



TO: Butte County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Tim Snellings, Development Services Director

SUBJECT: November 10, 2009 Progress Report #65 on Butte County General Plan 2030

This memo is the 65th in a series of updates provided to the Board of Supervisors at the beginning of each meeting to assist Board members in staying apprised of the progress on the Butte County General Plan 2030 process. I have the following developments to report:

1. December 8, 2009 Board of Supervisors Meeting to Consider Adjustments to the General Plan 2030 designations for the Concow/Yankee Hill Communities

At the September 17, 2009 General Plan 2030 Public Workshop, several members of the Concow and Yankee Hill communities spoke about their community and the need for further review concerning proposed General Plan 2030 land use designations. Further communications took place between Development Services staff and a local community group, the Golden Feather Community Alliance. A variety of concerns were brought up, including the need to re-designate the area in Concow now designated as "Resource Conservation" under the Draft Butte County General Plan 2030 Land Use Designation Map should be designated as "Foothill Residential". Members with the Golden Feather Community Alliance also felt that community participation in Butte County General Plan 2030 was limited by the Camp Fire during the summer of 2008, which was especially devastating to this area.

On October 28, 2009 the Golden Feather Community Alliance hosted a community meeting at the Concow School Gym from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm concerning the Draft Butte County General Plan 2030 process and land use designations for the Concow and Yankee Hill area. Approximately 80 members of the public attended the meeting. The Golden Feather Community Alliance provided a presentation concerning the area's assets and varied land uses including agricultural practices, home businesses and commercial activities, high quality of life, and described the community's unique aspects and needs under the new General Plan.

Butte County Principal Planner Dan Breedon provided a presentation on the Butte County General Plan 2030 process and answered questions concerning land use designations and

policies in the Concow/Yankee Hill area. Members of the public provided comments and questions concerning General Plan 2030, agricultural uses, the Deer Herd Overlay designation, home business and occupations, development rights, second dwellings, and access issues among others.

Development Services staff discussed the concerns set-forth by area residents and community groups for this area with the Butte County General Plan 2030 Ad-Hoc Subcommittee. The subcommittee recommended that the best approach to consider adjustments to the land use designations in the Concow/Yankee Hill area was through a public meeting at the Board of Supervisors. Therefore, a meeting has been scheduled for the afternoon of the regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, at 1:30 pm.

At the December 8, 2009 meeting, community groups plan to present a proposal requesting specific changes based upon community input, surveys, and existing land uses for the Board's consideration. This meeting will include a time for public input, but discussion will be limited to the Concow/Yankee Hill area under consideration. Outreach for this meeting will take place in the form of direct mailing to Butte County General Plan 2030 meeting participants, a display ad in the Paradise Post and Oroville Mercury Register, email update to the General Plan 2030 Listserve, and via direct communications with area community groups.

2. October 29, 2009 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

The Citizens Advisory Committee held their second meeting on the Butte County General Plan 2030 Draft on October 29, 2009. The CAC reviewed the Agriculture Element, Conservation and Open Space Element, and the Water Resources Element. About 25 members of the public were in attendance and several individuals spoke directly to the CAC during the public comment period. Numerous written comments were also provided to the CAC. The CAC's recommendations for the October 22, and October 29 meetings, including a detailed meeting summary are attached to this update. All information, including the meeting summaries, written comments received, presentations, and other documents will be posted to the Butte County General Plan 2030 website. Additionally, the meeting video will be broadcast on Community Access Channel 11 on November 10 (tonight) at 7:00 pm. This video will also be posted to the General Plan 2030 website.

3. November 5, 2009 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting



November 5, 2009 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

The Citizens Advisory Committee held their third and final meeting on the Butte County General Plan 2030 Draft on November 5, 2009. The CAC reviewed the Economic Development Element, Health and Safety Element, and Public Facilities and Services Element. The CAC also reviewed a revised Vision Statement, which was drafted by a CAC member at the request of the CAC. The CAC had previously determined that the draft vision statement included in General Plan 2030 was not sufficiently representative of Butte County. The revised Vision Statement was recommended for approval (see attached Vision Statement). The CAC also voted to transmit all of the CACs recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission for consideration at their January 19 and 21, 2010 meetings on the Draft General Plan 2030. About 10 members of the public were in attendance and several individuals spoke directly to the CAC during the public comment period. Numerous written comments were also provided to the CAC. The CAC's recommendations, which will be included in a detailed meeting summary, are being finalized at this time and will be provided to the Board of Supervisors in several days. All information, including the meeting summary, written comments received, presentations, and other documents will be posted to the Butte County General Plan 2030 website. Additionally, the meeting video will soon be available for public viewing on the General Plan 2030 website.

4. Reminder: Butte County General Plan 2030 Cover Design Competition

The design competition for the cover of Butte County General Plan 2030 is now underway. The competition's goal is to provide an outstandingly attractive, legible, and memorable cover for *Butte County General Plan 2030*. Designs should be relevant to the goals, policies, and other information outlined in the Plan; and should consider the County's unique character, environment, population, history, economics, and future. An optional logo may be used on associated documents or other items to provide an immediately recognizable and memorable brand for Butte County General Plan 2030. Entry deadline is December 1st.

A key element in attracting entries has been the Board of Supervisors' offer to donate a \$500 Grand Prize for the winning design. At the November 10th Board meeting, staff will also request each member of the Board of Supervisors to nominate a representative to a Finalist Selection Committee for the competition. This ad hoc committee will be asked to meet in December to recommend a Grand Prize winner.

For more information about the Butte County General Plan 2030 Cover Design Competition, contact Principal Planner Claudia Stuart at (530) 538-7604 or cstuart@buttecounty.net. Or visit www.buttegeneralplan.net for detailed information and entry forms.

Vision Butte County

Recommended by the Citizens Advisory Committee on November 5, 2009

F. Butte County in 2030

Butte County is defined by its rich landscape of valley, hills and mountains and the rivers and creeks that transect them.

The valley is bountiful in the crops it produces and the open space and natural resources it provides. The hills and mountains east of the valley frame the valley and complement its bounty with their own wealth of timber, mineral and biological and ecological resources and recreational opportunities.

The rivers and creeks, the lifeblood of this landscape, provide natural corridors for the wildlife and native plants that sustain the County's rural and natural setting.

The County's settlers, early or most recent, have recognized and valued this unique landscape. They have established their settlements in small, compact urban developments – they incorporated communities of Gridley, Biggs, Oroville, Paradise and Chico and such unincorporated areas as Palermo, Thermalito, Berry Creek, Yankee Hill, Forest Ranch, Cohasset and Durham-Dayton-Nelson – so as to preserve as much of the surrounding natural landscape as possible, thus wisely using land while conserving the County's rich resources. In this manner the County's settlers to date have created a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable community.

The County's current residents, in adopting this General Plan, wish to preserve and enhance the legacy of their forebears, namely, sustainable development, so that Butte County in 2030 will be familiar and comfortable to existing County residents and a desirable place to live for future County residents.

To this end, this General Plan envisions and supports a Butte County in 2030 where:

Urban development will be primarily centralized within and adjacent to the existing municipal limits and larger unincorporated communities. Urban development will have efficient, reliable public facilities and infrastructure. Employment centers and a range of services will be located near residential areas so that people spend less time in their cars. Residential communities will be walkable, bicycle facilities will be provided, and there will be access to public transit.

Small unincorporated areas will be well-planned through community-driven planning processes so that community character is preserved and adequate public services and facilities are provided. Rural residential development will be limited and will strive to be compatible with agricultural and environmental uses, and will address wildfire risks and public services needs.

Agriculture and open space will continue to dominate Butte County's landscape and be an important part of the County's culture and economy. Existing agricultural areas will be maintained and an array of agricultural services will support agriculture while providing new jobs to Butte County residents.

At the same time, new and innovative high-technology business will be located in Butte County, including green business and industry, attracted in part to the natural and urban environment of the County and in part to the opportunities for partnerships with Butte County's educational institutions. Butte County's residents will have a choice of housing types to best suit their individual lifestyles.

County youth will have safe places to socialize, job and volunteer opportunities, and access to higher education and support services. They will be able to safely walk, bike or take transit to school, and recreational programs will fulfill their after-school needs.

Butte County will have safe, clean water for agriculture, residents and businesses. Water resources will be protected through proper planning and regulation, as well as continued research and monitoring by Butte County and its partners in watershed planning.

Wildlife and native plants will survive and thrive in healthy ecosystems. Sensitive natural resources, including deer herd migration areas, will be protected, and Butte County will continue to coordinate with the Butte Regional Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan. Residents of and visitors to Butte County will be able to enjoy the area's wealth of natural beauty, recreational opportunities and amenities.

And, finally, as the cumulative result of the above, Butte County's residents will have access to healthy living and lifestyle options. Through implementation of this General Plan, Butte County in 2030 will be an economically and environmentally sustainable community, the residents of which will enjoy a high quality of life, as did their forebears.

**Butte County General Plan 2030
CAC Meeting
October 22, 2009
Butte College, Oroville, CA
Draft General Plan (Meeting Series #7-2a)
Meeting Summary**

This is a summary of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting held on October 22, 2009 at Butte College in Oroville. The CAC meeting included a brief presentation by Design, Community & Environment, the County's General Plan 2030 lead consultant, followed by a public comment period and a CAC discussion about the Public Review Draft General Plan 2030 introductory chapters and glossary, Land Use Element and Circulation Element. About 17 members of the CAC attended the meeting, as well as 25 members of the public. In addition, Mike Crump, Butte County Public Works Department Director, provided information and expertise related to transportation and existing County policies. This summary is organized according to the meeting agenda.

1. **Welcome, Introductions and Overview of Meeting** – Tim Snellings, Director, Development Services, welcomed the group and provided an overview of the meeting. Dan Breedon, Principal Planner, Development Services, provided a summary of comments and letters received from the public and various public entities on General Plan 2030, which had been distributed to CAC members.
2. **Overview of Public Workshop Input on Land Use and Circulation Elements** – Tanya Sundberg from Design Community & Environment provided an overview of the input on the Land Use and Circulation Elements from the 9/17/09 Public Workshop. In addition, Ms. Sundberg provided a summary of staff recommended changes to the land use map and policies.
3. **Questions and Answers** – Design, Community & Environment and Butte County Development Services staff responded to questions about the Draft General Plan 2030.
4. **Public Comment Period** – Members of the public provided the following comments:
 - ◆ The Concow Citizens Committee for General Plan 2030 is committed to the General Plan update, and has become organized following the Public Workshop on September 17, 2009. The Committee represents the area including Concow, Yankee Hill, Big Bend, and Jordan Hill/Granite Ridge. The community has developed in a slow and moderate manner, and there are a lot of existing uses that need to be preserved. In addition, it is important to the community that the ability to construct a second dwelling on a parcel be preserved. The community would like the Resource

Conservation designation changed, possibly to the Foothill Residential designation. The Committee will make a presentation to the Board of Supervisors at the Board's December 8th meeting.

- ◆ The existing General Plan and zoning allows one house per 10 acres in a portion of the Yankee Hill area. The minimum parcel size requirement should be reduced to 3 or 4 acres, since 2-acre lots are allowed within ¼ mile.
- ◆ The Unique Agriculture Overlay is important and should be maintained in order to protect and enhance small farms. In addition, the underlying Rural Residential designation is important to maintain; the 5-acre minimum lot size is appropriate for the small-scale agricultural uses in that area. Other low-density residential designations in the eastern Oroville foothills area, as shown in the Public Review Draft land use map, are also appropriate for the small-scale agricultural uses and supported by the speakers at the meeting. A recent development proposal for a use that did not fit with the rural, agricultural character of the community elicited a significant community response, which indicates that the rural, agricultural character is supported by the larger community.
- ◆ The economic importance of the Chico Municipal Airport should not be overlooked. There is a history of accidents around the Chico Municipal Airport, and conflicting land uses around the airport will restrict airport operations. Policies LU-P12.6 and LU-P12.7 should be deleted from the General Plan and the General Plan should be reviewed by the Airport Land Use Commission. The airport should take precedence over residential uses.

5. **CAC Review of Introductory Chapters and Glossary** – CAC members provided the following direction. In most instances, the CAC did not vote on their recommendations; instead, the facilitator obtained consensus from the CAC, unless otherwise indicated.

- ◆ Revise the first sentence under Section A, Purpose, on page 1 as follows: “The General Plan ~~provides the fundamental basis for the County’s~~ represents the basic community values, ideals, and aspirations with respect to land use, development, and conservation policy, ~~and represents the basic community values, ideals, and aspirations~~ that will govern Butte County through 2030.”
- ◆ The vision statement should be revised to be more specific and focused on concentrating growth and development around the existing urban areas and infrastructure. The vision statement should also reflect the Guiding Principles and be less general and more specific to Butte County. CAC member Jeff Carter volunteered to re-draft the Vision Statement for CAC consideration, and this was supported by the CAC.

6. **CAC Review of Land Use Element and Land Use Map** – CAC members provided the

following direction. In most instances, the CAC did not vote on their recommendations; instead, the facilitator obtained consensus from the CAC, unless otherwise indicated.

- ◆ Figure LU-2, Existing Land Use, shows State-owned land around the Oroville Dam and Reservoir to be currently used for single-family residential. This should be corrected.
- ◆ The legend in Figure LU-3 erroneously indicates that the Agriculture Services designation allows a minimum FAR of 0.8. It should instead refer to a maximum FAR.
- ◆ The 4-acre parcel at 4933 Anita Road should be changed to Agriculture Services, since it cannot be used for growing crops.
- ◆ Consider developing a program that would inform homebuyers about agricultural uses within the Unique Agriculture Overlay area.
- ◆ In Section B, General Plan Land Use Designations, the statement “existing parcels smaller than the minimum may remain as legal nonconforming parcels” should be provided for every land use designation.
- ◆ The Agriculture Services designation should allow caretakers’ residences. *Note: the CAC voted on this item, and it received full support.*
- ◆ The Agriculture Services designation should account for future technologies, such as those related to agricultural byproducts.
- ◆ There was disagreement among the CAC about whether the Recreation Commercial designation should require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for all uses. One CAC member suggested that the CUP requirement be eliminated; another CAC member felt that it is important to keep in order to ensure land use compatibility.
- ◆ Add an action item to seek funding for and conduct more detailed studies about deer herd migration, and use those studies to update the Deer Herd Migration Area Overlay if needed. *Note: the CAC voted on this item, and 13 out of the 16 CAC members supported this action.*
- ◆ A goal should be added to direct development to existing urbanized areas, and all related policies should be moved to this goal.
- ◆ Policy LU-P1.2 states: “The County shall protect and preserve agricultural land, including cropland and grazing land.” The General Plan should clarify that land that has not been used for agriculture should not be considered agricultural land to be preserved.
- ◆ Policy LU-P1.2 should be revised as follows: “The County shall prevent scattered development patterns and ~~focus~~ encourage development in existing urbanized areas ~~and within unincorporated communities~~, and in particular areas that have access to public services and infrastructure.” The General Plan policies should also promote clustered development in rural areas.
- ◆ Policy LU-P1.7 states: “The County shall preserve important habitat and watershed

areas.” The General Plan should also recognize human habitat. Creeks should be able to be maintained in order to prevent flooding.

- ◆ Policy LU-P6.1 states: “The County will encourage school districts to locate school sites within or adjacent to existing or planned residential and mixed use neighborhoods.” This policy should also apply to parks.
- ◆ The CAC supports the continued operation of airports into the future. Policies LU-P12.6 and LU-P12.7 should reflect this direction.

7. **CAC Review of Circulation Element** – CAC members provided the following direction. In most instances, the CAC did not vote on their recommendations; instead, the facilitator obtained consensus from the CAC, unless otherwise indicated.

- ◆ The last sentence of Section A.2, Public Transit System, on page 156 should be revised to state that Amtrak bus service is also provided in the Butte County area.
- ◆ One CAC member felt strongly that Table CIR-3, Roadway Capacity Enhancements Included in BCAG’s 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, should be deleted since it is not necessarily a reflection of Butte County policy or priorities. Other CAC members supported adding more explanatory text about the table, including what it means, what it commits BCAG to do, and how often it would be updated.
- ◆ Policy CIR-P2.5 states “Transit funding shall be prioritized relative to street and road construction and maintenance.” This policy should be deleted. *Note: the CAC voted on this item, and 12 out of 16 CAC members supported this direction.*
- ◆ Policy CIR-P9.1 should be revised as follows: “All road systems, both public and private, shall provide for safe evacuation of residents and adequate access to fire and other emergency services by providing at least two means of emergency access to an interconnected collector system and reduce roadside vegetation.”
- ◆ Consider changing the word “shall” to “should” in Policy CIR-P6.2, which states “The level of service on State Highways shall at least match the concept level of service for the facility, as defined by Caltrans.”
- ◆ Consider striking “where appropriate” in Policy CIR-P9.2, which states “New development shall include safe routes to school where appropriate.”

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1. **Welcome, Introductions and Overview of Meeting** – Tim Snellings, Director, Development Services, welcomed the group and provided an overview of the meeting. In addition, Dan Breedon, Principal Planner, Development Services, provided a summary of comments and letters received from the public and various public entities on General Plan 2030, which had been distributed to CAC members.
2. **Overview of Public Workshop Input on Agriculture, Water Resources, and Conservation and Open Space Elements** – Tanya Sundberg from Design Community & Environment provided an overview of the input on the Agriculture, Water Resources, and Conservation and Open Space Elements from the 9/17/09 Public Workshop.
3. **Questions and Answers** – There were no questions from the CAC.
4. **Public Comment Period** – Members of the public provided the following comments:
 - Land Use Element*
 - ◆ The area that had been discussed during Meeting Series #4 as Study Area 20, which covers an area near Butte College, should allow some low-density housing to support the retail uses at the corner of Durham Pentz Road and Highway 191. Such development would be compatible with the existing uses in the area, including mobile home development and other housing.

Agriculture Element

- ◆ The soils and climate in the eastern Oroville foothills supports unique agriculture, including citrus groves and vineyards, which can be farmed at a small scale. Small-scale agriculture doesn't require large investments in equipment since harvests can be done by hand, and it generates tourism. In addition, small-scale agriculture provides food for the local community, and is typically conducted by a person who is connected to the land and enjoys the work. The Unique Agriculture Overlay recognizes the small-scale agriculture. The Agriculture Element is important to preserve and enhance agriculture in this area. The speaker did not request any changes to the Public Review Draft Agriculture Element, but noted that the details of the Unique Agriculture Overlay need to be worked out.
- ◆ Policy AG-P5.3 and Action AG-A5.1 address agricultural buffers. Buffers are not just an aesthetic issue. The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) requires agricultural buffers for safety reasons. Buffers should not be optional, and this policy and action should be clarified to reflect that the buffer is not optional.
- ◆ A fourth-generation cattle producer and member of the Butte County Farm Bureau appreciates the County's consideration of both large- and small-scale agriculture in the General Plan.

Water Resources Element

- ◆ Policies 17.j and 17.q from the Policy Alternatives document that was discussed during Meeting Series #4 were supported by the CAC and Planning Commission, but removed by the Board of Supervisors. Policy 17.j strengthens the ordinance that governs groundwater transfers to require an independent analysis and full mitigation, and to require approval by the Board of Supervisors rather than the Water Commission. Policy 17.q establishes provisions for mandatory corrective or mitigation measures under the Basin Management Objective process. The Board had decided to keep these policies out of the General Plan and directed the Department of Water and Resource Conservation (DWRC) to address them through a separate process. However, this has not yet been done, and it has been eight months. The CAC should either recommend that these two policies be inserted into the General Plan, or that the Board of Supervisors direct the DWRC to address them with a sense of urgency.
- ◆ The Butte-Sutter Basin Area Groundwater Users requests that the introductory text for the Water Resources Element be clarified to indicate that although 70 percent of the water needs are served by surface water, groundwater represents over 60 percent of the domestic water supply and irrigates orchards and fruit crops, which are over half of Butte County's income.

Conservation and Open Space Element

- ◆ There are number of policies in the Conservation and Open Space Element that could impact the development of new housing and the affordability of housing.
- ◆ The word “shall” in Policy COS-P2.2, which requires that new development comply with Green Building Standards, should be changed to “should,” since we don’t know what the standards will be at this time.
- ◆ Policy COS-P2.3, which requires that all new County buildings adhere to green building standards, would add additional restrictions on the County, which is not a good idea due to the County’s current fiscal situation.
- ◆ Policy COS-P4.3, which requires that new development meet the guidelines of the California Energy Star New Homes Program, should be optional and instead rely on marketing.
- ◆ Policy COS-P5.2, which requires that developers implement best management practices to reduce air pollutant emissions, should be deleted since this is already required by the Air Quality Management District.
- ◆ Policy COS-P5.2, which prohibits wood-burning fireplaces and non-EPA-certified wood stoves, should be optional, since some people like wood-burning fireplaces.
- ◆ Policy COS-P7.4, which requires that new development mitigate its impacts in sensitive habitat areas, is already achieved through State and federal law, and conflicts with Policy COS-P7.5.
- ◆ Policy COS-P7.5 prohibits development in wetlands or significant riparian habitats, and should be removed.
- ◆ The 100-foot setback requirement in Policy COS-P9.2(e) should be reduced to 25 feet so that people can enjoy what is around them. In addition, the examples of mitigation provided under policy COS-P9.2 should be eliminated, since they imply that all of the examples must be done.
- ◆ The County should wait to adopt the State’s Green Building Standards under Policy COS-P2.2 until it is known what they include.
- ◆ It is not clear how Policy COS-P3.5, which requires developers to give homebuyers the option of having renewable heat and power, would be implemented. This policy should be encouraged rather than required; the market supports this type of development.
- ◆ Policy COS-P7.5, which prohibits development in wetlands or significant riparian habitats, should be deleted; there are a number of other policies that support these resources. In addition, the Butte Regional Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is intended to allow some take of wetlands and other habitat, so this policy could conflict with the HCP.

5. **CAC Review of Agriculture Element** – CAC members provided the following direction. In

most instances, the CAC did not vote on their recommendations; instead, the facilitator obtained consensus from the CAC, unless otherwise indicated.

- ◆ Action AG-A2.2 is to create an agricultural mitigation ordinance in which developers will be required to permanently protect agricultural land of equal or greater value in place of land that is redesignated from Agriculture to a non-agricultural designation. This ordinance should recognize that when land has not been used for agriculture for a while, it should not be protected as agricultural land.
- ◆ Policy AG-P3.1 states “Cooperate with the Natural Resource Conservation Service to provide support to farmers regarding conserving water, planting drought-tolerant crops, and protecting natural resources.” This policy should reference the local working group process that is already in place in order to provide input to the NRCS.
- ◆ Revise Policy AG-P4.1 as follows: “The County recognizes and supports the role of small farms growing specialty products in Butte County.”
- ◆ Policy AG-P5.6 addresses the protection of agricultural land from flooding. Either the General Plan policies or the background text should include some language that addresses multiple benefits of flood waters, including the use of flood waters for groundwater recharge.

6. **CAC Review of Water Resources Element** – CAC members provided the following direction. In most instances, the CAC did not vote on their recommendations; instead, the facilitator obtained consensus from the CAC, unless otherwise indicated.

- ◆ Reword the sentence under Section A.1, Water Resources, on page 124 to clarify the importance of groundwater, as requested by the Butte-Sutter Basin Area Groundwater Users.
- ◆ The second sentence in the second paragraph under Section A.1.b, Groundwater, on page 128 should be revised to clarify that the 3.77 million acre-feet of annual rainfall will not always be available.
- ◆ List all water resources in Table W-1, Surface Water Resources, and clarify the distinction between irrigation and water supply.
- ◆ Either Policies 17.j and 17.q from the Policy Alternatives document should be included in the General Plan, or the Board of Supervisors should direct the Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation to address these items in an urgent manner. Policy 17.j strengthens the ordinance that governs groundwater transfers to require an independent analysis and full mitigation, and to require approval by the Board of Supervisors rather than the Water Commission. Policy 17.q establishes provisions for mandatory corrective or mitigation measures under the Basin Management Objective process.
- ◆ Action W-A3.2 directs the County to establish recharge zones. The County should be sure to have good science to support the development of these zones.

- ◆ Policy W-P4.4 should be revised as follows: “New public and private development should use drought-tolerant and native landscaping.”
- ◆ The policies under Goal W-6 address riparian resources. There should be additional language that addresses the potential to increase recharge in stream areas by slowing down water.
- ◆ The County should investigate its current practices and consider adding a new policy to encourage watershed and timberland efforts to protect water quality and quantity, using funds from State Water Project sales or other water transfers.

7. **CAC Review of Conservation and Open Space Element** – CAC members provided the following direction. In most instances, the CAC did not vote on their recommendations; instead, the facilitator obtained consensus from the CAC, unless otherwise indicated.

- ◆ The use of “shall” in the policies in this Element should be maintained.

Greenhouse Gases

- ◆ Policy COS-P1.2 should be revised as follows: “~~Where greenhouse gas emissions from new development cannot be mitigated on-site, n~~New development shall ~~provide off-site~~ mitigate greenhouse gas emissions ~~mitigations~~ on-site.” *Note: the CAC voted on this item, and 11 out of 14 CAC members present supported the change.*
- ◆ The policies in the Greenhouse Gases section should highlight the emerging market for agricultural producers to provide carbon sequestration services.

Energy

- ◆ Table COS-3, Number of Housing Units and Type of Energy Consumed, should rely on data from PG&E rather than the US Census. In particular, it shows that there were less solar homes in 2000 than there were in 1990, which is questionable.

Air Quality

- ◆ Policy COS-P5.4 should be revised as follows: “Stationary air pollutant emission sources, such as factories, shall be located more than 500 feet and/or ~~upwind~~ downwind from residential areas and other sensitive receptors.”
- ◆ Add a new policy under Goal COS-5 that encourages the Butte County Air Quality Management District to work in partnership with fire managers to balance natural resource needs (e.g., prescribed burning) with air quality needs.
- ◆ Add a new action under Goal COS-5 to seek funding for and implement a program that would offer a rebate or incentive to replace wood-burning fireplaces and stoves with EPA-certified wood stoves or gas stoves. *Note: the CAC voted on this item, and 11 out of 14 CAC members supported the action.*
- ◆ Consider adding a new action under Goal COS-5 to provide homeowner education

regarding clean wood-burning practices.

Biological Resources

- ◆ The second sentence in the bullet regarding Riparian Woodland in Section A.1, Biological Communities, on page 202 should be revised as follows: “Riparian woodlands occur along portions of the Sacramento River, Feather River, Thermalito Afterbay and Forebay, Thermalito Diversion Pool, and along numerous smaller perennial and ephemeral drainages.”
- ◆ “Significant habitat” should be defined consistent with the Butte Regional HCP.

Scenic Resources

- ◆ Text should be added to clarify what Figure COS-7, Scenic Resources, is trying to convey. Specifically, the text should clarify that the map does not have any regulatory influence, as well as how it was developed.
- ◆ The policies under COS-17 should be clarified to indicate whether they apply to scenic resources in general, or to specific scenic resources as mapped in Figure COS-7.
- ◆ Policy COS-P17.3 states “Light fixtures shall be designed and sited so as to minimize light pollution, glare and light trespass into adjoining properties.” Since the County recently passed an ordinance that addresses this issue, this policy may no longer be necessary.