

Valley Springs Community Plan

January 4, 2009

RE: Postponement of the January 21 and 23 Community Workshops

Dear Members of the Valley Springs Community,

Since late May 2009, the community has been actively participating in an update to the existing Community Plan for submission to Calaveras County as part of the broader General Plan update.

Community efforts of this nature typically gain momentum as they progress, and this effort is no exception. In addition to an engaged citizenry, the planning process is being served by the Stakeholders Advisory Committee, a group of residents and other community members who have generously donated time and energy to the process by attending regular meetings and assisting the Project Partners (CCOG, Calaveras County, MyValleySprings.com, Local Government Commission, and Caltrans) and Consultant (EDAW) in preparing the updated plan for presentation to the Community.

This process has been ripe with residents who have jumped into the update with both feet to protect and serve the area that they love, Valley Springs. This is consistent with information self-reported by residents of Western Calaveras County during the very first outreach effort, a community-wide questionnaire, in which the number one response to the question, "In a few words, what is your favorite place in Valley Springs?" was "My Home!"

A seemingly inherent, completely understandable skepticism of Government has also been palpable throughout this process, and there have been residents who have tasked themselves with guarding the integrity of the Community Plan update process. These attributes of the planning process are products of a comprehensive outreach effort (previously unmatched in Calaveras County), and have led to packed community meetings, and a myriad of different, and sometimes incongruous, opinions about the future of Valley Springs.

Recently, the first DRAFT of the Valley Springs Community Plan Land Use and Circulation Maps was presented to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee for constructive criticism and consistency with community input, values, and character. The Stakeholders, true to their mission, helped highlight aspects of the Land Use and Circulation maps which were not easily understood, lacked clarity, or needed alternative presentation to better serve their intended purpose.

With deference to the feedback received from the Stakeholders Committee, the Community meetings previously scheduled for January 21 and 23 have been postponed to give the Project Partners time to reflect the Stakeholders' suggestions and comments in the DRAFT Land Use and Circulation maps.

It is anticipated that the postponed meetings will instead be held in February. Please stay tuned as additional updates will be forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyler Summersett, CCOG, Project Manager

For more information please visit: http://www.calacog.org/vs_cbtp.shtml or call 754-2094