Summary Action Minutes

I. Public Comment
None.

II. A Proposed Historic Preservation Ordinance for Unincorporated Alameda County

Angela Robinson-Piñon, Senior Planner, Community Development Agency, presented a proposed Historic Preservation ordinance for the unincorporated area of Alameda County.

The Alameda County Parks, Recreation and Historical Commission developed a draft Historic Preservation Ordinance, to protect and preserve historic resources located within unincorporated Alameda County. This ordinance would formally recognize such resources and provide financial incentives for their preservation.

The ordinance has been reviewed by the Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council, Sunol Advisory Council and the Agriculture Advisory Council. After review by the Unincorporated Services Committee, the draft ordinance will be reviewed by the Planning Commission.

Speakers

Doris Marciel: Owns two historic houses; according to the Mills Act contract: why do you have to be approved by the Supervisors and the Planning Commission if you have already been declared historic, and then you have to pay money to get it started? The Mills Act gives a lower property tax, which seems to be the only advantage.

The County staff should have included what the advantages and disadvantages are for getting your property registered as a historical site, instead of having people read through the twenty-six (26) page ordinance. Do the new owners have to continue the Mills Act? What if you apply for a historic site with the county and you are denied?

Pat Kowalski: Can you opt out?

County Response

The Mills Act is a contract with the County; if you have previously been identified as a historic site by the state or are included in the national register, you have to have a local register; the fee is for staff time. It is best to speak with County staff before applying (paying the fee) for a historical site, to determine if you may be accepted.
County Response

A homeowner can opt-in and apply for a historical site, if you do not wish to participate you do not have to do anything.

III. Realignment Update

Leah Wilson and Louie Martinez, County Administrator’s Office, presented a PowerPoint Presentation on realignment and the impacts it will have on Alameda County.

Programs to be realigned, total $6.3 billion dollars, and include: Court security, adult prison inmates, public safety grants, mental health services, child welfare programs and CalWORKs.

Public Safety Realignment:
Non-violent state prison inmates, when released will be supervised by County probation, and not State parole.
New low-level offenders will serve time in County jail and not state prison
Parole violators will be sent to County jail and not state prison.

Questions/Comments/Speakers

Charles Snipes: Where do the matching funds to support this program comes from?
Leah Wilson: Between now and June 30, 2012, approximately 577 people will be released and the state has allotted the County a total of $9.2 million for this year for that population

Are they going to be in new facilities or going to be turned loose?

Leah Wilson: No one is getting out of prison early, and they will be under the County Probation supervision, whereas before they would have been on State parole.

Ruth Barrata: Why is the State putting more work on the Sheriff and the District Attorney and other County departments? It seems that the County is being penalized,

Leah Wilson: The initial reaction to the public safety realignment was not positive. However, the goal is to reduce the recidivism rate, which is close to 70%.

IV. Redevelopment Agency Update

Eileen Dalton, Director, Redevelopment Agency, presented an oral update on the redevelopment agency.

The Board of Supervisors voted to opt-in to the State’s alternative redevelopment program at their meeting on July 12, 2011.

A lawsuit was filed with the Supreme Court to challenge the constitutionality of two bills, ABx1 26, which would dissolve the State’s redevelopment agencies and ABx1 27, which creates the alternative voluntary redevelopment program.

Due to the lawsuit, the Supreme Court has stayed the two bills, which means that redevelopment agencies are frozen. However contracts approved before June 29, 2011 will move forward.
V. Presentation from Senior Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Working Group

Linda Pratt, Comm Pre, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Alameda County Medication Disposal Initiative.

The Senior Alcohol and Other Drugs Working Group is comprised of several organizations, and their goal is to implement strategies that will reduce risk factors in the environment that contribute to the AOD problem.

The group has been working to get old medications out of the home, and also to provide a safe environment for disposal. Their activities include: 1) hosting Take Back Events, where one can bring old prescriptions for safe disposal; 2) establishing permanent safe and convenient take back sites; 3) working on policy to require manufacturers to take back unused and unwanted medications.

The group hopes to draft a countywide ordinance to require manufactures to fund take back programs, and they continue to host take back events throughout unincorporated Alameda County.

The Senior Alcohol and Other Drugs Working Group will host a Safe Medication Disposal Conference on October 12, 2011.

Supervisors Comments

Supervisor Scott Haggerty requested information on the Take Back Events, to encourage the Tri-Valley area to get involved and establish permanent take back sites.

Supervisor Nate Miley reported that all municipalities in the County were sent invitations to the Safe Medication Disposal Conference, in addition to sanitary districts, sheriff and other law enforcement agencies.

Speakers

Pauline Von Stadt, member of the Senior AOD group: When the doctor prescribes something for you, it’s for you. If you are giving out your prescription drugs to other people, that is illegal.

Ms. Von Stadt was happy to see that the Sheriff’s Office has a disposal site. It would be nice to have drop off box at the fire station.

Cheryl Hoffman: How can we support the drop off site at the fire station? Please contact the fire chief Sheldon Gilbert to support a drop off site at the fire station.

V. Lewelling Boulevard Construction Activity

Stanley Fung, Public Works Agency presented an update on the Lewelling Boulevard construction project.

The Lewelling Blvd. Improvement Project will improve the area for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. In addition the project will improve the visual aesthetics of the Lewelling Boulevard community and accommodate future traffic demand.

The presentation included the construction phases and the construction schedule. The entire project is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2012.
Speakers/Questions

Doris Marciel: What happened to the construction on the other side of Orchard Supply? The presentation did not include anything about the completion of the south side of Lewelling.

Suggest placing speed limit signs at the corner of Lewelling by the Taco Bell, there was an accident there recently.

What is Public Works doing for the businesses in the area that are losing money due to the ongoing construction? There was something done for the merchants in Castro Valley.

Several indentures, depressions and holes are in the roadway, causing damage to some vehicles.

Keith Barros: Has Public Works explored the idea of widening the driveways of the businesses. What is the speed limit during construction?

Stanley Fung: Additional speed limit signs will be placed throughout the construction area. The CHP will be contacted to determine the appropriate speed limit for the area during construction.

The other side Lewelling: work will begin in December or January, depending on the weather.

Supervisor Miley: The merchants in Castro Valley met with Supervisor Miley on several occasions and that is why they received help. He has talked to his staff and will speak with the merchants along Lewelling.

Supervisor Miley stated that the Public Works Agency would return to the next meeting to respond to questions and concerns from tonight’s presentation.

ADJOURN
The meeting was adjourned to October 26, 2011

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