

**PLANNING  
DEPARTMENT**

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**To: Planning Commission**  
**From: Holly Smyth, Planning Director**  
**Review Date: June 8, 2009**  
**Subject: 2008 Annual General Plan Progress Report**

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**ITEM # 5**

**Background:**

Government Code Section 65400(b)(1) mandates that all cities and counties submit to their legislative bodies an annual report on the status of the general plan and progress in its implementation (the "Progress Report"). A copy of this Progress Report must also be sent to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

The intent of this statute is to ensure that the general plan directs all land use decisions and remains an effective guide for future development. Because the role of the general plan is to act as a "constitution" for the long-term physical development of a community and because it is required to be updated periodically to reflect current circumstances, it is critical that local planning agencies periodically review the general plan and its implementation. The Progress Report is a tool for monitoring this.

The Progress Report is useful to OPR in a number of ways. The report provides information that allows OPR to monitor local planning activities and to identify trends in land use planning and decision making throughout the State of California. This information is critical to OPR to serve in its capacity as the statewide planning agency.

The 2008 General Plan Annual Progress Report will be emailed prior to the meeting and hard copies will be made available at the meeting in accordance with the suggested Guidelines issued by the Office of Planning and Research. The first section is related to the overall general plan and the various elements of the General Plan and is displayed in a table format. The second part of the report shows the progress in meeting Regional Housing Need at the end of the report. **Please note that bolded items represent anticipated tasks in the near future to carry out the policies.** This year's report has changed radically, as it incorporated the new 2030 General Plan policies.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Failure to submit the General Plan Annual Progress Report to the Office of Planning and Research could limit the City's ability to apply for and be issued grants and/or funding for project administered by the State Housing and Community Development Department including but not limited to the Community Development Block Grant program.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that Planning Commission review the report, ask questions, and direct staff to make any needed modifications to the report and then by motion recommend that the City Council accept the 2008 General Plan Annual Progress Report and direct staff to submit the report to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and the Housing Community Development Department in accordance with Government Code Section 65400(b)(1).

*"In God We Trust"*