



**Friends of
Small Places**

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Martha Spencer
Senior Planner
Community Development Services
Planning Division
3015 H. St
Eureka, CA 95501

June 10, 2008

Dear Ms. Spencer,


I represent the community advocacy group Friends of Small Places. Our organization, members and supporters whole heartedly support the citizen-developed set of comments submitted by the Trees Foundation for inclusion in development of the Humboldt County General Plan Update.

We believe that incorporation of these goals will help limit the impacts of existing and future rural residential development on the environment while sustaining both rural lifestyles and natural resources. These amendments will improve land use and resource management in areas zoned for rural residential development, as well as for small non-industrial timber production parcels.

Within rural residential communities there is a proliferating network of community-based groups and non-governmental organizations representing incredible commitment, community cohesiveness and tens of millions of grant and cost share dollars invested. The Humboldt County General Plan must build upon and support the success of these watershed planning and resource stewardship efforts.

I support the goal to create a County program of stewardship incentives encouraging and supporting rural residential landowners in taking collective and individual actions to sustain, restore and conserve natural resources under private ownership. I also support the creation of community-based planning processes appropriate to the structure of rural residential communities guiding implementation of the general plan at the watershed sub-basin level.

Sincerely,



Carlos Quilez
Exec. Dir.
Friends of Small Places