

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** 9/6/06  
**Department Name:** CEO, Comprehensive Planning  
**Department No.:** 990  
**Agenda Date:** 9/26/06  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Michael F. Brown  
County Executive Officer

**STAFF** Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer  
**CONTACT:** John McInnes, Director, Strategic and Long Range Planning, 568-3552

**SUBJECT:** Annual Report on the County's Comprehensive Plan (General Plan)

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## **Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors receive a report on the Planning Commission's action on the Annual Report of the County's Comprehensive Plan (General Plan).

## **Executive Summary and Discussion:**

California Law [Government Code Section 65400(b)(1)] requires all planning agencies to prepare an Annual Report on the status of the general plan and progress toward its implementation and submit the document to their legislative body. This Annual Report must be submitted to the Board of Supervisors, Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on or before October 1 of each year<sup>1</sup>. The report also must include the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its share of regional housing needs, as well as local efforts to remove governmental constraints to the maintenance, improvement, and development of housing pursuant to Paragraph (3) of Subdivision (c) of Section 65583.

The County Planning Commission, which serves as Santa Barbara County's planning agency, received and reviewed the General Plan Annual Report at a hearing on September 13, 2006 and directed staff to report its action to the Board. The attached fiscal year 2005-2006 Annual Report describes the County's progress on implementing its Comprehensive Plan, including the progress made in meeting its housing goals. The attached document is divided into the following sections:

- Purpose of the report;
- Structure of the Comprehensive Plan;

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<sup>1</sup> Beginning in 2007 the annual report is due by April 1 of each year.

- Comprehensive Plan Amendments and Implementation Activities;
- Housing Element Activity; and
- Three Year Work Program Management: Proposed Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.

The report concludes that the County continues to make significant progress towards implementing on-going updates to its Comprehensive Plan and is also demonstrating progress in meeting its fair share Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) objectives.

### **Mandates and Service Levels:**

State law (Government Code Section 65300) requires cities and counties to have a current and internally consistent general plan. Seven elements are mandatory – Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Open Space, Conservation, Noise, and Safety. Each mandated element has some minimum degree of required topical coverage. The Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan serves as the county's general plan. It consists of the seven mandated Elements and the Local Coastal Plan (LCP) for land use within the Coastal Commission's coastal zone jurisdiction. It also consists of additional elements deemed by the local community to be valuable in guiding the development and conservation of local resources and desired quality of life standards. The Comprehensive Planning Division of the County's Executive Office maintains the Comprehensive Plan and monitors its implementation. The Comprehensive Planning Division's Three Year Work Program reports on changes to the Comprehensive Plan on an annual basis and, as such, satisfies the requirements of G.C. §65400(b)(1). The progress in meeting regional housing needs and local efforts to remove governmental constraints to the maintenance, improvement and development of housing is discussed within the attached General Plan Annual Report in order to meet the requirements of G.C. §65400 (b) (2).

Service levels will not be affected.

### **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Preparation of the Annual Report is covered in Comprehensive Planning's budget for Fiscal Year 2006 – 2007. This can be found on page D-422 of the County 2006-2007 budget.

Facilities will not be affected.

### **Special Instructions:**

Please forward one copy of the minute order to the Comprehensive Planning Division.

### **Attachment:**

Attachment A: Santa Barbara County General Plan Annual Report Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006.