



City Council Agenda Report

Meeting Date: 03/02/10

File: General Plan Update

TO: City Council

FROM: Brendan Vieg, Principal Planner (879-6806)

RE: Chico 2030 General Plan Update - Upcoming Schedule

REPORT IN BRIEF

The General Plan Update process is approaching an exciting benchmark, the release of the draft General Plan on March 31, 2010. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and draft Public Facilities Finance Plan will follow, to be released on July 15, 2010. This staff report provides a proposed schedule for public input and Council and Planning Commission discussion of the General Plan and supporting environmental and fiscal documents.

Recommendation:

The Interim Planning Director recommends that the City Council accept the General Plan Update schedule and direct any questions to staff.

BACKGROUND

Since Council and the Planning Commission provided policy direction at two work sessions in April and May 2009, the General Plan Team has been developing, reviewing, and refining the draft policy, environmental, and fiscal documents. It is now time to re-engage the community, Council, and Commission in the General Plan Update process and to plot a path towards adopting the Chico 2030 General Plan.

Attachment A provides a proposed schedule for a series of joint Council/Commission public meetings on the draft General Plan. **Attachment B** details where these special meetings fall within the Council's regular meeting schedule. At the first joint Council/Commission meeting, the General Plan Team will provide an overview of the General Plan, how the document was developed, and provide a strategy for how to proceed with public input and the incorporation of comments. Four additional joint meetings will follow that focus on the individual General Plan elements and the Public Facilities Finance Plan. This series of meetings will provide the venue to "roll up our sleeves" and refine the goals, policies, and actions. Based on feedback at the joint Council/Commission meetings, staff will revise the draft General Plan and supporting documents during fall and return in early 2011 for General Plan adoption and EIR certification.

Environmental review is proceeding simultaneous with the General Plan review process. A separate meeting will be held in late August 2010 during the CEQA-required public review period to receive comments on the Draft EIR. This will be a staff led meeting that does not require Council or Commission participation.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City's General Plan consultant budget of \$1,543,838 is being paid according to the terms of the Professional Services Agreement, based on invoices received for specific services and deliverables. To date, the consultant has been paid \$1,266,023. Staff is reviewing invoices as they are received to ensure that the consultant will complete all required tasks within the remaining budget of \$277,815.

The General Plan Update process is extending beyond the originally identified project timeframe, which may require more City staff time than originally budgeted. The project is addressing multiple issues of great interest to the community, and therefore requires staff involvement at all levels. Staff is carefully monitoring the project budget, and will let Council know if supplemental monies are necessary to complete the project.

Reviewed by:



Mark Wolfe, Interim Planning Services Director

Approved by:



Dave Burkland, City Manager

DISTRIBUTION:

- City Clerk (18)
- General Plan Advisory Committee (10)
- Tracy Bettencourt
- Meredith Williams
- Supervisor Jane Dolan (Hand Deliver)
- Supervisor Maureen Kirk (Hand Deliver)
- Butte County Chief Administrative Officer
- Tim Snellings, Director, Department of Development Services, Butte County

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Proposed Schedule for General Plan Review
- B. Council Meeting Schedule for April 2010 - December 2010

Proposed Schedule for General Plan Review Workshops

Date/Time	Meetings/Benchmarks
March 31, 2010	Public Draft General Plan Released
Tuesday, May 11th 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.	#1 - Joint Council/Commission Meeting - Informational An introduction to the draft General Plan with a general overview of all elements. How the document was developed, its structure, and a strategy to move forward with input and revisions.
Tuesday, June 22nd 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.	#2 - Joint Council/Commission Meeting - Public Engagement and Policy Discussion Overview of Introduction, Sustainability Element, and Land Use Element Receive comments on policies, additions/deletions, etc.
Tuesday, July 13th 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	#3 - Joint Council/Commission Meeting - Public Engagement and Policy Discussion Overview of Circulation, Downtown, and Economic Development Elements Receive comments on policies, additions/deletions, etc.
July 15, 2010	Draft EIR and Public Facilities Finance Plan Released
Tuesday, August 10th 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	#4 - Joint Council/Commission Meeting - Public Engagement and Policy Discussion Introduce draft Public Facilities Finance Plan Overview of Parks, Public Facilities & Services Element Discuss impact fees, service levels, community benefit, etc. Receive comments on development of development impact fees, their relationship to the provision of public services and facilities, and the Element policies.
Wednesday, August 25, 2010	Public Comment Meeting on Draft EIR (Staff/Consultant Led Meeting)
Tuesday, September 14th 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	#5 - Joint Council/Commission Meeting - Public Engagement and Policy Discussion Overview of Open Space, Community Design, Cultural Resources, Safety, and Noise Elements Receive comments on policies, additions/deletions, etc.
Tuesday, October 12th	Joint Council/Commission Meeting <i> Holding place in case additional review time required</i>
November/December	Staff addresses Council and Commission comments and prepares General Plan and Public Facilities Finance Plan for final review and adoption.
January 7, 2011	Tentative Release Date for Revised Draft General Plan and Final EIR
Tuesday, February 8, 2011	<i>Tentative</i> - Final joint Council/Commission Meeting to receive final comments and direction
Thursday, March 10, 2011	<i>Tentative</i> - Planning Commission Recommendation to Council on EIR certification, and General Plan and Public Facilities Finance Plan adoption
Tuesday, April 12, 2011	<i>Tentative</i> - Council certifies EIR, and adopts General Plan and Public Facilities Finance Plan

CITY OF CHICO

City Council

2010 Meetings - April through December

April						
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November						
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December						
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 Regular Meeting
 All-Day Budget Work Session

 Special Joint Council/Commission Meeting