

**Verbal Public Comments
General Plan Update
Preliminary Hearing Draft
Planning Commission Hearing 2/15/07 – Group 1**

Index #	Synopsis of comments received during Planning Commission meeting
V1	Monty Provolt – would like to recommend that the staff use language that is easily understood by the general population. This is a very complicated process and you would have greater participation if people understood the materials.
V2	Steve Salzman (Plan it Green) – compliments to staff, wants to see the general plan reflect that we are transforming into an era of limited resources. Part 1 sets the tenor of the Plan and would like to support Plan Alternative A. Comments have been submitted by Plan it Green and were read into the record (see submitted comments). Comments to be submitted in the future will pertain more to Energy Element policies. Have distributed documents on Green Building and Ordinance revisions. Requesting an Audience with planning staff and Planning Commission.
V3	Jennifer Fuller (Fieldbrook) – concurs with Mr. Salzman comments and wishes to include the sustainability clause into the General Plan.
V4	Ken Poletski (Humboldt Area of Realtors) - submitted letter and comments on new General Plan from HAR. Their members have spent a lot of time on reviewing these sections and the submitted worksheet. Wanted to draw particular attention to item #2 “affordable housing for all income levels” and items #4 and #8.
V5	Tina Christensen (HAR) – I think we need to go slow on this and see the infrastructure analysis that Winzler and Kelly is preparing first before we proceed with the Plan. There may not be enough infrastructure to house all the new development, and it would be unwise to plan more development in areas that can’t support it.
V6	Kay Baeker (HELP) – have made a written request to the Board to have a 60 day review period in order to submit comments. Read from a letter that they will submit into the record (see submitted comments). The first Guiding Principle is vague and not easily defined – what is “unique” about Humboldt County that should be protected? Who gets to interpret this? This is not spelled out. Their group has conducted polls on what citizen’s value in Humboldt County and wanted these spelled out in the Plan. “Most efficient use of infrastructure” not sure what this means. Requested that the County wait until after the Winzler and Kelly study. We also have concerns over the Housing Element being a stand alone document. Need to have internal consistency.
V7	Leonard Bowman (Chairman of Bear River Tribe) - would like the County to send the tribe the materials for his staff to review prior to the meeting.
V8	Steve Horner – Arcata, representing the of timber companies, including Barnum Timber, Green Diamond, Sierra Pacific, Western Timber and Pacific Lumber (submitted written comments for review). It is important to us that the Planning Commission takes the lead in the GPU. A lot is about the meaning of words – “sustainability” as an example – devil is in the details. Hope this doesn’t end up as a General Plan by polling with the most votes. Wants to see this plan be supported by good data.
V9	Nancy Frost (First 5 Humboldt) - make sure that the General Plan does not put up barriers to affordable child care. First 5 Humboldt will be submitting comments illustrating how policies can support child care. Submitted a document on child care.
V10	John LaBoyteaux (Humboldt County Farm Bureau) - first three chapters seems pretty solid so far. Key terms are sometimes confusing. Need possible “analogy” signs for the reader for better understanding. Should describe the provisions of the Framework Plan with the same detail as the Alternatives. The use of the term “viable” in respect to agricultural lands is concerning as to who decides what is viable. Viability is always about management.
V11	Julie Williams (NCHB) – submitted comments, they are very detailed and look forward to

	working with the Planning Commission and is available for questions. Recommended providing affordable housing for every income level. Infrastructure studies will be completed in the fall and we are concerned that this is premature moving ahead without this information.
V12	Johanna Rodoni (Buckeye Conservancy) – the Buckeye Conservancy has about 200 plus members with ownership of over 200,000 acres in Humboldt County. The Conservancy is interested in natural resource issues in the County and hope that you come to us for advice on these issues.
V13	Larry Evans (Eureka) – as you progress through this process please consider that the ultimate authority of the economic future of the county is dependent on the ecosystem’s carrying capacity . These are the true values that we need to talk about. The prosperity of future generations is dependent on the health of our natural resources and natural communities. I endorse Guiding Principle #1. This plan should express the values of this community.
V14	Diane Ryerson (Healthy Humboldt) - did submit comments and we will in the future provide summary comments. We support Plan it Green and Nancy Frost’s comments. We need clear wording in these alternatives so that you understand the impacts of each alternative. We want Alternative A to have growth based upon scalable development plans. We would like to see codes that increase public participation up front (i.e. Smart Code). Public notification – increase the proportion of noticing distances in the rural areas. If implementation plans are required – do we need policies to ensure that they happen? McKinleyville Community Plan, which is proposed as a stand-alone plan, relies on data that is pre 1990 and is out of date. Hope this can be updated.
V15	Richard Dorn (Eureka) –the Guiding Principles, in particular #2 (scarcity of affordable housing), are dependent on the results of the infrastructure study by Winzler and Kelly. All our guiding principles could change as a result of this study.
V16	Shannon Tracy (Democracy Unlimited) – thanks to staff for providing a high level of public participation. It is of the utmost importance to have the highest level of public participation for this process.