



City of Gilroy
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
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DATE: March 18, 2015
TO: Gilroy GPAC
FROM: Stan Ketchum, Senior Planner
General Plan Project Manager
SUBJECT: **Overview of GPAC Meeting Agenda and Packet Materials**

This memo provides an overview of the agenda and packet materials for the March 18, 2015 GPAC meeting. For each item, time will be allotted for Q&A and discussion by the GPAC.

Agenda Item III. Information Updates – The following information is provided to assist the GPAC in completing the selection of the Preferred Land Use Alternative

- a. Agricultural Land Maps. At the March 11, 2015 GPAC meeting, two different maps were distributed that describe areas of agricultural lands in and surrounding Gilroy. These maps are being redistributed (see attached) together with a brief description of each. The maps labeled Santa Clara County Important Farmland 2010 display the categories of farmland as identified by the California Department of Conservation. The definitions of each category are attached. The maps show there are substantial areas of prime farmland within focus areas 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, and 10. The Map entitled Preferred Agricultural Preservation Area comes from the City's Agricultural Mitigation Policy (see attached). The policy establishes the implementation of the General Plan policy and General Plan EIR mitigation that require formation of an agricultural land conservation program. The program will acquire and protect equal amounts of prime agricultural land to that lost to development. The map shows those areas east and south of Gilroy that are recommended for such acquisition or easement dedication. We have attached the entire policy for your information. The only focus area with land in the Preferred Agricultural Preservation Area is the north end of focus area 4.

Agenda Item Objective: The GPAC will receive the information presented and have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the information.

Agenda Item IV – Continuation of Selection of Preferred Land Use Alternative – The GPAC will continue the process described in the March 11, 2015 Overview Memo to complete selection of the preferred land use alternative. The remaining focus areas to consider are Focus Areas 2, 3, 4, 8, and 9.

Agenda Item Objective: The GPAC will follow the process described in the March 11, 2015 Overview memo to complete selection of the preferred land use alternative.

Agenda Item V. Discussion of Next Steps

- a. Staff will describe any additional work deemed necessary to complete the Preferred Alternative Selection Process, including whether it is necessary to identify specific Prerequisite Condition language to accompany any Urban Reserve designations recommended by the GPAC.

Attachments

Santa Clara County Farmland 2010 maps with farmland categories
City of Gilroy Agricultural Preservation Policy