



Notice of Release

Humboldt County General Plan Update Planning Commission Hearing Draft November 20, 2008

The Planning Commission Hearing draft of the General Plan Update (GPU) will be provided to the Commissioners at their **Thursday, November 20, 2008** meeting. The Plan will be made available to the public on the GPU website at www.planupdate.org and will also be available for viewing at the Humboldt County Library (all branches), Kinkos and the Community Development Services Department front counter. Public hearings by the Planning Commission will begin in late January, 2009. Notices of these dates will be provided to both those individuals on our mailing list and published in the paper.

Release of Review Guides:

On **Thursday, December 18, 2008** the Planning Commission will hold a study session on the Draft Plan. At that time, documents designed to support the review of the Draft Plan will be made available. Information will be provided that:

- explains how the Draft Plan was changed from the preliminary Planning Commission hearing draft,
- explains how the Draft Plan varies from the Framework Plan,
- explains what the major issues are and how to use the support documents; and
- lists the goals, policies, standards, and Implementation Measures for plan alternatives A, B, C and D in one chart for comparison purposes.

Please Note: This meeting is designed to be a study session only. No action will be taken by the Planning Commission regarding the Draft Plan.

Housing Element Release:

A public review draft of the Humboldt County Housing Element will be released on **Thursday, December 18, 2008**. The release of the draft document will initiate a 30 day public review process that will precede any public hearings. The Housing Element is bound as a separate document and serves as the housing element portion of the General Plan for unincorporated areas. The Housing Element is on a different update schedule than the General Plan; State law requires the Housing Element to be updated no later than August 31, 2009. For further information and hearing schedule, please contact Michael Richardson at (707) 268-3723.

Communication with the Board of Supervisors:

On **Tuesday, December 9, 2008** a presentation will be made to the Board of Supervisors to update them on GPU progress. An explanation of the support documents and proposed timeline will also be presented at this time.

General Plan Overview:

The Humboldt County General Plan addresses present and future land use and development criteria for the unincorporated portion of Humboldt County. Under State planning law, counties and cities are required to prepare and adopt comprehensive long-range general plans for the physical development within their jurisdictions. The general plan must include discussion of land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety issues either in distinct "elements" or combined as deemed appropriate.

The Humboldt County General Plan establishes the kinds, locations and intensities of land uses as well as applicable resource protection and development policies within the unincorporated areas of the County. The associated zoning, including zone reclassifications and zoning ordinance text amendments as may be found consistent with the Plan will provide specific implementation of the land use plan.

For further information, or to be placed on the email list to receive notices of workshops, please contact Martha Spencer by email at mspencer@co.humboldt.ca.us or by telephone at (707) 268-3704.

Planning Division of the
Humboldt County Community Development Services

Dated: November 14, 2008