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COUNTY *of* NAPA

OFFICE OF CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 21, 2005

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ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR GENERAL PLAN UPDATE GETS UNDER WAY

County provides multiple venues for feedback from community

Napa, CA – The Napa County Office of Conservation, Development and Planning released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) today that asks for community feedback on environmental information that will be included in the program-level Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that will be prepared regarding the County's General Plan Update.

"This public comment period gives county residents and public agencies the chance to thoughtfully consider the various alternative approaches to the General Plan Update that should be considered in the EIR," said Napa County Planning Director Hillary Gitelman. "It also gives everyone the opportunity to recommend environmental issues for exploration in the Draft EIR."

The NOP is available at www.napacountygeneralplan.com starting today. The public can comment on the NOP now until December 12, 2005. Written comments may be mailed or e-mailed to:

Patrick Lowe
Napa County Office of Conservation,
Development and Planning
1195 Third Street
Napa, CA 94559
info@napacountygeneralplan.com

Napa County will also hold three public meetings to receive feedback on the NOP:

- November 9, 2005
St. Helena Fire Department
1500 Main St.
St. Helena, CA 94574
6:30 p.m.
- November 10, 2005
Napa Library
Community Meeting Room
580 Coombs St.
Napa, CA 94559
1:00 p.m.

NOTE: This meeting will be focused on receiving comments from public agencies.

- November 10, 2005
Napa Valley Unified School District
Education Center Board Room
2425 Jefferson St.
Napa, CA 94559
6:30 p.m.

All comments received on the NOP will be considered in the Draft EIR, which will tentatively be released for public review in January 2007.

“Input from County residents is critical to the General Plan Update process,” said Gitelman. “We have a wonderful citizen Steering Committee hard at work on the planning issues, but there can never be enough community input -- this would be an excellent time to hear from you.”

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