

**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: 10/31/05
Department Name: County Executive Office
Department No.: 990
Agenda Date: 11/22/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Michael Brown
County Executive Officer

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

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

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).

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 1. An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community and Goal No. 2. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit

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 endorsed or approved by the County and submitted to the 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. 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 adopted the General Plan Annual Report at a hearing of November 2, 2005 and directed staff to report its action to the Board. The attached FY '04-'05 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;
- County's efforts to update and maintain the Plan;
- General plan amendments adopted by the Board during the Annual Report reporting period; and
- Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation and the status of housing production.

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 RHNA objectives for the current reporting period (2001 – 2005).

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 Plan meets or exceeds minimum State law requirements, although it could benefit from various levels of updating and enhancement as described in the Comprehensive Planning Division's Three Year Work Program (provided under a separate cover).

California law [Government Code Section 65400(b)(1)] requires the planning agencies of all jurisdictions to prepare and submit an Annual Report on the status of the general plan and progress toward its implementation. The Annual Report must be submitted to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) each year. The attached document addresses the issue areas mandated for discussion in Section 65400.

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 2005 – 2006 under the Administrative program. This can be found on page D-292 of the County 2005-2006 budget.

Facilities will not be affected.

Special Instructions:

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

Concurrence:

N/A

Attachment:

Attachment A: Santa Barbara County General Plan Annual Report Fiscal Year 2004 – 2005.

G:\GROUP\COMP\Division Admin\CompPlanAnnualReport\2005\Board Agenda Letter_Sept 05.doc