

ACSC

The American Coalition
for Sustainable
Communities

“Sustaining
Representative
Government”

OUTREACH QUESTIONS

This document is designed to help Citizens debate city staff and consultants in regards to the San Bernardino County Plan at Community Plan Outreach meeting sessions.

The County of San Bernardino is paying up to \$5 million dollars to a consulting firm to create “The Countywide Plan”, which uses the Countywide Vision as its foundation. The Countywide Vision embraces social equity and mandatory conservation or sustainability, which is forced rationing, legitimizing corruption via public-private-partnerships, or cronyism.

This is a review of the Muscoy Community Plan Outreach document: *Muscoy.pdf*. You can get this document at our Web site*. Our preparation of this review makes the assumption that all outreach meetings for the Countywide Plan, follow the same methodology, with the exception of demographic information provided for each unincorporated area.

*For more information go to:

<http://iagenda21.com/san-bernardino-countywide-plan/>

For County information and outreach meeting schedule, go to

<http://countywideplan.com>

The County is updating Muscoy's Community Plan and invites you to a series of workshops to learn what's going on, ask questions, take surveys, and voice your opinions.

1. Why is the County updating our unincorporated 'Community Plan'?
2. Why are workshops needed for the County General Plan?
3. Why are we taking surveys that are outcome-based and designed to come to a predetermined outcome?
4. Why are we 'voicing opinions'? - We deal in FACTS. No vote by the people?
5. Who is paying for the 'free food, beverages and giveaways' at these events? What is the total dollar amount being spent on this?
6. Question: Is there a consultant on this project? How much are they being paid?
7. Is Sustainability part of this plan? Define the word 'Sustainability' and 'Sustainable Development' (SD).
8. How can Sustainability and/or SD even be part of this plan? No one voted on it.

From 'FACT SHEET'

What is a Community Plan?

The purpose of a **Community Plan** is to guide the future use, character and independent identity of a community. Community plans currently identify land use goals and policies unique to each community. They outline how the County of San Bernardino will manage and address growth issues while recognizing the special attributes unique to each unincorporated community. The County has 14 Community Plans currently in use, which were adopted in 2007, except for Oak Hills, which was adopted in 2013.

1. Define 'future use'.
2. Define 'charter and independent identity'.
3. What are 'land use goals and policies' and what are 'growth issues'?
4. Expand on what is met by: 'special attributes unique to each unincorporated community'.
5. What was the reason for adopting community plans in 2007?
6. Note: Challenge all census data and population growth numbers.

Don't we already have a Community Plan?

The Community Plans currently in use will be updated to provide a higher level of community specificity, which is needed to effectively address issues at the community level, due to the County's geographic diversity and complexity. By working with local residents to identify community aspirations and actions, the new Community Plans will become more action-oriented and will serve as a guide to better assist communities as they consider growth and change to meet the community's future needs.

1. Why are we spending money to update our community plan? What's wrong with the current plan?
2. Define what is met by 'a higher level of community specificity'
3. Define what is met by 'issues at the community level'.
4. Expand on what is met by 'geographic diversity and complexity'.
5. Define 'community aspirations and actions', and what is met by 'action-oriented'.
6. *Sustainable Development (SD) is development that needs the needs of the current generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.* Expand how action-oriented plans guide the community to 'consider growth and change to meet the community's future needs', within the context of SD.
7. Question: Will the plan be put to a vote?

How can I help my community obtain improvements?

The Community Plans will include a **Community Development Toolkit** to help residents engage in self-help and/or partnership activities that will facilitate the changes they would like to see in their community. Toolkits will include guidance and information links on a wide range of community improvement and development issues, such as:

- How to create a nonprofit community development corporation
- Guidelines for organizing a farmers market
- Methods, tools and process for establishing and maintaining a community park
- Process for creating a special district for landscaping, street lights, roads, etc.

1. Define 'improvements'.
2. Define 'partnership activities'.
3. Define the word 'facilitate'.
4. Define the word 'change' as in transformative change?
5. Why do we need 'guidance' for 'community and development issues'?
6. Is this plan your plan or ours?
7. Why would we want to be a 'nonprofit' NP community development corporation?
8. What are the benefits of creating a NP?
9. If we receive grants as a NP, what strings will be attached to the grant terms and conditions and how would these subordinate us to the government or to any unelected agencies, boards, and/or commission rules?
10. Define 'farmers market' within the context of SD.
11. Why do we need a 'community park'? Who is going to pay for the development, operations and maintenance?
12. Why do we need 'a special district for landscaping, street lights and roads'? We already pay for these services.

Community Plans Continuum (CPC)

The **Community Plans Continuum (CPC)** is an all-new system of community planning that will guide local expectations for County services and set a clear direction for the future of each unincorporated community. It will consist of updates to existing plans and the addition of new plans, all of which will be web-based, living documents that will be refined regularly to reflect progress and change.

The CPC will provide planning and implementation guidance for all unincorporated communities as they pursue their own unique lifestyle choices and goals. The CPC will include a hierarchy of plan-types (see below) that will ensure that planning details, tools, and resources match the conditions and needs of each community:

1. What is a 'continuum'?
2. Why do we need 'an all-new system'? What is wrong with our old system?
Contrast the difference between the two.
3. Why do we need planning that will 'guide local expectations'? Expand on this and what is met by 'guide' and what is met by 'expectations.
4. What is the point to planning if it is going to be relative and ever changing? What is the cost of this relative 'living document' and 'process' that can be changed on a whim?
5. Define 'progress' and 'change'.
6. Define 'unique lifestyle' in the context of SD, which promotes transformative social justice and is antithetical to American exceptionalism; where property owners and community members must embrace mandated conservation in order to subsidize higher density development, transportation and amenities for government defined groups.

Detailed Plans

- **Detailed Plans.** Applies to communities that contain, or have the potential for, a variety of housing opportunities and supporting uses, such as commercial and industrial businesses, schools, a library, parks and recreation facilities, and religious and civic organizations.
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Please answer the following as they pertain to: Detailed Plans, Framework Plans, Foundation Plans and Fundamental Plans:

1. Are Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) population forecasts from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) being used as a catalyst for future community planning? If so, convey specifically how these forecasts are deemed valid in light of recent court decisions where they have been discredited and deemed invalid.
2. Define 'potential' in the context of SD and how development would proceed if grant funds are received for a 'variety of housing opportunities'. Expand in detail. what is met by 'supporting uses' and what the cost to property owners and residences for these uses, including but limited to: costs for development, and ongoing operations and maintenance.

3. How will revenues be assessed and collected for these housing opportunities and supporting uses?
4. Outline the criteria for housing opportunities including low to moderate income requirements, ethnicity, and legal status - or non-legal status – of forecasted occupants.
5. Outline housing density for housing opportunities.

Framework Plans

Define 'framework'

Expand on what is met by how the framework applies to a community 'primarily characterized by sing-family residential properties' in the context of SD, and how, if proposed, apartments, high-density, transit-oriented and/or mixed-use development would benefit single-family property owners and the community as a whole.

Other Questions

1. Why are nonprofit groups critical to the plan?
2. Why are community gardens critical to the plan?
3. Is there any mitigation required for development in unincorporated areas?
4. Why are land inventories taking place in the County?