





Plan Alternatives Comparison Chart


Section 4.4 Rural Lands— PC Markup thru 12-10-09



Plan Alternative				Section 4.4 Rural Lands	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
				4.4.3 Goals		
	B	C		RL-G1. Rural Residential Land Inventory. An adequate supply of vacant land suitable for large lot rural residential development as the primary principally permitted use with access to Rural Community Centers and Community Planning Areas.		
				<p>COMMENTS:</p> <p><u>10-22-09</u></p> <p>The Commission discussed various alternatives to the phrasing “adequate supply”. One suggestion included the blending of RL-G1 with the Framework Goal 2552 to read:</p> <p>RL-G1. Rural Residential Land Inventory. An adequate supply of vacant land suitable for large lot rural residential development as the primary principally permitted use with access to Rural Community Centers and Community Planning Areas.</p> <p>There was not consensus among the Commissioners for the removal of the wording “adequate supply” and staff was directed to provide alternative wording. Staff suggest the following alternatives for consideration:</p> <p>RL-G1. Rural Residential Development. An adequate supply of vacant Land suitable for large lot rural residential development as the primary principally permitted use with access to Rural Community Centers and Community Planning Areas.</p>		

Plan Alternative	Section 4.4 Rural Lands	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
	<p>RL-G1. Rural Residential Land Inventory. Adequate supply of vacant opportunities for the orderly development of supply of vacant land suitable for large lot rural residential development as the primary principally permitted use with access to Rural Community Centers and Community Planning Areas.</p> <p>RL-G1. Rural Residential Opportunities. An adequate supply of vacant Continued opportunities for traditional homestead style development of lands suitable for large lot rural residential development as the primary principally permitted use with access to revitalized Rural Community Centers and Community Planning Areas.</p> <p>For Alternative A, staff suggests the following goal statement:</p> <p>RL-G1. Rural Residential Development To provide for orderly development of Rural residential land development consistent with the need to encourage sustained resource production without land degradation; reduce public exposure to safety hazards; minimize costs of providing services; conserve energy; encourage recreational development on appropriate lands; and encourage development along existing public corridors.</p>		
<p><u>B</u> <u>C</u></p>	<p><u>11-12-09</u></p> <p><u>From 4 alternatives provided, the Commission selected the following wording on a split vote as the PC preferred "Alt B", and ...</u></p> <p>Alternative B:</p> <p>RL-G1. Rural Residential Development. An adequate supply of vacantThe orderly development of land suitable to meet projected demand during the General Plan planning period for large lot rural residential development as the primary principally permitted use with access to Rural Community Centers and Community Planning Areas.</p>		

Plan Alternative				Section 4.4 Rural Lands	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
<u>A</u>				<p><u>11-12-09: the following wording to be retained as Alt A:</u></p> <p><u>Alternative A.:</u></p> <p><u>RL-G1. Rural Residential Development</u> To provide for orderly development of Rural residential land development consistent with the need to encourage sustained resource production without land degradation; reduce public exposure to safety hazards; minimize costs of providing services; conserve energy; encourage recreational development on appropriate lands; and encourage development along existing public corridors.</p>		
A	B			<p>RL-G2. Rural Land Development. Homestead style independent living on rural residential lands with minimum fire risks, impacts to water resources, public service demands and conflicts with resource production.</p>		<u>R</u>
				<p>COMMENTS:</p>		
			D	<p>2552. To provide for orderly development of Rural residential land consistent with the need to encourage sustained resource production without land degradation; reduce public exposure to safety hazards; minimize costs of providing services; conserve energy; encourage recreational development on appropriate lands; and encourage development along existing public corridors.</p>	<u>D</u>	
				<p>4.4.3 Policies</p>		
A	B			<p>RL-P1. Compatible with Resource Production. Development on rural residential lands adjacent to designated agricultural and timberlands shall be planned to be compatible with agriculture and timber production.</p>	<p>QJ, Leg, Prog RL-S1</p> 	<u>R</u>
				<p>COMMENTS:</p>		
			D	<p>2553.1. Lands adjacent to areas designated as agricultural and timberlands in the General Plan should be planned for uses compatible with agriculture and timber</p>	<u>D</u>	

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			D	wherever possible. 2553.2. Parcels in areas of Timber Site Quality III or higher should be retained for timber production or compatible uses wherever possible.	<u>D</u>	
	B			RL-P2. Water Withdrawal. Cumulative impacts of water withdrawal from surface and groundwater sources and <u>cumulative impacts from on-site sewage disposal systems</u> shall be assessed during the zoning and subdivision <u>and, in critical watersheds, any other discretionary review of development,</u> of in all areas designated for rural residential development.	Modified for clarity. QJ, Leg, Prog RL-S4  	<u>M</u>
				COMMENTS: See Alt. wording below <u>11-12-09 Commission directed merging of the discretionary review phrase into Alt B for critical watershed areas.</u>		
	A			RL-P2. Water Withdrawal. Cumulative impacts of water withdrawal from surface and groundwater sources and cumulative impacts from on-site sewage disposal systems shall be assessed during the zoning, subdivision and <u>discretionary review of development</u> in all areas designated for rural residential development.		
				COMMENTS: <u>11-12-09 Left as Alternative A</u>		
		C	D	2553.7. Cumulative impacts of water withdrawal from surface and groundwater sources and sewage disposal should be assessed during the zoning of all areas designated for Rural Development.		<u>D</u>
			D	2553.3. Lands containing sensitive habitats should be developed consistent with the maintenance requirements of the habitat.		<u>D</u>
			D	5-2550.7. Actively coordinate with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board and County Health Department to develop standards to assess cumulative impacts and appropriate density standards for septic tank use in Humboldt County.		<u>D</u>
A	B			RL-P3. Rural Commercial Uses. New tourist, commercial, and retail outlets shall be located within the Rural Community Center land use designation or designated Community Planning Areas or other existing developed areas with development of a similar nature, unless the use meets rural cottage industry standards or is characteristic of and	QJ, Leg, 	<u>R</u>

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				compatible with a rural setting. COMMENTS:		
			D	2554.6. New tourist, commercial and retail outlets should be located within the Rural Community Center Land Use Designation or designated Community Planning Areas or other existing developed areas with development of a similar nature.		<u>D</u>
			D	2553.8. Community plans shall address the needs and standards for Cottage Industries within the urban development areas; in addition, standards for rural areas will be refined.		<u>D</u>
A	B	C		RL-P4. Fire Safety Hazards. Support implementation of State Responsibility Area Fire Safe Standards and Wildland-Urban Interface Building Codes for new development and voluntary programs for fuels reduction, dwelling fire protection and creation of defensible space for existing development. COMMENTS:	QJ, RL-S4	<u>R</u>
			D	2553.4. Lands which contain identified hazards shall be developed consistent with the objective to reduce public exposure to the hazards.		<u>D</u>
A	B			RL-P5. Road Constraints and Rural Development. Rural zoning densities and subdivision approvals shall reflect road constraints identified by the County Public Works Department. Subdivisions may be allowed where roads can be feasibly improved to minimum County standards at the time of subdivision or incrementally, through road improvements from future development.	QJ, Leg, Prog RL-S4, RL-IM2 	<u>R</u>
				COMMENTS: <u>11-12-09: Explore possible tax breaks or other incentives for road improvements which enhance environment; and more details on apportioning improvements, to be discussed during Circulation and Infrastructure sections.</u>		
		C	D	2554.8. Densities should reflect road constraints, identified by the County Public Work Department.		<u>D</u>
			D	2554.9. Subdivision of land		

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				D. Recorded access or other acceptable access to a publicly maintained road that is: (Res. 85-55, 5/7/85) 1) Adequate for ultimate development at planned densities; and 2) Adequate for use by emergency vehicles. 3) Not subject to adverse impacts caused by: a) geologic instability, steep slopes and erosion; b) seismic activity; or c) flooding.		<u>D</u>
A	B		D	RL-P6. Rural Development in the King Range. All development within the boundaries of the King Range National Conservation Area shall be consistent with the Bureau of Land Management's Management Plan.	FRWK 2554.4 QJ, RL-S3 and S4, 	<u>R</u>
				COMMENTS:		
A	B	C		RL-P7. Clustered Rural Residential Development. Clustered rural residential development is encouraged on rural lands suitable for development consistent with planned densities. Density bonuses may be provided where significant permanent land dedications are secured.	QJ, Leg, Prog RL-S1, S4 	<u>R</u>
				COMMENTS: <u>11-12-09 Explore additional possible/necessary enforceable restrictions or notice of restrictions. 11-19-09: B7 Ordinance provided showing options for enforceable restrictions as part of rezone action.</u>		
			C	RL-PX. Density Transfers for Rural Residential Development. <u>Transfer of development rights from lands designated as resource production land to lands planned for rural residential may be permitted to allow for clustered rural residential development beyond planned densities consistent with development standards.</u>		<u>D</u>
				COMMENTS:		
			D	2553.6. Any development plan or concept should be given consideration, provided that		<u>D</u>

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				the intent of the General Plan is carried out.		
				4.4.4 Standards		
A	B			RL-S1. Compatibility with Timber and Agricultural Production. Rural Residential subdivision adjacent to lands planned for timber or agricultural production shall be evaluated for compatibility with continued resource production. Subdivisions shall be conditioned to minimize constraints on resource production due to access limitations and water supply impacts. Right-to-Harvest or Right-to-Farm agreements shall be required on newly created Rural Residential subdivision lots adjacent to lands planned for timber or agricultural production.		<u>R</u>
				COMMENTS:		
A	B		D	RL-S2. Subdivisions Near Identified Resource Lands. Land divisions within the following four areas (as designated on the Biological Resources Map) are restricted to 40-acre minimum parcel sizes <u>subject to a finding that the proposed division is consistent with to preserve preserving</u> the areas' natural values: A. Horse Mountain B. Kings Range National Conservation Area C. Scotia Bluffs D. Luffenholtz Creek Bishop Pine Stand	FRWK 2554.3	<u>M?</u>
				COMMENTS: <u>12-03-09: difference in staff's note on this action. Review PC's action. 12-10-09: PC approved the above modification and indicated they wished to revisit this when reviewing the maps.</u>		
A	B	C		RL-S3. Cottage Industry Standards. Cottage industry is a principally permitted use in all rural land use designations provided they meet the following standards <u>Modify cottage industry standards in areas designated Rural Residential (RR) to include the following changes:</u> A. <u>May be principally permitted where the use is</u> Are conducted by occupants on the premises and not more than (3?) 5 non-resident full time employees in a manner which does not substantially affect the primary use of the parcel;		<u>M</u>

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	<p>and</p> <p>B. Does not require use of buildings or structures occupying more than 2 acres;</p> <p>and</p> <p>C. May be principally permitted where the use involves no sales of merchandise other than that grown, manufactured or processed on the premises or merchandise directly related to and incidental to the industry; and</p> <p>D.C. Would increase or maintain the viability of the existing principle use of the land, and shall not create noise, odors, smoke, or other nuisances which would adversely affect the surrounding area.</p> <p>E.D. Cottage industries in Timber Production Zone (TPZ) lands must be consistent with the TPZ list of compatible uses.</p> <p>E.E. Cottage industries which do not comply with these standards may be conditionally approved in all rural land use designations.</p> <p>F. The use does not increase water withdrawals in Critical Watershed Areas during the dry season; and.</p> <p>G. Remove Auto Repair as an allowable cottage industry</p>		
	<p>COMMENTS: 11-19-09 Identify just those standards which warrant review/revision in the ordinance.</p> <p>12-10-09: PC accepted modifications as shown above. selecting 5 employees. Discussion suggested the ordinance should define "employee".</p>		
D	<p>2554.11. Cottage industries are conditionally allowed in all rural land use designations.</p> <p>2554.12. Cottage Industries are considered a secondary use on a parcel involving the manufacture, provision of, or sale of goods and/or services, including Bed and Breakfast establishments, which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Are conducted by occupants on the premises and not more than 3 non-resident employees in a manner which does not substantially affect the primary use of the parcel; and b. Does not require use of buildings or structures occupying more than 2 acres; and c. Involves no sales of merchandise other than that grown or processed on 		D

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	<p>the premises or merchandise directly related to and incidental to the industry; and</p> <p>d. Would increase or maintain the viability of the existing principle use of the land, and shall not create noise, odors, smoke, or other nuisances which would adversely affect the surrounding area.</p>		
D	<p>5-2550.6. A discretionary permit shall be required for the establishment of a cottage industry use consistent with planned densities.</p>		<u>D</u>
B	<p>RL-S4. Subdivision Standards. Subdivision of land designated rural residential may be approved if it can be found that:</p> <p>A. There is proof of adequate water for domestic use as determined by current standards of the Division of Environmental Health provided through either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Certified dry weather tests of individually developed water supply systems on each parcel using wells, creeks, or springs; or 2) Four or fewer connections to a developed private water system, including certified dry weather testing of source, storage, and transmission facilities, with recorded easements and legal agreements; or 3) Evidence of connection to a public water system. <p>B. Water demands do not individually or cumulatively create a significant impact on Critical Water Supply or Watershed Areas or water bodies designated as critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act or temperature impaired under the Clean Water Act; use is limited in accordance with the policies of the Water Resources Element.</p> <p>C. There is proof that adequate sewage disposal capability will be provided through either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Individual on-site systems approved by the Division of Environmental Health; or 2) Evidence of connection to a public wastewater disposal system. <p>D. Building site locations are identified that meet county streamside management setback requirements and that are not subject to the following hazards:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Geologic instability, steep slopes, and erosion; 		<u>M</u>

Plan Alternative	Section 4.4 Rural Lands	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
	<p>2) Seismic activity; or 3) Flooding.</p> <p>E. Recorded access to a publicly maintained road that is:</p> <p>1) Adequate for ultimate development at planned densities; and 2) Adequate for use by emergency vehicles per State Responsibility Area Standards. 3) Not subject to adverse impacts caused by: (a) Geologic instability, steep slopes and erosion; (b) Seismic activity; or (c) Flooding.</p> <p>F. Findings A, C, and D may be replaced by the following:</p> <p>1) All parcels created and any remainder are each in excess of 160 acres; and 2) The purpose of the parcels is resource production; and 3) A transfer of development rights for residential purposes is executed and recorded in favor of the County of Humboldt. Residential development rights may be reclaimed by meeting the standards in A, C, and D.</p> <p>G. Other findings specific to the area, zone, and land use designation can be made.</p>		
	<p>COMMENTS: See Alternative. wording below. <u>12-10-09: PC accepted Alt B wording as modified above.</u></p>		

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A	<p>RL-S4. Subdivision Standards. Subdivision of land designated rural residential may be approved if it can be found that:</p> <p><u>E.</u> There is proof of adequate water for domestic use as determined by current standards of the Division of Environmental Health provided through either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Certified dry weather tests of individually developed water supply systems on each parcel using wells, creeks, or springs; or 5) Four or fewer connections to a developed private water system, including certified dry weather testing of source, storage, and transmission facilities, with recorded easements and legal agreements; or 6) Evidence of connection to a public water system. <p><u>F.E.</u> Water demands do not individually or cumulatively create a significant impact on Critical Water Supply or Watershed Areas or water bodies designated as critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act or temperature impaired under the Clean Water Act on water bodies, aquatic habitat or beneficial uses identified in the Regional Water Quality Control Board Basin Plan.</p> <p><u>G.F.</u> There is proof that adequate sewage disposal capability will be provided through either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) Individual on-site systems approved by the Division of Environmental Health; or 4) Evidence of connection to a public wastewater disposal system. <p><u>H.G.</u> Building site locations are identified that meet county streamside management setback requirements and that are not subject to the following hazards:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Geologic instability, steep slopes, and erosion; 5) Seismic activity; or 6) Flooding. <p><u>E.</u> Recorded access to a publicly maintained road that is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Adequate for ultimate development at planned densities; and 5) Adequate for use by emergency vehicles per State Responsibility Area 		M

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	<p>Standards.</p> <p>6) Not subject to adverse impacts caused by:</p> <p>(a) Geologic instability, steep slopes and erosion;</p> <p>(b) Seismic activity; or</p> <p>(c) Flooding.</p> <p>F. Findings A, C, and D may be replaced by the following:</p> <p>4) All parcels created and any remainder are each in excess of 160 acres; and</p> <p>5) The purpose of the parcels is resource production; and</p> <p>6) A transfer of development rights for residential purposes is executed and recorded in favor of the County of Humboldt. Residential development rights may be reclaimed by meeting the standards in A, C, and D.</p> <p>G. Other findings specific to the area, zone, and land use designation can be made.</p>		
	<p>COMMENTS: <u>Staff to return with more parallel choices for Alt A and B re: water demands.</u> <u>12-03-09: Staff recommends Alt B, and referring choices to Water Resources section.</u> <u>12-10-09: PC accepted Alt B modification.</u></p>		
<p>C D</p>	<p>2554.9. Subdivision of land may be approved for residential purposes, if it can be found that:</p> <p>A. There is proof of adequate water for domestic use (400 gallons per day minimum) and fire suppression (See 3291.4) provided through either:</p> <p>1) Certified dry weather tests of individual developed water supply systems on each parcel using wells, creeks, or springs (Res. 85-55, 5/7/85); or</p> <p>2) Four or fewer connections to a developed private water system including certified dry weather testing of source, storage and transmission facilities, with recorded easements and legal agreements; or</p> <p>3) Evidence of connection to a public water supply meeting the water works standards of the State of California.</p>		<p><u>D</u></p>

Plan Alternative	Section 4.4 Rural Lands	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
	<p>B. There is proof that adequate sewage disposal capability will be provided through either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Individual on-site systems approved by the Humboldt-Del Norte Health Department; or 2) Evidence of connection to a public waste disposal system. <p>C. Identification of building sites that are not subject to adverse impacts caused by: (Res. 85-55, 5/7/85)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) geologic instability, steep slopes and erosion; 2) seismic activity; or 3) flooding. <p>D. Recorded access or other acceptable access to a publicly maintained road that is: (Res. 85-55, 5/7/85)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Adequate for ultimate development at planned densities; and 2) Adequate for use by emergency vehicles. 3) Not subject to adverse impacts caused by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) geologic instability, steep slopes and erosion; b) seismic activity; or c) flooding. <p>10. Findings a, b, and c of Section 9 may be replaced by the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. All parcels created and any remainder are each in excess of 160 acres; and b. The purpose of the parcels is resource production; and c. A transfer of development rights for residential purposes executed in favor of the County of Humboldt. Note: Residential development rights may be reclaimed by meeting the standards in 9 a, b, and c. (Res. 85-55, 5/7/85) 		

Plan Alternative				Section 4.4 Rural Lands	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
			D	5-2550.2. Require geological reports and erosion control plans for all subdivisions in areas of high slope instability consistent with the Framework Plan Geologic Map and Land Use Hazards Matrix.		
				4.4.5 Implementation Measures		
A	B	C		RL-IM1. Inventory of Rural Residential Lands. Maintain searchable GIS inventory of lands planned Rural Residential (RR) and review during Housing Element Updates for adequacy to meet homestead development demands during the Housing Element planning period.		R
				COMMENTS:		
			D	5-2550.3. Update rural land use maps regularly. Maintain records of approved subdivisions, including number of parcels, number of acres, previous use and proposed uses.		
A				RL-IMx. Decrease Inventory of Rural Residential Lands. Initiate a plan designation and zoning program to decrease the inventory of lands planned Rural Residential (RR) to meet homestead development demands.	<u>Review later after map review</u>	
		C		RL-IMx. Increase Inventory of Rural Residential Lands. Initiate a plan designation and zoning program to expand the inventory of lands planned Rural Residential (RR) to meet homestead development demands.	<u>Review later after map review</u>	
				COMMENTS: <u>11-19-09: Agreed to revisit these after ag and timber and map review.</u>		

Plan Alternative			Section 4.4 Rural Lands	Staff Remarks/ Implementation	Position R,M,D
		C	<p>RL-IMx. Rural Residential Development Incentives. Residential development within Rural Residential (RR) areas shall be provided with one or more of the following incentives as detailed in the land use ordinance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Deferral of improvements for minor subdivisions 2) Deferral of subdivision fees until issuance of building permits 3) Eligible for fast-track and streamlined permit process 4) Allowance for lot-splits for qualified second units 5) Reduced minimum parcel sizes 		D
			<p>COMMENTS: <u>12-10-09 PC confirmed deletion.</u></p>		
		C	<p>RL-IMx. Establishment of a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program. Support the creation of a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program for lands outside of Community Planning Areas that supports the transfer of development rights from lands designated as resource production to lands designated as rural residential in order to maximize conservation and production values of the resource lands and allows flexibility in the development of rural residential properties above planned densities.</p>		D
			<p>COMMENTS:</p>		
A	B		<p>RL-IM2. Identification of Substandard Roads. Coordinate with the County Department of Public Works and area emergency service providers to inventory and map road segments that do not meet subdivision road standards or State Responsibility Area Fire Safe standards, and thereby would limit development of future residential subdivisions in the area. Identify the deficiency and assess the feasibility of achieving minimum standards through the Public Works Capital improvement program or through incremental road improvements provided by future development. Where adequate access cannot be</p>		M

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	<p>achieved by these methods, place an a plan overlay zone <u>designation</u> over the affected area restricting further residential subdivision. This designation may be removed if remedies are proposed that alleviate the constraints.</p>		
	<p>COMMENTS: See Alt. wording below. 11-19-09 Modify the wording of the IM2 Alts to <u>change the restriction mechanism from zoning to something more responsive to a change in the feasibility of doing the improvements.</u></p> <p><u>12-10-09: PC accepted modified wording</u></p>		
C	<p>RL-IM2. Identification of Substandard Roads. Coordinate with the County Department of Public Works and area emergency service providers to inventory and map road segments that do not meet subdivision road standards or State Responsibility Area Fire Safe standards, and thereby would limit development of future residential subdivisions in the area. Identify the deficiency and assess the feasibility of achieving minimum standards through the Public Works Capital improvement program or through incremental road improvements provided by future development. Where adequate access cannot be achieved by these methods, place an overlay zone over the affected area restricting further residential subdivision.</p>		
	<p>COMMENTS:</p>		
D	<p>5-2550.4. Maintain community profiles on Rural Community Centers and review and report on new development in the data base.</p>		D
D	<p>5-2550.9. Develop and utilize a system of notifying state and federal registration agencies of complaints received and problems encountered with individuals and organizations providing certifications for new developments.</p>		D