



www.helpumboldt.com

"Jobs, Homes & Individual Rights"

March 24, 2008

Mr. Kirk A. Girard, Director
Community Development Services
County of Humboldt
3015 "H" Street
Eureka, California 95501

Subject: County Infrastructure Study / Report
By Winzler & Kelly, November 2007

Dear Kirk:

HELP peer review engineer, Mark Hammer of HDR International Engineering, and I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you, John Miller, and Neal Carnum on March 4th regarding the County's infrastructure report.

We were pleased to learn there is an intention to perform additional work on the County's current and future infrastructure needs.

As you requested during our meeting, attached is Mr. Hammer's memo to Mr. Carnum dated March 14, 2008: "Suggestions for the Community Infrastructure and Services Technical Report, dated November 2007." We hope this is helpful.

One of the points of concern we discussed during our meeting on the 4th involved the update of the Housing Element. We referred to the State's requirement for more specific infrastructure analysis to be identified in the update of the Housing Element's land inventory. We were stunned to hear you say:

- 1 Only a general discussion is required
- 2 There will just be another lawsuit filed against the new Housing Element
- 3 State HCD (Housing and Community Development) "doesn't always get it right"

We're at a loss to understand your position, given the clear instructions provided on HCD's website at http://www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/housing_element/index.html : "Building Blocks for Effective Housing Elements".

Regarding your forgone conclusion that the new Housing Element will be challenged in the courts, we are not aware of anyone who wants to bring legal action against the County. It is very expensive and such a diversion of private money as well as taxpayers' dollars. We had hoped your goal would be to prepare a Housing Element that conforms to State

Mr. Kirk A. Girard, Director 3-24-08, cont'd

law and promotes the development of good jobs and adequate housing so desperately needed in this county.....that is certainly HELP's desire.

It is our hope the County will allow HELP and other Community groups and individuals to assist in the update of the Housing Element to assure the land inventory is accurate. As we have stated numerous times in the past, we would welcome the opportunity to work with you toward that end.

Sincerely,

Kay Backer, representing
Humboldt Economic & Land Plan

Attachment

cc: John Miller, County Planning
Neal Carnum, Winzler & Kelly
Mark Hammer, HDR International
Supervisor Jimmy Smith, District 1
Supervisor Roger Rodoni, District 2
Supervisor John Woolley, District 3
Supervisor Bonnie Neely, District 4
Board Chair Jill Geist, District 5
Bruce Emad, Planning Commissioner
Mary Gearheart, Planning Commissioner
Richard Hansis, Planning Commissioner
Tom Herman, Planning Commission
Scott Kelly, Planning Commissioner
Sef Murguia, Planning Commissioner
Jeff Smith, Planning Commissioner, Chairman
Loretta A. Nickolaus, County Administrative Officer
Mr. Bob Best, Trainor Fairbrook

helpcountygirard6

P O Box 168, Eureka CA 95502 + 707.834.8006 + help@helphumboldt.com