

EL DORADO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN

Following are General Plan excerpts from the Statement of Vision, Plan Strategies, Goals and Objectives for Community Identification and Community Regions & Rural Centers.

STATEMENT OF VISION

The vision and goals for future growth in El Dorado County were the focus of the Round 1 Community Workshops held on July 9, 12, 16, 17, 19, and August 7, 1990. Those comments, which were recorded and appear in the *Summary of Comments: Round 1 Community Workshops* (August 1990) illustrate a broad consensus on a number of issues. The vision and goals were further refined in recognition of significant oral and written input received between October 1992 and March 1995. The vision for future growth in the County includes the following:

1. Maintain and protect the County's natural beauty and environmental quality, vegetation, air and water quality, natural landscape features, cultural resource values, and maintain the rural character and lifestyle while ensuring the economic viability critical to promoting and sustaining community identity.

PLAN STRATEGIES

The following is a list of strategies to provide for methods of achieving the visions and goals and to carry forward the Plan's principle purposes:

3. Encourage growth to reflect the character and scale of the community in which it occurs and recognize that planned developments are an effective planning tool to maximize community identity and minimize impact on the surrounding area.

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LAND USE ELEMENT

GOAL 2.4: EXISTING COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Maintain and enhance the character of existing rural and urban communities, emphasizing both the natural setting and built design elements which contribute to the quality of life, economic health, and community pride of County residents.

OBJECTIVE 2.4.1: COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Identification, maintenance, and enhancement of the unique identity of each existing community.

Policy 2.4.1.1 Design control combining zone districts shall be expanded for commercial and multiple family zoning districts to include identified Communities, Rural Centers, historic districts, and scenic corridors.

Policy 2.4.1.2 The County shall develop community design guidelines in concert with members of each community which will detail specific qualities and features unique to the community as Planning staff and funds are available. Each plan shall contain design guidelines to be used in project

site review of all discretionary project permits. Such plans may be developed for Rural Centers to the extent possible. The guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, the following criteria:

- A. Historic preservation
- B. Streetscape elements and improvements
- C. Signage
- D. Maintenance of existing scenic road and riparian corridors
- E. Compatible architectural design
- F. Designs for landmark land uses
- G. Outdoor art

Policy 2.4.1.3 All properties located within the historic townsite known as Clarksville shall be designated on the zoning maps as Design Historic (-DH) combining zone district.

Policy 2.4.1.4 Strip commercial development shall be precluded in favor of clustered contiguous facilities. Existing strip commercial areas shall be developed with common and continuous landscaping along the street frontage, shall utilize common driveways, and accommodate parcel-to-parcel internal automobile and non-automobile circulation where possible.

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GOAL 2.5: COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Carefully planned communities incorporating visual elements which enhance and maintain the rural character and promote a sense of community.

OBJECTIVE 2.5.1: PHYSICAL AND VISUAL SEPARATION

Provision for the visual and physical separation of communities from new development.

Policy 2.5.1.1 Low intensity land uses shall be incorporated into new development projects to provide for the physical and visual separation of communities. Low intensity land uses may include any one or a combination of the following: parks and natural open space areas, special setbacks, parkways, landscaped roadway buffers, natural landscape features, and transitional development densities.

Policy 2.5.1.2 Greenbelts or other means of community separation shall be included within a specific plan and may include any of the following: preserved open space, parks, agricultural districts, wildlife habitat, rare plant preserves, riparian corridors, and designated Natural Resource areas.

Policy 2.5.1.3 The County shall develop a program that allows the maintenance of distinct separators between developed areas (Community Regions and Rural Centers). This program shall include the following elements:

Parcel Analysis: Areas between developed areas (Community Regions and Rural Centers) shall be analyzed to determine if they create inefficiencies for ongoing rural land uses. For instance, parcels that may be too small to support long-term agricultural production shall be identified for potential consolidation. Areas within Community Regions and Rural Centers shall also be analyzed to identify opportunity sites where clustering of development may be appropriate, including increases in the allowable floor-to-area building ratio (FAR) in Community Regions.

Parcel Consolidation/Transfer of Development Rights (TDR): A program to allow consolidation of parcels where appropriate shall be established. This shall include a TDR program that encourages transfer of development rights from the parcels to be consolidated to opportunity sites in Community Regions and Rural Centers. The TDR program shall also allow for consideration of increasing the FARs at specific sites in Community Regions, as deemed appropriate.

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GOAL 2.1: LAND USE

Protection and conservation of existing communities and rural centers; creation of new sustainable communities; curtailment of urban/suburban sprawl; location and intensity of future development consistent with the availability of adequate infrastructure; and mixed and balanced uses that promote use of alternate transportation systems.

OBJECTIVE 2.1.1: COMMUNITY REGIONS

Purpose: The urban limit line establishes a line on the General Plan land use maps demarcating where the urban and suburban land uses will be developed. The Community Region boundaries as depicted on the General Plan land use map shall be the established urban limit line.

Provide opportunities that allow for continued population growth and economic expansion while preserving the character and extent of existing rural centers and urban communities, emphasizing both the natural setting and built design elements which contribute to the quality of life and economic health of the County.

Policy 2.1.1.1 The Communities within the County are identified as: Camino/Pollock Pines, El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park, El Dorado, Diamond Springs, Shingle Springs, and the City of Placerville and immediate surroundings.

OBJECTIVE 2.1.2: RURAL CENTERS

Purpose: The urban limit line establishes a line on the General Plan land use maps demarcating where the urban and semi-urban land uses will be developed. The Rural Center boundaries as depicted on the General Plan land use map shall be the established urban limit line.

Recognize existing defined places as centers within the Rural Regions which provide a focus of activity and provides goods and services to the surrounding areas.

Policy 2.1.2.1 The Rural Centers within the County are identified as: Coloma, Cool, Fairplay, Garden Valley, Greenwood, Georgetown, Grey's Corner, Grizzly Flat, Kelsey, Kyburz, Latrobe, Little Norway, Lotus, Mosquito, Mount Ralston, Mt. Aukum, Nashville, Oak Hill, Phillips, Pilot Hill, Pleasant Valley, Quintette, Rescue, Somerset, Strawberry, and Chrome Ridge.