



## Inside:

- Budget cuts may affect Williamson Act
- Humboldt County Farmers' Market Schedule
- New Scholarship Award Winners
- State Compensation Insurance Fund sponsored Safety Seminar
- Important dates for this summer and fall

SUMMER 2007

# General Plan Update Status

Marty McClelland *Land Use Consultant*

The Humboldt County Planning Commission and its staff from the Community Development Services Department continue with its public hearings on the General Plan Update. The review of various issues and alternatives commenced in February and is schedule to be completed in October (2007).

The policies and issues have been separated into seven (7) groups, with each group being composed of various numbers of Chapters. Each Chapter contains goals, policies, and standards relating to each of the topics of the Chapter.

One of the principle purposes of this exercise is the establishment of a 'reasonable range' of alternatives for consideration in the Environmental Impact Report to be prepared for the 'project' (General Plan Update). There are four alternatives proposed that include Alternatives A, B, and C and a 'no project' alternative D (the 'current' General Plan, Volume I Framework Plan).

In the meantime, the staff has commenced with the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report to the extent that they are able. This effort will become more intensive once they receive direction from the Commission resulting from the present hearing process.

The current schedule is to have the Draft Environmental Impact Report available for public review early next year (like February-March 2008). The public will have the opportunity to review and comment on the document prior to the time that the Commission (and ultimately the Board of Supervisors) takes action on the Update.

The Planning Commission is scheduled to conduct its public hearing on the Update during the months of March-May 2008. The public will have the opportunity to participate in this public hearing process.

The Commission, as the Advisory Agency to the Board of Supervisors will be making decisions in the form of recommendations to the Board. The Board of Supervisors is the decision making body for legislative activities of the County, such as the changes in the County's General Plan. The Board of Supervisors hearing on the Update is scheduled for July-October 2008.

To date, the following topics have been presented, with public comments (oral and written) received: Chapter 1-Introduction, Chapter 2-Public Guide, Chapter 3-Governance, Chapter 16-Mineral Resources, Chapter 17-Energy Element, Chapter 18-Waste Management, Chapter 19-Air Quality, Chapter 20-Noise, Chapter 21-Safety Element (includes Geologic hazards, Flooding and Drainage, Fire, and Emergency Management), and Chapter 11-Economic Development.

Over the next several months (commencing June 21st) the balance of the topics are to be presented. They include:

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <i>June 21st</i> | Chapter 12 Conservation and Open Space Element<br>Chapter 13 Water Element<br>Chapter 14 Biological Resources<br>Chapter 15 Cultural and Historical Resources   |
| <i>Aug 16th</i>  | Chapter 5 Land Use Element - Forest Resources<br>Chapter 5 Land Use Element - Agricultural Resources  |
| <i>Oct 18th</i>  | Chapter 4 Managing Growth<br>Chapter 5 Land Use Element-Urban Lands, Rural Residential, Public Lands<br><br>Chapter 5 Maps<br>Chapter 7 Infrastructure and Public Facilities<br>Chapter 8 Circulation Element<br>Chapter 9 Housing Element<br>Chapter 10 Community Design |

In general, the Commission is conducting its proceedings for each topic by having a staff presentation (varies in length dependent upon the topic), followed by questions by the Commissioners, followed by public testimony. In some cases, there are question, answer and discussion between the Commissioners and the staff.

For each topic, the Commission is conducting its proceedings for each topic on two evenings. There is the opening evening efforts (as scheduled) and then the continuation of the topic to the next Update meeting. Typically, additional testimony is taken if not duplicative of the prior presentations/submissions. Written comments are being accepted on any topic at any time (so far).

For Additional information concerning the Update program, the various documents being used in support of the County's efforts and the written comments received so far, you may go to the County's Website at: <http://co.humboldt.ca.us/>

From there under the 'Featured Websites' is the link to the Humboldt County General Plan Update page. Once there, links are categorized under the titles of: Overview; Key Documents; Public Comments; and Background Reports. The Commission Schedule, the General Plan Index and the links to the various documents are found under the Key Documents section.

For additional information or to sign up for noticing, you may contact Martha Spencer, Senior Planner at (707) 268-3704 or her email at [MSPencer@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:MSPencer@co.humboldt.ca.us).

## 2007 Farm Bureau Annual Dinner

Watch for your invitation for the  
2007 Farm Bureau Annual Dinner  
THURSDAY, November 1st  
at the Ingomar Club in Eureka



## Super Safety Wednesday



The Eureka District Office of the  
State Compensation Insurance Fund presents  
Super Safety Wednesday

WEDNESDAY, June 20th 8am-12pm  
Fortuna River Lodge Conference Center  
1800 Riverwalk Drive, Fortuna

In the Cal/OSHA and Targeted Enforcement  
section employers will learn how to meet the  
demands of regulations while still staying  
profitable. Topics include:

- An overview of Cal/OSHA  
and Targeted Industry Enforcement
- Commonly cited violations
- The inspection process and documentation
- Overview of the required employer programs

A presentation on the Injury and Illness  
Prevention Program (IIPP) will focus on how  
employers can develop effective IIPP's for their  
businesses including:

- Management commitment
- Safety communications with employees
- Assuring employee compliance with safe  
work practices
- Scheduled inspections/evaluation system
- Accident investigation
- Safety and health training

State Fund's interactive DVD will help  
employers recognize potential injury causes,  
how to avoid injuries, and how to maintain an  
effective back injury prevention program

Presenters include Paul B. Hurd, an Associate  
Safety Engineer with the Dept. of Industrial  
Relations; Sharon Tucker, a Loss Control  
Consultant for the State Compensation  
Insurance Fund; Doug Baker, a Senior  
Loss Control Consultant for the State  
Compensation Insurance Fund, and Enoch  
Ibarra — a Loss Control Consultant in the  
Eureka Office.

For further questions or to register contact  
Tricia McKenzie at (707) 476-1176  
or by email at [tcmkenzie@scif.com](mailto:tcmkenzie@scif.com)

## Williamson Act in Jeopardy Again

California's most important land conservation program is being threatened for the first time in four years as Governor Schwarzenegger tries to close a lingering structural budget deficit.

The California Land Conservation Act of 1965, better known as the Williamson Act, created a program for counties to protect viable agricultural land by offering a tax incentive to property owners for keeping their land in agricultural production. The Act provides an arrangement where private landowners voluntarily restrict their land to agricultural uses under a Land Conservation Contract with the county. The contract is an enforceable restriction on land and is binding on successors to both the landowner and the local government.

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors first adopted guidelines for the Williamson Act locally on June 24, 1969. From 1972 to 1981 nearly 243,000 acres were put under contracts in the County. In 2002 revisions included established Farmland Security Zones and a 10% reduction from the Factored Base Year Value to make sure that all participants received some tax relief. Currently there are just over 280,000 acres in the program in 155 established preserves and 1450 parcels in Humboldt County alone.

This is the first time that Gov. Schwarzenegger has proposed elimination of state funding for the program. Thankfully there is already a groundswell of support in the Legislature to maintain the funding. Members of the Legislature have told the governor that while they understand the need to correct the budget's structural deficit, they do not support a de facto repeal of the Williamson Act. Immediately following the governor's announced cuts, members of the State Senate and Assembly went on record in strong support of open-space subvention funding. State Senator Pat Wiggins and Assembly member Patty Berg are strong supporters of the Williamson Act program and the subventions that are essential to county participation.

It is vital that the Williamson Act continue to help protect our rural environment. It would be unwise to eliminate a highly successful program like the Williamson Act that protects our most fertile production land. Without the funding for the subventions, counties will be forced to discontinue their participation in the Act. This would come at a time when California is facing tremendous population pressure and would further jeopardize the economic and environmental contributions from family farms and ranches.

If you care about the rural heritage of our state and the land that this program protects, contact the governor and urge him to save the Williamson Act by maintaining the \$39 million for Budget Item 9100: Tax Relief.

Write to: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
1st Floor State Capitol  
Sacramento, Ca 95814



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Open House at Ag Center  
 Redwood Acres Fair  
 Fortuna Rodeo  
 Entries due for County Fair  
 Humboldt County Fair  
 Fortuna Apple Harvest Festival  
 Fortuna 4-H Lamb BBQ  
 Humboldt Auction Yard Bull Sale

June 18th 4-6pm  
 June 20 – 24th  
 July 20 – 22nd  
 July 20th  
 August 9 – 19th  
 October 6th  
 October 7th  
 October 27th

## Farm Bureau Scholarships Awarded

The Humboldt County Farm Bureau Scholarship program was established in 1996 when Lanette Rousseau provided funds to be used for Humboldt County High Schools students who are pursuing a degree in Agriculture, Natural Resource, Science or Teaching. Each year the fund provides between \$50,000 and \$60,000 of awards to local students. To date, over 660 students have received scholarships for their college education.

The scholarship chairman, Gene Senestraro a retired dairyman, has organized the committee for the past ten years and program coordinator Jane Fraser, cattle producer from Arcata, provides technical assistance. "We are very grateful to Henri and Lanette Rousseau, who were Farm Bureau Board Members and had the foresight to establish this fund for future generation



## Scholarship Awards for 2007:

### Scholarships for \$600

Erin Adams	Ferndale
Kyle Avelar	McKinleyville
Jared Detherage	Eureka
Dylan Feierabend	Ferndale
Alicia Fryear	Chico
Timothy Griggs	Ferndale
Ryan Houtby	Fortuna
Justin Mason	San Luis Obispo
Brock McCullouch	Ferndale
Timothy Pratt	Eureka
Hannah Peterson	Quincy
Alex Renner	Ferndale
Chase Rocha	Eureka
Ronald Vevoda	Ferndale

Sasheen Raymond	Eureka
Matthew Renner	Ferndale
Brittany Richardson	Trinidad
Preston Sutter	McKinleyville

### Scholarships for \$1,000

Jimi Hensley	Myers Flat
Russell Moxon	Arcata

### Scholarships for \$1,200

Colton Brodt	Ferndale
Brittney Chrisler	Eureka
Emily Christensen	Eureka
Brandi Crivello	Fortuna
Dakota Darst	Ferndale
Kiley Eicholtz	Fortuna
Angie Flosi	Chico
Niki Flosi	Redcrest
Nickolas Forsburg	Arcata
Sienna Fry	Bayside
Nicole Ghidinelli	Ferndale
Jerilyn Grinsell	Ferndale
Andrew Houtby	San Luis Obispo
Laura Jorgensen	Ferndale
Rachele Lema	Ferndale
Evan Markegard	San Luis Obispo
Caroline Moore	Eureka
Alissa Sarvinski	San Luis Obispo
Elizabeth Titus	Ferndale
Jana Van Duzer	McKinleyville
Rachael Wiltrout	Eureka

### Scholarships for \$750

Meghan Becker	Ferndale
Laci Cook	Sacramento
Joseph Feierabend	Ferndale
Christina Liu	Eureka
Emily Schirmann	McKinleyville
Brittany Victorine	Fortuna

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR \$950

Stephanie Anderson	Eureka
Chelsea Boynton	Ferndale
Jennifer Laidlaw	McKinleyville
Melissa Lema	Ferndale
Margaret Leonardi	Ferndale
Jolene Moxon	Arcata
Laurel Nelson	Hydesville
Kathryn O'Neil	Ferndale

## Farmers' Market Schedule

### Arcata

Every Saturday from 9am–2pm  
 On 8th and G St. on the Plaza  
 April through November

### Eureka

Every Tuesday from 10am-1pm  
 On F St. between 1st and 3rd  
 June 5th through October 30th

Every Thursday from 10am-1pm  
 On F St. in Henderson Center  
 June 7th through October 25th

### Ferndale

Every Saturday from 10am-1pm  
 On Francis St at the end of Main St  
 May 5th through October 27th

### Fortuna

Every Tuesday from 3-6pm  
 On 10th and Main St. in downtown  
 May 24th through late October

### Garberville

Every Friday from 11am-3pm  
 On Church St in the Town Square  
 May 4th through October 26th

### Miranda

Every Tuesday from 2-5pm  
 In front of the Avenue Café  
 May 1st through October 30th

### Shelter Cove

Every Tuesday from 11am-3pm  
 On Machi Rd by the Motel  
 May 8th through October 30th

### Trinidad

Every Sunday from 11am-3pm  
 Behind Murphy's Market  
 May through October

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Humboldt County Farm Bureau  
5601 So. Broadway  
Eureka, CA 95503



### Humboldt County Farm Bureau Board Officers

Jim Regli *President*  
Jay Russ *First Vice President*  
John Vevoda *Second Vice President*  
Larry Ford *Treasurer*  
Butch Parton *State Director*  
Katherine Ziemer *Executive Director*



### 2006 Farm Bureau Board of Directors

Lisa Carnahan	Dairy	Fortuna
Clif Clendenen	Apple Producer	Fortuna
Greg Dale	Seafood/Oysters	Eureka
Judy Ferriera	Dairy Cattle	Arcata
Larry Ford	Beef Cattle/Fair Manager	Arcata
Jane Fraser	Beef Cattle	Arcata
Audrey Hanks	Beef Cattle	Arcata
Kathy Harnden	Dairy Cattle/Appraiser	Arcata
Peter Kenyon	Ag Tourism	Fortuna
Everett King	Farmers Market Mgr	Whitethorn
Bill Kleiner	Forestry Consultant	Arcata
Holly Krieb	Row Crops	Pepperwood
John LaBoyteaux	Row Crops	Redcrest
Sanford Lowry	Cattle / Sheep	Ferndale
Len Mayer	North Coast Coop. Mgr	Arcata
Marty McClelland	Land Use Consultant	Kneeland
Dona Moxon	Dairy Cattle	Arcata
Ike Moxon	Retired Dairyman	Arcata
Jeff Moxon	Sun Valley/Floriculture	Arcata
Butch Parton	Beef Cattle	Eureka
Jim Regli	Dairy Cattle	Ferndale
MaryAnn Renner	Dairy Cattle	Ferndale
Bill Rice	Hay & Beef Cattle	Shively
Jay Russ	Beef Cattle	Ferndale
Gary Rynearson	Timber/Forestry	McKinleyville
Gene Senestraro	Retired Dairyman	Eureka
Janet Sclar	Nursery/Roses	Hydesville
John Vevoda	Dairy Cattle	Ferndale
Gene Whitney	Retired Forestry	Fortuna

Humboldt County Farm Bureau  
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Phone: 707.443.4844

Design by: Carson Park Design  
707.444.2644

## President's Note

As spring rolls into summer and the pace of activities seems to increase with the length of the days our Executive Director, Katherine has informed me that part of my duties as president of the Humboldt County Farm Bureau is to write newsletter articles periodically. Yikes! I am a dairyman, not a writer.

We live in such a unique area with our climate, coastline, timber, green pastures and rangeland. This ideal environment that we live in allows many of us to capitalize on unique marketing opportunities. This year, we have held some of our Farm Bureau board meetings at businesses with great success stories, such as The Eureka Co-op, Cypress Grove Cheese, and this month, Coast Seafood Company where our June meeting will include a 5 a.m. tour of the oyster beds in Humboldt Bay.

The board members have enjoyed the networking and the sharing of ideas with their fellow members, Farm Bureau is also strengthening its ties with Cattlemen's, the Buckeye Conservancy, and the Farmers' Markets. This unites us in supporting one another when faced with government issues.

Your Farm Bureau membership has more than local benefits. With the American and California Farm Bureaus representing agriculture on all fronts - such as the legislature and our courts - your membership and involvement has been and continues to be beneficial for all.

I invite each one of you to invite your neighbor and attend a board meeting. Don't worry ... they don't always start at 5 a.m.! Call Katherine for information on our monthly meetings or membership.

Jim Regli, President



# Take Away the Guess Work with FARM TEAM



Are you frustrated with California's regulatory climate, but don't have the time to walk the halls of the State Capitol?

If you have just five minutes, you have the ability to make a difference for California's family farmers and ranchers.

Farm Bureau developed the FARM TEAM, our grassroots political action program to provide a united voice on legislation and regulations that impact your ability to do business.

FARM TEAM is the easiest way to take part in the political process – and from the comfort of your own home! As a web-based program, you will receive an email Action Alert when your help is needed the most.

The Action Alert explains the issue at hand, and has a letter attached which has already been drafted for you. Because the program is web-based, all you have to do is enter your zip code and the system looks up your elected officials for you.

FARM TEAM takes the hard work and guessing out of writing letters to your elected officials. Responding to Action Alerts take no more than five minutes. All you have to do is:

- Customize the letter according to how the issue impacts your business
- Complete the contact information
- Click the "Send" button

Kathy Harnden, Farm Bureau Board Member from Arcata is a Farm Team Member. "It is so easy; they provide sample letters for suggestions and even templates to make it quick. It just takes a few clicks, and you have it!" Kathy said.

The State Legislature and Congress are in full swing and many issues that impact your business are before them.

Not a FARM TEAM member? Visit [www.cfbf.com](http://www.cfbf.com) and look for the FARM TEAM button or contact the Humboldt County Farm Bureau at (707) 443-4844.

If you are a FARM TEAM member, continue to look for and respond to Action Alerts. It may not be your issue today, but it could be tomorrow!

With the united voice of family farmers and ranchers across the state, we can protect California's rich agricultural heritage.

“  
It is so easy;  
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”

CLIF CLENDENEN

# It All Fits Together

Several issues have seemed to coalesce for me recently and I'm going to grab a sack needle and attempt to stitch them together.

While involving myself in Fortuna's General Plan Update process, I've seen a dovetail of goals with city planning and agriculture. Progressive planning, like "New Urbanism," that tries to densify development, even in rural communities, helps the city better utilize infrastructure. Also created is a more walkable community with the associated health and social benefits. In addition, a well-designed community has less dependence on energy usage because living, working, and shopping are integrated.

Policies like these fit well, I think, with agricultural needs, because as cities and towns stay compact, there's less demand for ag lands for town expansion. I'm writing this while visiting family in Corona, CA (Riverside County) and it's amazing to see how quickly citrus groves can be replaced with shopping centers and subdivisions.

Having our ag lands available has ramifications greater than farmers staying in business and providing some open space. By having a thriving local agricultural sector, other benefits derive.

Thomas Friedman, in a recent syndicated column, writes that an Iraq exit strategy needs to be coupled with a serious fuel reduction policy. He says we can much more easily leave unstable parts of the globe if we've intelligently used what energy we have and developed meaningful conservation measures.

Just as vulnerable, I think, is our food supply. At Clendenen's Cider Works last fall, we had for sale "Christopher Ranch Garlic," packed in Gilroy, CA, but grown in China! Having food grown that far away has issues. Perhaps not China right now, but political instability makes that supply chain vulnerable. Also problematic is the lack of good food safety practices, whether it's pesticide use and safety or outright adulteration as happened recently with the deliberate contamination of Chinese pet food to boost nitrogen values.

Time Magazine, in a March 2007 issue with an apple on the cover says, "Forget organic, buy local." While I think there's merit in both systems, the article pointed out that organic food that's shipped long distance extracts a greater environmental toll than the local supply that's not necessarily organic, but is grown by a resident steward of the land who is using less inputs and resources in the bigger picture.

To summarize this quilt, I think it's important that we support policies in land use, energy, and business that foster and encourage a local food supply which will tend to use less energy, have a softer environmental footprint, be safer and healthier, and demand less from distant and unstable parts of the world.

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Clif Clendenen is a Humboldt County Farm Bureau board member