

From: Suzanne Simpson [mailto:suzanne.simpson@eco-hostel.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2009 7:36 AM
To: Spencer, Martha
Subject: General Plan & Alternative A

Hello:

A friend gave me your email, and I hope you are the person to send comments to about the General Plan.

I have lived in Arcata for 10 years and have been active in many community projects. I started the Peak Oil Action Group 4 years ago and presented monthly programs on sustainable living in Arcata. I am presently working with the City of Arcata to start a community garden in Bayside Park. Last week the City allocated money for infrastructure work. Also I'm on the board of the Humboldt Bay Sustainable Living Center (HBSLC), (also known as the Eco-Hostel Project), and through the HBSLC conduct monthly programs at the RCEA on sustainable living. Through HBSLC I have a committee along with the Northcoast Coop and CAFF that is publishing, *"LOCALLY LUSCIOUS! A Northcoast Resource Guide and Cookbook"*, that includes a comprehensive list of local farmers, producers and and 250 recipes.

I have studied our ag history, and learned that from the late 1800's until the 1940's, this county produced a large majority of food for the Bay Area that was shipped by boat. That changed with the advent of trucking.

The Peak Oil Action Group, with Susan Ornelas, created a model of how much food can be presently produced on Humboldt ag land, excluding home gardens. We are extremley lucky! ***We could group enough food to supply 3,000 calories a day to each person. Very few counties in this nation are so lucky.*** This is why it is imperative to protect the ag land we have now. **Future food security will be a necessity. We need to plan for it now.** We are becoming a prime place for people to live. We have water, natural resources, incredible beauty and land on which to grow food. Rest assured as city living becomes more demanding we will see more urbanites moving here.

We must protect or ag land and therefore support Alternative A in the General Plan.

If you are not the right person for General Plan Comments, please send this to the appropriate person.

Sincerely,

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