



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER

- Consent Departmental Correspondence Action Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for 10:30 Closed Session Informational

FROM: Inyo County Planning Commission

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: February 16, 2010

SUBJECT: General Plan Government Element Update (General Plan Amendment No. 2009-04/Inyo County)

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Conduct a public hearing regarding the General Plan Government Element Update (General Plan Amendment No. 2009-04/Inyo County); and
- 2) Review and approve the proposed Resolution (a) finding the project exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and (b) making certain findings with respect to and approving the General Plan Government Element Update (General Plan Amendment No. 2009-04/Inyo County).

SUMMARY DISCUSSION:

Inyo County is updating its General Plan Government Element. The update works to strengthen the Element, define coordination, and incorporate relevant updated legislation and other information. A draft updated Government Element is provided for the Board's review and approval (refer to Exhibit B).

The General Plan details the County's guiding principles for a variety of planning topics and is the constitution for future development. California Government Code Section 65300 et seq. provides direction and specifications for the content of the General Plan. The County has adopted an optional General Plan Government Element. More information regarding the existing Element, the update process, and the proposed updated Element is included in Exhibit C.

The Planning Commission reviewed the draft Updated Government Element at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 27, 2010, and unanimously recommended that the Board approve the project. Several corrections were noted by the Commissioners, which have been incorporated into the updated Element. Other discussion items included clarification regarding management of roads through other agencies' jurisdictions and an inquiry about organizing regular community meetings with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Inyo County, similar to meetings occurring in Ridgecrest. A representative from the BLM indicated that she would look into this possibility. Comments were also received from the individuals from the Natural Resource Advisory Committee, which have been incorporated as appropriate.

ALTERNATIVES:

- Direct modifications to the Element
- Refer the item back to the Planning Commission for further input
- Return to staff with other direction

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Numerous federal, State, and local agencies; Environmental Health, Public Works, and Water Departments.

FINANCING:

Funds for the update effort are allocated from geothermal royalties by operating transfer to the General Fund/Planning Department budget.

APPROVALS

COUNTY COUNSEL:	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:

(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)

_____ Date: _____

Exhibits:

- A. Board Resolution
- B. Draft Updated Government Element
- C. Planning Commission Agenda Report