Humboldt County
General Plan Update
Community Meetings
September 2007
Introductions
Purpose of the Presentation

Review of General Plan Update (GPU) and Urban Study Area planning as they pertain to:

- land use planning
- the provision of services
- water resources management
Desired Outcomes

Awareness and Understanding of:

- General Plan Update process
- Proposed land use alternatives
- Community services issues
- Watershed Management planning
The General Plan

- What is a General Plan?
- Why is the General Plan being Updated?
- Why is it important to me?
General Plan Update

Process

- Phase I: Critical Choices
- Phase II: Technical Background Reports
- Phase III: Selection of Preferred Alternative
- Phase IV: Draft Preliminary Plan, EIR and Implementing Ordinances
- Phases V & VI: Public Review and Adoption of Final Plan, EIR and Implementing Ordinances
Overview of Technical Reports

- Building Communities
- Moving Goods and People
- Natural Resources and Hazards
- Forest Resources
- Agricultural Resources
- Capital Improvements/Public Facilities
- Water Resources
Next Steps

Planning Commission Hearings – Draft Preliminary Plan

- Presentation of remaining General Plan Elements to Planning Commission by November ’07

Environmental Review

- Draft Environmental Impact Report available for public review in Spring ’08

Board of Supervisors Action

- Final Draft General Plan and implementing ordinances complete in Summer ’08
Watershed Planning

Integrated Water Resource Planning Involves:

- Moving toward watershed-based planning
- Developing comprehensive land use and watershed data
- Linking land use and water supply planning
- Balancing water supply reliability with habitat preservation
Watershed Planning (Cont.)

Integrated Water Resource Planning Involves:

- Minimizing water quality impacts from development (such as stormwater, erosion, wastewater disposal)
- Integrating site design and development standards with watershed restoration
- Water Conservation, Reuse, and Recycling
- Policies relating to out-of-watershed transfers and dam re-licensing
Trinidad Watershed

Water Quality Issues:

- This is the only watershed in the County where the need to develop a TMDL has not been identified.
- Trinidad water supply sediment issues
- Impacts of development could increase sediment loading, temperature.
Mad River Watershed

Water Quality Issues:

- Sediment & temperature impairment – 303 (d)
- Sediment sources include roads, resource management activities, and natural sources
- Development impacts could effect sediment loading, temperatures, supply.
Urban Study Area Planning
Methodology for Urban Study Area Analysis

1. Identify and map potential developable areas within Urban Study Areas

2. Generate density ranges and map development potential alternatives for planning sub-areas

3. Determine infrastructure needs and collaborate with service providers to design scalable, and economic construction options

4. Prepare land use maps for General Plan Alternatives A, B and C and evaluate development options and impacts
Urban Study Area
Westhaven

Service Providers:
Westhaven CSD
Westhaven VFD
County Service Area #4
Humboldt County
Urban Study Area
McKinleyville

Service Providers:
McKinleyville CSD
Arcata FPD
Humboldt County
## Development Potential

WSA = Water only service area  
USA = Urban service area (water and wastewater)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Area</th>
<th>Total Acres</th>
<th>Year 2000 Demographics</th>
<th>Residential Land</th>
<th>New Housing Units at Buildout</th>
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Water, Wastewater, Fire, Law Enforcement, Roads:

- Standards; Regulations; Level of Service
- Current Capacity and Deficiencies
- Potential for Growth
- Potential Improvements:
  - System Upgrades (Operation/Maintenance & Regulatory)
  - Future Expansion
- Improvement Cost and Timing
Westhaven Study Area - Water

Initial Findings:

- Water - Provided by three spring-fed tributaries of Two Creek and one well
- inadequate source capacity for additional development
- System needs approx. 0.39 MG of storage capacity
- Upgrade approx. 4 miles of distribution pipe
Westhaven Study Area – Other Services

Initial Findings:

- Westhaven VFD
  - Wildland Urban Interface
  - training
  - additional volunteers
  - funding

- CSA #4 (CAL FIRE)
  - response time
  - wildland fire responsibilities of CAL FIRE
  - funding

- Humboldt County Roads & Drainage
  - deferred maintenance

- Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office
  - North Substation (McKinleyville)
McKinleyville Study Area – Water & Wastewater

Initial Findings:

- Water – Provided by HBMWD regional system
- System needs approximately 6 MG of storage capacity
- System needs upgrade to booster station at North Bank Rd. to improve system pressures and pump performance when HBMWD water levels are low
Initial Findings:

- Wastewater – Collection, treatment, and disposal to Mad River or percolation ponds or irrigation
- Collection system has lowest peaking factor in the County, of approximately two
- Summertime disposal method to percolation ponds will come under increasing scrutiny and will likely not be allowed in the near future
McKinleyville Study Area – Other Services

Initial Findings:

- **Arcata Fire**
  - recently increased assessment
  - combination volunteer/career
  - McKinleyville station

- **Humboldt County Roads & Drainage**
  - deferred maintenance
  - LOS of Central Ave and Walnut Ave projected to diminish
  - Approximately 19 roads scheduled for improvement

- **Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office**
  - North Substation (McKinleyville)
Land Use Alternatives
Input on Challenges & Opportunities

- Watershed implications – Water Supply & Quality
  - Possible water quality improvement projects?
  - Maintaining vs. increasing density
    - Any desire to have your land rezoned for more housing in infill areas?
- Cost & Level of Service
  - Any more community infrastructure and service issues in your community?
Questions & Comments

Make comments to the Planning Commission November 15th

Visit the Plan Update webpage to comments or review plan related documents

www.planupdate.org