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Commissioner, District 3



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Commissioner, District 4

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Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller
County Manager

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of County Commissioners

Date: Tuesday September 14th, 2010

From: Robert Griego, Planning Manager
Jack Kolkmeier, Growth Management Department Director

Re: Sustainable Land Development Plan (SLDP) Study Session

Summary and Update

The County Development Review Committee (CDRC) provided a recommendation on the final draft of the Sustainable Land Development Plan (SLDP) after a Public Hearing on Thursday, August 26th, 2010. The CDRC unanimously recommended that the Board review and consider adoption of the current draft of the Sustainable Land Development Plan and further recommended that the Board consider the public comments submitted, in particular the Estancia Growth Management Area Working Group public comments and all staff recommendations.

The first draft of the SLDP was presented to the CDRC on October 1, 2009. The SLDP was revised and released to the CDRC in February, 2010. The participatory planning process has allowed for significant public input throughout the process to include a series of meetings in each Growth Management Area, a series of 17 public workshops held at the County Administrative offices, and multiple CDRC meetings including eleven Public Hearings, one of which was held in Stanley.

Many public concerns have been identified through the review process and recommended revisions to the SLDP were incorporated through the Public Hearing process. The CDRC held two Public Hearings on the Final Draft of the SLDP. The Final draft included several changes to the document based on the public input process. Staff also proposed changes to the first chapter of the document at this meeting to include language changes to provide general direction rather than mandates, delineate the Growth Management Area concept and GMA map, add Regional Planning, Partnerships and Cooperation, and revisions to clarify the sustainability principles and plan purposes. The CDRC reviewed the public concerns and recommended several changes to the SLDP. Staff also proposed amending Section 2.2.7 Mining to more clearly identify the need to include sand and gravel mining regulations in the SLDC.

The CDRC recommended several staff changes which include:

1. Staff recommends revising Chapter 1: A Sustainable Vision for Santa Fe County to provide general direction for the County rather than specific mandates.
2. Revise Policy 5.1: Ensure that the oil and gas and mining ordinances are incorporated into the SLDC.
3. Revise Strategy 5.1.: Incorporate existing mining ordinance to include sand and gravel mining into SLDC.
4. Specific changes are recommended to Chapter 11. Requirements for existing homes to add rainwater capture is not feasible.
5. Include a glossary of terms in response to public comments that the SLDP does not clearly identify the terms used in the SLDP.

Summary and Recommendations

Staff has reviewed the input from residents of the County and recognizes that there are still several perspectives on the SLDP from the residents of the County.

This study session will allow the Board an opportunity to review the Plan with staff and provide direction. It will also allow the public an opportunity to provide additional comments during the public hearing.