

## **GOLETA VISION DRAFT**

Nestled between the cities of Santa Barbara and Goleta, and between the mountains and the sea, is the Eastern Goleta Valley. It is an area of great beauty and it is the place we call home.

Those of us fortunate enough to live or work here know there is much to be proud of and much to love about this place. We also know that we face problems shared by communities up and down the California coast as well as issues which are uniquely our own.

As we imagine the future of the Eastern Goleta Valley, we have the opportunity to make choices about that future. These choices can express our commitment to the highest environmental, economic and social ideals. Our goals need not be modest. But perhaps one of our most important objectives could be that we *live* modestly--that we are gentle with each other and that we live gently on the land.

This remarkable coastal area deserves our most conscientious stewardship. What we present here are our best thoughts for the future of the Eastern Goleta Valley. This is our core vision for the eastern Goleta Valley for the year 2020.

- The spectacular physical beauty of our coast, valley and mountains has been preserved.
- We are a community that grows slowly, purposefully and in a manner that preserves the rural/suburban character of our neighborhoods. We embrace conservation, stewardship and consciously living within our resources.
- Our community has created a full range of housing options, with an eye to reducing commuting distances.
- Agriculture is a vital element in the mix of land use and economic activity.
- We have preserved and enhanced undeveloped areas in our community. Open space, protected habitats and parks are plentiful, tranquil and accessible to the neighborhoods they serve.
- We are community with a well-planned and efficient system of transportation, infrastructure and appropriate urban services. At the same time, we are recognized for our extensive system of sustainably landscaped streets and greenways.
- We have made the transition from an auto-oriented community to one where there are equal opportunities to bike, walk or use public transit.
- The community has an efficient, fair, and predictable land use planning process that has been guiding the implementation and enforcement of the Goleta Valley Community Plan.
- We have constructed new public infrastructure and have developed programs to properly maintain it.

## **PRINCIPLES (Revised 5-26-06 by Hal Hill)**

- Enhance the quality of life
- Maintain the suburban/semi-rural character
- Preserve agriculture and protect opportunities for agricultural activities that are a positive contribution to the community
- Support construction of infrastructure and provision of urban services for educational institutions
- Provide a wholesome, nurturing environment for youth activities outside of educational institutions
- Plan for improved infrastructure for alternatives to car-based transportation (e.g., walking, bicycling, transit, etc.) and multi-modal transportation
- Promote infill development and limit non-contiguous (leap frog) development
- Protect and enhance the aesthetics of the area including protection of the view shed
- Protect and enhance valued environmental qualities (e.g., open space, coast line, riparian habitat, watershed, etc.)
- Enhance access to the natural environment (e.g., beaches, hiking and biking trails, etc.) and link open space for the benefit of wildlife and to encourage walking and bicycling
- Plan for a sustainable community as evidenced by adequate infrastructure and urban services to serve neighborhoods without reduction in quality of life as growth occurs
- Support the use of renewable energy (e.g., solar access, use of renewable energy in housing, infrastructure, public buildings, etc.)
- Promote energy and resource efficient (Green) building
- Plan for an economically viable and thriving economy that respects community values and quality of life.
- Plan for strategically located improvement projects (e.g., improvement and beautification of the Hollister corridor, etc.)
- Plan with quantifiable measurements and agree on what can be fixed and what can't
- Plan for anticipated reductions in federal and state grants for infrastructure
- Make a realistic assessment of the funding that will be available to carry out the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan and make the plan conform to the assessment

- Plan for improved emergency services and crisis management including execution of public works mutual aid agreements with the surrounding counties and the City of Santa Barbara
- Support diverse households and housing for people with a wide range of income levels
- Recognize our interdependence with the South Coast and Tri-County region
- Enhance community identity