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STAFF REPORT

Item # 6

To: Lemoore City Council
From: Holly Smyth, Planning Director
Date: September 29, 2009
Subject: Policy Committee Appointment to Joint Land Use Study

Background:

In June 2008, shortly after the City of Lemoore adopted the 2030 General Plan, Council directed City staff to draft a letter accepting the Assistant Secretary of the Navy's offer to conduct a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) to better understand how the expected growth of the City affects Naval Air Station Lemoore to help ensure the long term viability of the facility. City staff has been working with Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) over the last several months putting together a grant application to the Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) to help pay for consultant and staff costs of the JLUS ; the grant was recently approved as outlined in the attachments. During the process, the City formed a partnership with KCAG to be the lead agency in handling the grant funds with Agencies participating in the document, similar to what has been done for the Housing Element. The overall goals of the JLUS are to:

1. Identify land use issues that may impact the operational utility of NAS Lemoore;
2. Identify actions the City of Lemoore, Kings County, and Fresno County can pursue to ensure that incompatible development does not impact the operational utility of NAS Lemoore;
3. Create an action plan to guide future planning that all involved parties will benefit from.

As far as input on the JLUS document, staff and OEA determined that two committees should be developed to provide support and guidance during the proposed JLUS study: 1) a "Policy Committee" generally consisting of locally elected officials and 2) a "Working Group" of professional planners from each of the jurisdictions and other key stakeholders. The Policy Committee was notionally thought to consist of two Board of Supervisors Members from Kings County, two City Council Members from the City of Lemoore, one Board of Supervisor Member from Fresno County, and one (non-voting) ex-officio representative from NAS Lemoore. To date Kings County has appointed Supervisors Joe Neves and Richard Fagundes (with Tony Olivera as an alternate), while Fresno county has appointed Supervisor Judy Case.

The Policy Committee will be responsible for the overall direction of the JLUS, approval of the budget, preparation and approval of the study design, approval of the draft and final written reports, and approval of policy recommendations generally within the September 2009 to November 2010 timeframe with meetings held about once a month. A kickoff meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 21st at 1:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Administration Building at the Kings County Government Center at 1400 W. Lacey Blvd. in Hanford (see attachment) to go over more technical items, however Policy Committee are welcome to also attend. The permanent dates and time schedule for Policy Committee meetings will be determined by those appointed. The Working Group will most likely include

local jurisdiction and military base planners, and representatives from agriculture, business, natural resource protection organizations, and concerned residents.

Additionally, several public workshops will be held in the vicinity of the project area at key milestone points in the study for the public to provide input. Emails, websites, and the local newspapers will be a key component in informing the community of upcoming meetings.

Budget Impact:

None from the appointment of Policy Committee Members, however the grant requires a 10% match which the City anticipates taking care of through \$10,000 of in-kind staff work and the City is eligible for reimbursements of approximately \$23,527, which may adjust up or down depending on the number of staff hours spent on the project.

Recommendation:

The Mayor, with the concurrence of at least two Council Members, should appoint two persons to serve on the JLUS Policy Committee, and may also consider appointing an alternate if so desired.
