

Spencer, Martha

From: Webb, Betty
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2008 4:00 PM
To: Spencer, Martha; Hofweber, Tom
Subject: FW: THE GENERAL PLAN AS NATIONAL SECURITY

Betty Webb
Senior Office Assistant
Clerk of the Planning Commission
Humboldt County
Community Development Services
3015 H. Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707)268-3707 (direct)-(707)445-7446 (fax)
bwebb@co.humboldt.ca.us

-----Original Message-----

From: Harvey [<mailto:hollyberryboers@suddenlink.net>]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2008 3:26 PM
To: Webb, Betty
Subject: FW: THE GENERAL PLAN AS NATIONAL SECURITY

Members of the Planning Commission—I just sent this to the Supervisors and now to you for your consideration.
Thanks, Chuck Harvey

Board of Supervisors—

I honestly think that I framed the General Plan Update in its true context in the opinion piece below. I forward it by e-mail as I cannot attend meetings this spring due to knee replacements. I hope you will have the patience to read it, or at least scan it, through to get my drift. With much appreciation for your consideration, Chuck Harvey 220 Buckman Trail Lane, McKinleyville, 95519; 839-2249, tel/fax; Harvey [<hollyberryboers@suddenlink.net>](mailto:hollyberryboers@suddenlink.net)

P.S. Incidentally, I taught U.S. history at Chico state, 1966-1994, with upper division classes on the twentieth century.

THE GENERAL PLAN AND NATIONAL SECURITY - Chuck Harvey - [March 31, 2008](#)

Who's toughest on "national security"? That will probably be the key issue in the 2008 presidential election. It's certainly the Republicans' central theme, while the Democrats are calling for an alternative vision. But, hey, war mongering still works!

It worked for much of the past century because it blinds Americans to our domestic problems and our impact on other countries. Instead, it focuses on some vague foreign threat, One Enemy here, there, and everywhere. That's the Big Lie by which powerful business groups rule us and much of the world, although fascist and communist movements were deeply divided, as is terrorism today.

In fact, diverse resistance groups around the world are united only by resentment against the domination of giant global corporations backed by overwhelming military force.

Our real “national security” problem was suggested by Scottish poet Robbie Burns long ago: “Wad tha’ some pow’r the giftie gie us, to see oursel’s as ithers see us”!

We need to ask ourselves why we have no comprehensive system of cheap, safe, efficient public transportation? Why so few genuinely urbane cities with green housing in walking distance from stores, activities and cultural centers? Why so little healthy recreation for adults and even many young people? Why our unhealthy food and drink? Why the wild violence and shallow sex of our entertainment industry? Why no comprehensive sex and family planning education? Why our major role in global warming, resource waste, habitat destruction and extinction of species?

Why no universal medical insurance? Why the widening gap between rich and poor? Why the ongoing development of nuclear weaponry and power plants instead of worldwide reduction of radiation risk? Why our colossal military-industrial budgets, bases around the world, and “aid” which mainly supports regimes that repress their people’s aspirations and exploits their resources?

Those are the “national security” issues we share with the rest of humanity, indeed, with the earth’s entire web of life. They all require worldwide cooperation, not fear of a phantom One Enemy to be defeated militarily, with the genocidal attitude that “They hate us, so we must destroy them”!

Nor can we maintain the myth that “free markets” solve all problems and lead to unending progress. In fact, “free markets” amount to a dance of the elephants and the mice. They always allow a few giant firms to stomp the rest through control of markets and governments alike!

Markets are games with rules, but who sets the rules—the few or the many, special interests or an informed public? True national security is promoting common interests against special interests. That’s what democracy is all about. Today it means moving the world from economic dominance based on military force to ecological cooperation based on common interests.

The local aspect of all this here in Humboldt County is the General Plan Update. Will we have good planning for a sustainable future or short-term profiteering by a few major financial interests? Will we do our part to help save life on earth or allow the irresponsible exploitation of our vulnerable region to continue?

Neither big corporations nor small property owners should be allowed to wipe out forests, fill streams with sediment, or pave over agricultural land—expecting the public to pay for streets, water and sewer lines, police and fire protection, to outlying areas--and then get tax breaks, too!

These are the issues we must deal with in Humboldt County through the General Plan Update as it takes shape this year. We all need to pay attention and get involved. Our future is at stake!

No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.516 / Virus Database: 269.21.2/1305 - Release Date: 2/29/2008 6:32 PM

No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG.
Version: 7.5.519 / Virus Database: 269.22.1/1349 - Release Date: 3/29/2008 5:02 PM

No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG.
Version: 7.5.519 / Virus Database: 269.22.1/1350 - Release Date: 3/30/2008 12:32 PM

No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG.
Version: 7.5.519 / Virus Database: 269.22.1/1350 - Release Date: 3/30/2008 12:32 PM