



## Planning and Development Department

### Office of Long Range Planning

#### Transmittal Memo

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<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, November 26, 2008
<b>TO:</b>	GVPAC Members
<b>FROM:</b>	Derek Johnson, Deputy Director Erika Leachman, Planner
<b>CC:</b>	2nd Supervisorial District Office John McInnes, Director Office of Long Range Planning David Lackie, Supervising Planner, Office of Long Range Planning
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	GVPAC Meeting #5: Lay of the Land: Hydrology, Geography, and History/Archaeology

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The items listed below have been included as part of the meeting materials for GVPAC meeting on Tuesday, December 2, 2008

- 1. Meeting Agenda:** Please see the attached agenda for the Tuesday, December 2, 2008 GVPAC meeting. For details, please see discussion of agenda items below. **(Attachment 1, Page 1)**
- 2. Draft Meeting Minutes:** Staff has provided draft meeting minutes from the November 19, 2008 GVPAC Meeting for review and approval. **(Attachment 2, Page 5)**
- 3. Tentative Long Term GVPAC Meeting Schedule:** Based on discussion of long term scheduling during the November 19, 2008 GVPAC Meeting, an updated long term schedule has been provided for review. **(Attachment 3, Page 10)**

### ***December 2, 2008 Agenda***

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

#### **Community Plan Discussion: Geography, Hydrology, and History/Archaeology (Item #4)**

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In continuation of our series of meetings that address specific issue areas from the Goleta Community Plan, this item is dedicated to the land in the Goleta Valley, including geographic, hydrologic, archaeological, and historical conditions. With a degree of detail regarding current trends and issues of importance related to the issue areas, the GVPAC will be receiving technical details about the issues, including existing conditions and functions of the landscape, standards for permitting processes, and linkages to general plan land use planning to inform discussion of relevance to the Goleta Community Plan update. As a preview of the presentation, we will cover the following current trends and issues for the following topics:

- 1. Hydrology:** Discussion will describe the functions and connectivity of local watersheds and waterways, and their connections to flood hazards and drainage/retention issues. Topics will include tools to protect waterways, permit processing procedures in floodplains, existing watershed planning efforts, and current trends and issues of concern for the Goleta Valley regarding flooding and drainage.

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. Please note that a number of Goleta Community Plan chapters do not include issue-specific goals or objectives. Where this occurs, the over-arching goal of the chapter's Super Element guides policy development and has been provided below.

**GVC 20/20 Vision Statement:** (GVC pages 6 and 9)

*We are a community that embraces conservation, stewardship and consciously living within our resources.*

**Watersheds Master Goal:** Preserve and improve the health of our watersheds; ridgeline to shore. Factors that reflect watershed well-being include: water supply and quality, condition of creek banks, flood management, and the diversity of habitat, plants and animals.

**Goal #3:** Ensure that creek banks are stable.

**Goal #4:** Provide comprehensive stormwater management.

**1993 Goleta Community Plan Principles:** (reformatted GCP pages 17 and 172)

*To provide protection for natural resources and landforms relating to topography, waterways, and biologically sensitive habitats.*

**Resources and Constraints Super Element Goal:** Protect and Enhance the Community's Natural Resources and Respect the Environmental Constraints in the Planning, Construction and Operation of new development.

- 2. Geography:** Discussion will cover the types and general locations of soils and geologic features, such as fault lines and slopes, within the Goleta Valley, and how these features relate to land use planning issues, such as permit processing procedures in near geologic hazards. Specifically, discussion topics will include erosion prevention, grading impacts, sedimentation, and unique regional, coastal, and parcel-specific applications of geographic goals and policies for the Goleta Community Plan.

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 51 and 53)

*We are a safe community*

**Goal #1:** We have in place preparedness plans and programs to assist residents in times of disaster.

**Goal #3:** Development has been planned to include disaster mitigation and adequate planning controls and infrastructure are in place before development is allowed (e.g., vegetation clearing from structures, a water system for fire fighting, adequate fire fighting equipment and personnel).

**1993 Goleta Community Plan Principles:** (reformatted GCP pages 17 and 172)

*To provide protection for natural resources and landforms relating to topography, waterways, and biologically sensitive habitats.*

**Resources and Constraints Super Element Goal:** Protect and Enhance the Community's Natural Resources and Respect the Environmental Constraints in the Planning, Construction and Operation of new development.

- 3. History and Archaeology:** Discussion will cover historically significant sites in the Goleta Valley, the standards for historical designation, and review of standards and processes required for archaeological resources known or discovered in the future.

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 page 19)

*The spectacular physical beauty of our coast, valley, and mountains has been preserved.*

**Goal:** Protect and enhance the aesthetics of the Eastern Goleta Valley, with major emphasis on protection of viewsheds.

*Preserve existing historic resources.*

**1993 Goleta Community Plan Principles:** (reformatted GCP pages 17 and 172)

*To provide protection for natural resources and landforms relating to topography, waterways, and biologically sensitive habitats.*

**Resources and Constraints Super Element Goal:** Protect and Enhance the Community's Natural Resources and Respect the Environmental Constraints in the Planning, Construction and Operation of new development.

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

1. IV.E Flooding and Drainage,
2. IV.F Geology, Topography, and Soils,
3. IV.G History and Archaeology

Following the presentation, a discussion will be encouraged to address these specific issue areas and linkages with land use planning. The following focus questions are provided to aid in 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. How can land use planning in the Goleta Community Plan best protect public health and safety from flooding and geographic hazards, such as erosion or earthquakes?
2. What land use patterns and components in the Eastern Goleta Valley tend to protect or endanger public health and safety with regard to geologic or flood hazards?
3. How best can land use planning in the Goleta Community Plan address historic and archaeological resources?