

August 28, 2012

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TULARE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN 2030 UPDATE, PROPOSED FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, AND PROPOSED CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Tulare County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on August 28, 2012, at 2:00 P.M., in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors, Administration Building, County Civic Center, 2800 West Burrel, Visalia, California. The hearing will recess at 5 P.M. for a dinner break and reconvene at 7 P.M. The hearing will pertain to the proposed General Plan 2030 Update (project), associated proposed Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), and the proposed Climate Action Plan.

The Planning Commission by Resolution Numbers 8636, 8637, and 8638 recommended certification of the associated proposed Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), approval of the proposed General Plan 2030 Update (project) with modifications described in the resolution, and approval of the proposed Climate Action Plan at its regular meeting on December 7, 2011.

General Plan 2030 Update

The Tulare County General Plan is a comprehensive, long-term general plan for the physical development of the unincorporated areas of Tulare County, excluding state and federal lands. The County's General Plan consists of development policies that set forth objectives, principles and standards that guide future land use decisions within the County of Tulare. The general plan and its maps, diagrams, and development policies form the basis for the County's zoning, subdivision, and public works actions. The proposed Tulare County General Plan 2030 Update (General Plan Update) amends the existing Tulare County General Plan to provide a comprehensive update in three parts. Part I, Goals and Policies Report, Part II, Area Plans are substantially revised. Part III is revised to make two modifications to existing plans: (1) the County adopted City General Plan for Dinuba is modified to reflect the recently annexed Dinuba Golf Course, residential and wastewater treatment area, and (2) the Pixley Community Plan, is modified to include Harmon Field (a closed airfield).

Proposed Final Environmental Impact Report

The Proposed FEIR for the General Plan 2030 Update (project) was prepared in compliance with the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, §§ 15000, et seq.). The County of Tulare (County) is the Lead Agency for the environmental review of the proposed project and has the principal responsibility for approving the General Plan 2030 Update and the Climate Action Plan. As described in the CEQA Guidelines §15121(a), an EIR is a public information document that assesses potential environmental effects of a proposed project, as well as identifies mitigation measures and alternatives to the project that could reduce or avoid adverse environmental impacts. CEQA requires that state and local government agencies consider the environmental consequences of plans and projects over which they have discretionary authority. The EIR is an informational document used in the planning and decision-making process. The County will also consider adoption of CEQA Findings, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations.

Proposed Climate Action Plan

The Tulare County Climate Action Plan (CAP) serves as a guiding document for County actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the potential effects of climate change. The Climate Action Plan is not a part of the formal General Plan, but is considered an implementation measure for the General Plan.

Additional information is available for review at the Tulare County Website <http://generalplan.co.tulare.ca.us/index.html>.

All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and be heard. Oral comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person as determined by discretion of the chair. Written comments or statements may be submitted in lieu of or in addition to oral comments. Please take notice that if you challenge the approval of the General Plan Update, FEIR and/or the Climate Action Plan in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors at or prior to the public hearing described herein. In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in meetings call (559) 636-5000 48-hours in advance of meeting. For further information regarding this project, contact David Bryant, Project Planner, at (559) 624-7000.

Jean Rousseau, County Administrator/Clerk, Board of Supervisors

Please Note: The agenda materials for the Board of Supervisors public hearing on the proposed General Plan 2030 update will be posted on line when the Board's agenda is posted. Additional materials will be available to the public when provided to the Board of Supervisors. One copy of the General Plan 2030 Update, Final Environmental Impact Report, Climate Action Plan and associated Agenda Reports and Appendices, will be available at the Clerks office of the Board of Supervisors when the Agenda Materials are posted. Additional information is available for review at the Tulare County Website <http://generalplan.co.tulare.ca.us/index.html>.