



NEWS RELEASE -

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
Community Development Department, Planning
Division

Contacts: Bettie Weiss, 805-564-5509
Kirsten Ayars, 805-452-7909

Plan Santa Barbara: March 18th Open House & Draft General Plan Policy Documents Available for Public Review

*Drafts of Environmental Impact Report, Land Use Element, Land Use Map, &
Housing Element Available*

SANTA BARBARA, CA – March 8, 2010

On March 18th, Plan Santa Barbara will host a daylong open house to begin public review of new General Plan Policy documents, including the Draft Environmental Impact Report, Draft Land Use Element, Draft Land Use Map, and Draft Housing Element as part of Santa Barbara's General Plan update. The open house will be held from 10am to 7pm at the Faulkner Gallery in the Main Library, 40 E. Anapamu Street.

"This is the first opportunity to review these very important draft planning documents. These include policies and programs to live within our resources, promote affordable housing opportunities, provide safe and convenient transportation, advance regional thinking, as well as meet the rest of the goals outlined for Plan Santa Barbara," said Bettie Weiss, city planner for the City of Santa Barbara. "2010 is Plan SB's Decision Year for these documents as well as proposed land use and General Plan zoning changes for some areas of the city. I hope people will take the time to review these drafts and share their thoughts with us as this affects Santa Barbara's future."

In addition to the draft documents and maps, there will also be short videos to summarize the Plan SB process to date. Following the open house, all of the materials will be available online at www.youPlanSB.org and at the Planning Division at 630 Garden Street, the Main Library, and the Eastside Branch at 1102 Montecito Street.

Public comment will be taken from March 18th through May 17th at 4:30pm. The Planning Commission will also hold a series of public hearings to review these documents and take public input. Hearings will be held in Council Chambers at City Hall and are scheduled for April 28th at 9am, April 29th at 1pm (if necessary), and May 6th at 1pm.

Following these hearings, there will be a joint City Council and Planning Commission hearing in June, followed by Planning Commission actions and recommendations to City Council in the fall, and finally City Council review and adoption before the end of this year.

About Plan Santa Barbara

Plan Santa Barbara (Plan SB) is the planning process to update Santa Barbara's General Plan. The General Plan shapes the future of the City by providing guidelines and environmental review of growth and potential future development. Since 2007, the City has been sponsoring a broad-based public outreach process to discuss, evaluate, and update the City's housing, transportation, and environmental policies to best meet our community needs now and in the future. For additional information, please visit www.youPlanSB.org or call 897-2509 or 564-5470.

###