

Legislation Text

File #: 13-223, Version: 1

**STAFF REPORT**

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: September 17, 2013

SUBJECT: Woodland General Plan Update - Community Vision and Guiding Principles, Opportunities and Challenges Report, and Revised Schedule

Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends that the City Council:

- 1) Review and comment on the draft Community Vision and Guiding Principles (Attachment A);
- 2) Receive the Opportunities and Challenges Report (Attachment B) and provide comment comments for consideration and inclusion in the report;
- 3) Direct staff to utilize these as working documents along with the other General Plan background information in the next phase of the General Plan Update processes of developing the General Plan policies and land use scenarios;
- 4) Accept the revised General Plan Update schedule as outlined in this report.

Staff ContactKen Hiatt, Community Development Director; 530-661-5930; ken.hiatt@cityofwoodland.org**Fiscal Impact**

The proposed General Plan update is authorized for funding in the Capital Budget in FY 2013/14 in the amount of \$917,000. An additional amount of \$183,000 will be requested in the FY 2014/15 Capital Budget for a total of \$1,100,000. The full fiscal impact associated with the General Plan Update is currently estimated at \$1.1 million and is paid for with a combination of General Fund contributions and development impact fees.

Background

The purpose of this City Council agenda item is to provide an overview of the draft Community Vision and Guiding Principles, Opportunities and Challenges Report, and revised project schedule. The staff and consultant team will provide a summary of these three items and be available to answer questions of the Council and public.

Community Vision and Guiding Principles

A general plan is, in essence, a book of community values for a city. Many, if not most, communities begin their general plan process by defining a community-based vision of the future. The existing City General Plan contains such a vision in the form of Guiding Principles (pages 15-20, Woodland General Plan Policy Document, December 17, 2002) and as a part of the ongoing update process, the general plan team has refreshed this part of the current General Plan to reflect the feedback and analysis prepared to date for the current update effort.

The proposed revised vision statement and guiding principles are provided in **Attachment “A”**. They were developed using the existing guiding principles as a starting point, with extensive work by staff and the consultant team to update and revise them based on input received from the community outreach and data gathering that has taken place since the kick-off of this project in February of this year.

If so directed by the City Council, the Community Vision and Guiding Principles will be used as a working draft throughout the process to guide the development of the revised General Plan. After adoption of the General Plan, the final version of this vision statement will continue to be used as an overall guide for subsequent policy interpretation and land use decision-making.

Opportunities and Challenges Report

The Opportunities and Challenges Report, (**Attachment “B”**), provides information on existing conditions, opportunities, and challenges in the following subject areas:

- Land use
- Environmental resources and constraints
- Circulation
- Public facilities and services.

This important report complements the community outreach that has occurred to date and is a parallel document to the Economic and Fiscal Background Report. This report was developed by the consultant team based on original research, department interviews, and review of City documentation and studies produced since the last General Plan update. It is a key technical input to the development of policies and land use alternatives, and to the General Plan Update Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Key sections of the report include the Executive Summary and Chapter 6.0, Planning Opportunities and Challenges which provide valuable overview information and a summarized form. In particular, Table E-1 in the Executive Summary provides an “at-a-glance” overview of key information by topic.

Revised Schedule

In order to address the key factors and concerns expressed by policy makers and the public, the original schedule has been modified. The following are anticipated dates for key milestone activities and decisions:

Sep 17 (2013) City Council -- vision statement, opportunities and challenges report, and revised schedule

Oct 15 City Council -- growth projections and identification of land use scenarios; final action on Housing Element

Feb 6 (2014) Community Workshop -- Land use scenario analysis

Feb 25 City Council -- Land use scenario analysis; determination of preferred Land Use Plan

Mar 11 City Council -- confirmation of final preferred Land Use Plan

Sep 15 Release draft General Plan, Draft EIR, and draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) for 45-day review period

Oct Meetings and hearings to review and discuss documents

Jan (2015) Final meetings and hearings

Feb City Council - certification of Final EIR; adoption of General Plan 2035 and CAP

Next Steps

On October 15, 2013 the City Council will receive a presentation on area growth projections and draft land use scenarios for purpose of evaluation and determination of a final preferred General Plan Land Use Plan. As part of a separate action on the 15th, the Council will also be asked to take final action on the Housing Element for which preliminary certification of compliance has been received from the State Department of Housing and Community Development. The analysis of the three land use scenarios is expected to be released in February of 2014 with

Conclusion

1. Review and comment on the draft Community Vision and Guiding Principles (Attachment A);
2. Receive the Opportunities and Challenges Report (Attachment B) and provide comment comments for consideration and inclusion in the report;
3. Direct staff to utilize these as working documents along with the other General Plan background information in the next phase of the General Plan Update processes of developing the General Plan policies and land use scenarios;
4. Accept the revised General Plan Update schedule as outlined in this report.

Prepared by: Heidi Tschudin, General Plan Project Manager

Reviewed by: Cindy A. Norris, Principal Planner

Ken Hiatt, Community Development Director

Paul Navazio, City Manager

Attachment A - Community Vision and Guiding Principles

Attachment B - Opportunities and Challenges, Issues and Options Report