



## Planning and Development Department

### Office of Long Range Planning

#### Transmittal Memo

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**DATE:** Thursday, March 12, 2009

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**TO:** GVPAC Members

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**FROM:** David Lackie, Planner  
Erika Leachman, Planner *EL DL*

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**CC:** 2nd Supervisorial District Office  
John McInnes, Director Office of Long Range Planning  
Derek Johnson, Deputy Director

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**SUBJECT:** GVPAC Meeting #11: General Land Use

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The items listed below have been included as part of the meeting materials for GVPAC meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2009

1. **Meeting Agenda:** Please see the attached agenda for the Wednesday, March 18, 2009. For details, please see discussion of agenda items below. (**Attachment 1, P.1**)
2. **Draft Meeting Minutes:** Staff has provided draft meeting minutes from the March 3, 2009 GVPAC Meeting for review and approval. (**Attachment 2, P.5**)
3. **Tentative Long Term GVPAC Meeting Schedule:** An updated long term schedule has been provided for review. (**Attachment 3, P.11**)

### ***Wednesday, March 18, 2009 Agenda***

The following provides additional detail for selected agenda items, as labeled.

#### **Administrative (Item #3)**

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Tentative Long Term Schedule: Modifications have been made to the tentative long term GVPAC meeting schedule as follows:

1. GVPAC Meeting to discuss Cumulative Projects and Key Sites/Future Areas of Interest has been rescheduled from April 7, 2009 to May 20, 2009 to follow the GVPAC's discussions of all specific land use designations and tools prior to discussing future area planning.
2. A Public Workshop will need to be scheduled following GVPAC Meeting #16 on June 2, 2009. Though an official date and location has not been set, the workshop should occur in July and be

located in the Eastern Goleta Valley. The workshop is intended to draw community input on the many topics discussed by the GVPAC during regular meetings to inform the GVPAC's definition of new goals for future planning and development in the Eastern Goleta Valley. During the workshop, GVPAC members will work directly with community members to identify community goals for future development, needed improvements in specific areas of interest, and overall conceptual approaches to land use planning, environmental resources, and urban development and redevelopment in the future. Staff will facilitate the workshop and will provide details in the coming weeks as they are finalized.

3. GVPAC Meetings #17 - #24 have been rescheduled to follow the scheduled public workshop and will be scheduled as needed to finalize the goals for the community plan update.

### **Continued Discussion from GVPAC Meetings #8 and #9 (Items #4 and #5)**

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Due to time constraints during GVPAC Meetings #8 and #9, discussion and focus questions were continued to the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 GVPAC Meeting. Topics include: Transportation, Mobility and Parking and Parks, Trails, Recreation, Open Space, Trails, and Visual Resources. For your reference, the original focus questions are provided here:

#### **Transportation, Mobility and Parking:**

1. How can land use planning in the Goleta Community Plan best result in multi-modal transportation options for Goleta Valley residents?
2. What land use patterns and components in the Eastern Goleta Valley tend to enhance or minimize options for multi-modal mobility?
3. How best and where can land use planning in the Goleta Community Plan realize improvements and connections to reduce vehicle miles traveled and single-passenger auto trips in the Goleta Valley?
4. How can transportation planning ensure equitable mobility opportunities for all members of the community?

#### **Parks, Trails, Recreation, Open Space, Trails, and Visual Resources**

1. How can land use planning in the Goleta Community Plan best result in urban and rural recreation opportunities?
2. What land use patterns and components in the Eastern Goleta Valley tend to enhance or minimize accessibility and connectivity to parks, open space, and trails?
3. How best and where can land use planning in the Goleta Community Plan realize improvements to visual resources and aesthetics in the built and natural environments of the Goleta Valley?
4. How can planning for parks, trails, and transportation ensure equitable recreation opportunities for all members of the community?

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## Community Plan Discussion: General Plan Use (Item #6)

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In the upcoming meetings, the GVPAC will turn its attention to land use planning. These meetings will provide the opportunity to learn and ask questions about residential, commercial, agricultural, and mixed-use planning tools and techniques while integrating the array of information presented thus far regarding environmental resources and constraints and public facilities and services. We will have the opportunity to inform land use recommendations with the knowledge gained of local public services, environmental quality and resource protection, and planning for low-impact, well-connected sustainable communities in both the urban and rural areas of the Goleta Valley. Furthermore, we will examine a variety of planning tools and approaches to adapt local land use planning to meet the needs for existing and future generations of Goleta Valley residents. During the discussions of these land use types and interrelations, the GVPAC and the community may begin to identify values for economic development, environmental protection, and equity for residents in livable neighborhoods, public facilities, activity nodes, and mobility corridors. The task for the GVPAC is to transform these values into community plan goals and preferred planning tools to realize these goals in future land uses.

In this initial land use meeting, we will explore how land use and zoning work to realize the goals of the community for infrastructure needs, resource sustainability, aesthetic character, recreation opportunities, and overall quality of life in both the built and natural environments. We will also discuss trends in general land use planning approaches in the rural, inner-rural, and urban area to understand how the South Coast region is used by its residents and visitors. The GVPAC will have the opportunity to ask questions of staff and discuss general land use planning concepts, future conditions and regulations, and options to ensure a well-planned, safe and sustainable community for future generations through linkages to land use planning.

In preparation for this discussion, please consider the following principles and goals from the GVC 20/20 Vision Document and the 1993 Goleta Community Plan.

### **GVC 20/20 Vision Statement:** (GVC pages 17 and 23)

*Our community is a place where change comes purposefully, and when we grow, we grow slowly, and in a manner that preserves the character of our neighborhoods, be they rural, semi-rural or suburban.*

*The Goleta Community Plan guides land use decisions and the land use planning process is efficient, fair and predictable.*

**Goal #1:** The Goleta Community Plan is a living document that adapts to changes and becomes the land use constitution for the planning area.

**Goal #2:** Land use policies in the Eastern Goleta Community Plan and the General Plan will be strictly enforced.

**Goal #3:** The development review process is timely, efficient, fair and consistent.

### **1993 Goleta Community Plan Principles:** (reformatted GCP pages 17 and 35)

*To ensure that the population level of the Goleta area not exceed the resource and service capacity of the area nor adversely alter the present quality of life and environment.*

**Community Development Super Element Goal:** To Provide Housing Affordable To All Goleta Residents, To Strive For A Balance Between Jobs And Housing, To Provide A Range of Commercial And Industrial Uses Which Promote Orderly Economic Development, And To Protect Natural Resources.

Also, in preparation for this presentation and discussion, please read the following selected chapters of the Goleta Community Plan:

1. II.A. Introduction;
2. II.B. Land Use – General.

Following the presentation, the GVPAC will have the opportunity to discuss the capabilities of land use planning in the Goleta Community Plan to support a sustainable community. The following focus questions are provided to aid in the discussion. Please consider these questions prior to the meeting and feel free to generate additional questions for staff and the GVPAC to augment the discussion.

1. What does the Goleta Valley community value in terms of environmental protection, economic development, and equitable opportunities for livable neighborhoods and community amenities?
2. What land use patterns and components in the Eastern Goleta Valley define the community's identity? What land use patterns detract from the community's identity?
3. Where are the nodes and corridors of activity in the Goleta Valley?
4. What types of improvements to the built environment and infrastructure of the Goleta Valley can increase connectivity, community identity, and sustainable development?