General Plan and possible role for GPAC in guiding the new Element. A fruitful discussion amongst the GPAC members, staff and guests present resulted. Guests spoke about being concerned with protecting rural lifestyles in Riverside County, as well as ensuring food and water supply safety.
 - c. Presentation: Land Use Proposals** – by Mitra Mehta-Cooper, Principal Planner, County Planning Department. Presentation described in greater detail the process by which the Strategic Planning Team performs spatial analyses to determine appropriate land uses based on various site-specific constraints. Examples discussed included the Rural Village Study Areas of El Cariso, Meadowbrook and Goodhope, and the San Jacinto Agricultural - Potential Development Study Area. Several alternate development scenarios were presented for each Study Area, along with the background constraints analyses for residential and commercial uses for each area as well. A brief outline of the parcel-specific data and maps provided to the GPAC members was also presented. GPAC members also discussed agricultural conversion and water issues. Member Randall, and others, expressed strong concern about water availability issues within the County.
 - d. Presentation: State Senate Bill 375** – by Mitra Mehta-Cooper, Principal Planner, County Planning Department. Presentation described very briefly the basics of SB 375 in terms of regional planning and its implications for Riverside County and the General Plan update project. A copy of the League of California Cities’ white paper on the bill was distributed to GPAC members for informational purposes.
- 5. GPAC Member Comments and Staff Announcements:** None were specifically called out. However, the GPAC Chair and members discussed various items throughout the agenda presentation, as noted generally above.
 - 6. Public Comments:** Two guests spoke during the public comment period. Dan Silver of the Endangered Habitat League mentioned concerns about consistency zoning in light of the Fire Reduction Task Force’s recommendations; he asked about the County’s “population targets”; he expressed skepticism at the GPAC’s challenge in performing urban planning relative to his experience as a member of the 2003 GPAC; and he referred the GPAC to his previously submitted written comments, which were included in the meeting packet. Cindy Ferry of Lake Mathews Talks also expressed concerns about population within Riverside County and, in particular, the need for population limitation parameters for planning purposes.

7. **Next Meeting:** After discussion, the GPAC Chair called for the next GPAC meeting to be held on January 20, 2009, at the County Administrative Center.

8. **Adjournment:** Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:18 p.m. to January 20, 2009, at 10 a.m., in Room 5C or other room (to be announced) if 5C is unavailable.