



City of Ridgecrest, California

Ridgecrest General Plan Update

General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #1

March 27, 2007

City of Ridgecrest Town Hall
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555

Meeting Summary

General Plan Advisory Committee Members Present:

Jerry Taylor
Lois Beres
Howard Laire
Nellavan Jeglum
Andy Kilikauskas
Chuck Roulund
Jim Smith
Joanna Rummer
Eric Kauffman
John O'Gara
Ruth Cooper
Sharon Paxton
Jim Fallgatter
Craig Porter

City Staff Present:

Matthew Alexander, AICP
Pamela Hill

Consulting Staff Present (Matrix Design Group):

Celeste Werner, AICP
Rick Rust, AICP
Molly Bosley, AICP

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for the GPAC

The GPAC elected the following individuals to serve as chairman and vice chairman for the group.

- Chairman – Jerry Taylor
- Vice Chairman – Jim Smith

2. Presentation by Matrix Design Group

Matrix Design Group presented introductory information on the General Plan process on the following topics:

- Introduction/Overview of the General Plan Team
- Overview of the General Plan program
- Relationship of the General Plan to the Blueprint process
- Public Participation in the process
- Role of the General Plan Advisory Committee
- Overview of Workshop #1 and #2 activities

3. Committee Member Goals

GPAC Members were asked to introduce themselves and express their goals for the General Plan process.

Jim Smith

Long time resident

Planning Commissioner

- Need more compatible housing
- Need improved street infrastructure (i.e., road to the college)

Lois Beres

Planning Commissioner

- She is on the Infrastructure Committee
- Wants the General Plan to be a more solid planning tool

Nellavan Jeglum

Planning Commissioner

- Need to plan for the future
- Prepare for change
- Maintain quality of the community

Eric Kauffman

Radio Station operator

- Do more with less

John O’Gara

25 year resident

- Worked on former plan
- Faced with growth, need plan

Ruth Cooper

50 year resident

- Excited about development growth
- Need to balance community needs and desires

Andy Kilikauskas

- Likes outdoor quality of life

Jerry Taylor

Planning Commissioner

- Quality of life
- North/south and east/west growth limitations
- Recreational element - pocket parks and large parks, need better idea of what we need

Chuck Roulund

50 year resident

Former Planning Commissioner

- Flood Control
- Infrastructure
- Keep hometown, small town atmosphere
- Infill development, control sprawl
- Full curb and gutter
- No half streets

Jim Fallgatter

Long time resident

Land owner, developer

- Need to bring business to the City

Joanna Rummer

School Superintendent

- Schools and student issues

Howard Laire

Planning Commissioner

- Looking forward to addressing challenges

Sharon Paxton

- Organized growth

4. Plan Considerations

The following items were identified by GPAC members as areas of consideration within the General Plan Update Process.

- Economic Reality
 - Recognizes strong military presence
 - More technological businesses
 - Complimentary industries
- Make sure to address noise
- Difficult to attract heavy industry
 - No rail service
- Light industry could be an alternative
- Entrepreneur – Incubator type of companies
- Pocket Parks vs. Regional Parks
 - SW part of town has lack of parks

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- Bowman Wash Linear Park
 - Drainage/flood control
 - Recreation
 - Bicycle paths required or bike paths
 - Many cyclist dedicated routes
 - Linear Parks
 - For walking and connectivity
 - BLM Land
 - Recreational land
 - No way to get to the land for recreation
 - Schools
 - Shared community parks next to schools
 - Amphitheater
 - Performing arts
 - Residential Infill
 - Need encouragement
 - Helps community with infrastructure growth
 - Need incentives
 - Address type of project vs. type of available land
 - Annexation should be a long term goal
 - Business district and reasonable distribution
 - Development west of Mahan Street
 - Need design standards
 - RV parking a problem
 - Working with water district
 - No large green yards
 - Landscape Ordinance
 - Need some apartments
 - Not many
 - There is a role in the housing mix
 - Heritage Village is the only planned community
 - Keep large areas for future planned communities
 - What are Southern Cal Edison plans for this area?