



HUMBOLDT COALITION FOR PROPERTY RIGHTS

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8/19/2010

Commissioner Jeff Smith, Chair
Humboldt County Planning Commission
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501
September 17, 2009

RE: Comments on Draft of Part 2, Chapter 5, Infrastructure and Services of the Humboldt County General Plan Update.

Dear Chairman Smith and Commissioners,

The Humboldt Coalition for Property Rights appreciates the approach the Commission took with regard to the Fire Services portion of Chapter 5 (Infrastructure and Services) of the General Plan Update. We commend you for encouraging staff to work with those with invaluable on-the-ground knowledge and experience such as our local Fire Chiefs.

As we mentioned from the outset, we support the Alternative "B" version of IS-P18 in that it would ENCOURAGE expansion of existing special district boundaries or the formation of a County Service Area rather than making those measures MANDATORY as provided for in Alternative "A".

We also support, with reservation, the revised language that came out of a staff meeting with Fire Chiefs with regard to both IS-S4 and IS-S5.
Regarding IS-S4: With the understanding that any **one** of the three conditions will address fire safety concerns, we recommend that the language be clarified to indicate that Conditions #1 or #2 do not require a costly feasibility study but rather an acknowledgement of conditions as described by local fire personnel. And with regard to condition #3, we suggest that the proposed language be clarified to reflect implementation of FIRE-RELATED mitigations.

These two slight changes in wording would make all the difference for those many local volunteer firefighters who protect us day in and day out as well as those who choose the rural lifestyle.

Sincerely,

Humboldt Coalition for Property Rights