

Weekly ReCAP for August 9, 2019

Next CPC meeting 3:00 to 5:00 pm, September 9, 2019, at the Volunteer Center, San Andreas. Directions below:

The address for the Volunteer Center is 255 Lewis Avenue, San Andreas, CA (P.O.Box 196, San Andreas, CA 95249)

We share the same address as the San Andreas Elementary School, but we are located on the lower terrace, just down from the school office.

In San Andreas at the blinking light in town, take Main Street (old Hwy 49) past the Metropolitan, across the little bridge and turn right on Lewis Avenue. After about one block, Lewis Ave turns into a one-way street and our driveway is at the bottom of the *steep* hill, at the end of the chain link fence.

From CPC member Foothill Conservancy:



Save the date for the annual Mokelumne River Cleanup!

Our annual Mokelumne River Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, September 21, as part of the Great Sierra River Cleanup. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us in cleaning up our beautiful Wild & Scenic River!

If you have questions about the cleanup, check our [website](#), call the office at 209-233-3508 or contact [Carolyn](#). Thanks!

This letter was up-lifting for me, I am sharing this in hopes it will lift spirits. (Thanks to John Luft.)

El Paso shooting: An open letter from our city to President Trump

Dear Mr. President:

Today is a tragic day to visit El Paso.

Less than a week ago, [22 of our own were killed](#) as they shopped in a neighborhood store, as they prepared for their weekends, as they provided for their families.

Most of them were from El Paso. Eight were from our sister city of Juárez, steps away.

Today, you will [find us in the agony of our mourning](#).

The violence that pierced El Paso, drawing you here today, is not of our own community. [An outsider came here](#) to shatter our city, to murder our neighbors. A white man from another Texas city came to target the more than 80% of us who share Hispanic roots.

We are horrified to have witnessed this violence in our city.

This is not the El Paso we want the world to know. This is a city with a deep tradition of racial harmony. It is a city of warm, compassionate, patriotic, accepting residents who did not deserve this suffering.

But, Mr. President, while we are sorry to have seen such violence and to

have felt such pain, one other thing must be said about today.

Today is a very good day to visit El Paso.

Today, in spite of our suffering, you will see the city that makes us proud.

As our neighbors lay bleeding in hospitals, [El Paso stood in line, in 104-degree heat, to donate blood](#) — so much blood that organizers had more than they could handle.

As [families waited to be reunited with missing loved ones](#), El Paso quickly brought so much water and ice to their aid that donors were turned away.

When a gunman passed over one man to target others, that man didn't turn and run. He grabbed soda bottles from the shelves and started throwing, trying to distract the gunman from his evil intent. He was shot twice because of it. [His name is Chris Grant](#). He is from El Paso. As Grant lost blood and stumbled from the store, a woman helped stop the bleeding. She helped rush him to medical care. She had been shopping on her day off. Her name is Donna Sifford. She has been in El Paso since 1992. She is a port director for Customs and Border Protection.

They met again later at the hospital and embraced. Now, they are friends as well as neighbors.

This is El Paso.

Make no mistake. Today is not a happy day. Our city is in pain. We were targeted by a white supremacist, and we are suffering. We will remember the names of the 22 neighbors who died.

The violence of that day may have been a product of his hatred. It was not a product of our community.

Our community did not deserve this.

Our compassion for one another goes back to the city's founding.

We were pioneers when a basketball coach from a small college we now know as UTEP started five African American players in a national championship basketball game for the first time — and won.

Fort Bliss, a key U.S. Army base, draws service members from around the world. They make us an international city many times over. When these patriots retire, many are purposeful in making El Paso their home.

When Pope Francis visited the Americas, he chose Juárez to conclude his trip. From there, he could reach out to the world on both sides of the border.

In El Paso, we embrace our relationship with Juárez. We are not separated by a border fence. In El Paso, the border is an opportunity. Commerce helps everyone share in the American dream.

We all want the same thing — we want our country to prosper. That's not different from your goal for America.

For many of us, our parents were born in Mexico. We are proud of that and we are also proud Americans.

America is our country. We are home.

Not everyone who visits El Paso has understood this.

During a visit to El Paso in April 2017, then-U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions called El Paso “ground zero.” He said our city was “the front lines ... where we take our stand” against cartels and human traffickers.

Mr. President, in your February State of the Union address, you claimed that El Paso was “one of our nation's most dangerous cities” before a border wall was built.

Mr. President, that is not El Paso.

Our city and Juárez were always linked. Today, we are intertwined more than ever. The evil that visited us targeted people from El Paso and Juárez alike. In our sorrow, we are more alike than ever.

Some in our community doubt we will be able to change your view of our border community. But it is important to us that we explain all that is good about El Paso.

In El Paso, when a baby in a onesie was covered in blood in an attack on a neighborhood store, a man scooped her up and raced for the exits.

In El Paso, when our neighbors were hurt, people and businesses donated more than \$1 million in just two days to help them.

Our people are scared. Many of us feel our city is still viewed as a target.

But El Paso does not lash out in anger, even when we are treated unfairly.

In El Paso, we won't ever look at someone who is different with prejudice in our hearts.

The hatred that came to us came from an outsider. It did not come from El Paso.

Tim Archuleta is editor of the El Paso Times.

Water-Wise Water Features

By **Rachel Oppedahl, UCCE Master Gardener** / MML / **Jul 29, 2019**

Other than the decorative bowl on my deck railing that I refill with water for the birds each morning, I do not have a single "water feature" on my property — yet. Until recently, the idea of installing a babbling fountain or digging and maintaining a pond in my hot, dry, Sierra Foothills yard seemed unconscionable. What a waste of water in our arid summer landscapes, right?

Well, I've learned that is not necessarily the case. The happy truth is, water features done right can benefit wildlife — and the humans who enjoy both — without wasting water. The trick is twofold. First, design a water feature so that—as much as possible—it recycles its own water,

and is only occasionally replenished by you. Second, do everything you can to minimize evaporation and unnecessary water loss.

Here are the best tips I found:

Design it to minimize splashing and spraying. A large, fast-moving waterfall or a fountain that sprays far into the air wastes a lot of precious water to evaporation. Think trickle as opposed to torrent. In that vein, consider using bubblers or spouts rather than jets to create soothing movement and sound.

Locate it in shade or semi-shade. The rate of evaporation will be lower if your water feature is not situated in full sun. If a sunny spot is your only option, slow down water evaporation by incorporating an overhang to shade a fountain; or for a pond, float aquatic plants, such as lilies, to help reduce sun and heat at the water surface.

Block the breeze. Wind is another force of nature that increases the rate of evaporation, so if you want a water feature in an area that gets a lot of it, consider adding a windbreak. Arrange native shrubs, constructed barriers or even large-scale garden art to protect your water feature from drying winds.

Remember: Deeper is better. Whether you want a pond or a multi-level watercourse, the deeper the water in each “container,” the slower the rate of evaporation. Shallow water heats up and loses water very quickly, especially if located in full sun.

Keep it leak free. A water feature with a leak not only wastes a valuable resource, but also means you have to go to the trouble of refilling it more often. Insist on leak-proof construction and keep an eye on the water level so you can quickly spot unusual water loss.

Let Mother Nature do the cleaning. For a wildlife pond, add plants that act as natural biological filters to keep water clear and eliminate the need to empty it for mechanical cleaning.

Design it for efficient water flow. Take time to decide which product is best for your project. For example, pump size should be appropriate, so it does the job without overdoing it. Or, consider installing a smart design two-fer: a solar-powered pump! Also, remember that moving water evaporates faster than still water. If your feature doesn't contain plant or aquatic life that needs continuous aeration, save water and energy by installing a timer so it runs only when you are there to enjoy it.

Rachel Oppedahl is a University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardener of Tuolumne County.

UCCE Master Gardeners of Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties can answer home gardening questions. Call 209-533-5912 or go to: <http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=7269> to fill out our easy-to-use problem questionnaire. Check out our website at: http://cecentralsierra.ucanr.edu/Master_Gardeners/ You can also find us on Facebook.

For more helpful Master Gardener articles view our [archive here](#) located in the Real Estate Section with other home improvement, home finance and other informative real estate articles [updated weekly here](#).

RCRC – The Barbed Wire – August 2, 2019

[RCRC First Vice Chair Presents at 2nd National Drought Forum](#)

On Tuesday, RCRC First Vice Chair Daron McDaniel (Merced) testified before the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) 2nd National Drought Forum in Washington, D.C. Supervisor McDaniel discussed the California drought of 2012-2016 and its lasting impacts on the local ecosystem, agricultural economy, and the state's groundwater aquifers.

Supervisor McDaniel advocated for a more dynamic approach and focus on environmental and ecosystem management, citing the importance of a coordinated effort amongst all stakeholders. Supervisor McDaniel's presentation can be accessed [here](#).

After the NOAA Forum, Supervisor McDaniel and RCRC staff spent the rest of their time on Capitol Hill advocating on behalf of rural California's water priorities. RCRC met with the offices of Senator Kamala Harris (D-California) and Representatives TJ Cox (D-Kings), Jim Costa (D-Fresno), and Josh Harder (D-Turlock). RCRC staff also met with Governor Gavin Newsom's Washington, D.C. office and Chad Rupe, Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service. RCRC provided policymakers with a rural county perspective on national issues such as water supply and rural broadband.

[Golden State Finance Authority Recognized for \\$725,000 Grant to Victims of 2018 Camp Fire](#)

On Wednesday, representatives from Butte County and the Town of Paradise announced receipt of a \$725,000 grant from RCRC affiliate Golden State Finance Authority to help assist victims of the 2018 Camp Fire at the Paradise Ridge Chamber of Commerce Party-in-the-Park. The \$725,000 grant, comprised of \$250,000 allocated to Butte County and \$475,000 allocated to the Town of Paradise, will be used to fund incentives to residents whom lost their homes and are rebuilding a comparable or replacement resident within unincorporated communities of Butte County or the Town of Paradise. [Read More...](#)

[Wildfire Legislation](#)

This week, Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-California) and Steve Daines (R-Montana) issued a joint statement announcing their bipartisan effort on a legislative proposal to promote the removal of dead, dying, and hazardous trees on federal forest lands.

According to the press release, the bill will support “the removal of woody biomass and dead and dying trees, accelerate post-fire restoration and reforestation, and expedite targeted treatments of dangerously dense forested areas where wildfires are most likely to start.” According to Katie Schoettler, a spokeswoman for Senator Daines, the bill would also address the environmental lawsuits that block or delay logging projects on federal land. Senators Feinstein and Daines plan to introduce their bill after Congress returns from its August recess in September and committed to work with members on both sides of the aisle to pass this legislation.

Highway Bill

This week, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) introduced a transportation bill that would reauthorize critical surface transportation programs and raise federal funding for highway infrastructure by 27 percent. The bill would reauthorize spending for \$287 million from the Highway Trust Fund that would be used for road and bridge maintenance, repair, and construction.

The bill passed the Senate EPW Committee in a markup later in the week, but must also go through the Senate Finance and Commerce Committees before it receives a vote on the Senate Floor. The bill includes \$4.9 billion in funds over five years for programs that improve infrastructure resiliency to natural disasters such as wild fires and other extreme weather events. For more information, a summary from the Senate EPW Committee can be accessed [here](#).

County’s General Plan update enters final stage

The Valley Springs News / August 2, 2019

An update of Calaveras County General Plan moved closer toward reality this week after two days of lengthy hearings before the Board of Supervisors.

The General Plan is required by the state and is a document that provides a long-range vision for development within the county.

This General Plan update has been in the works for nearly 13 years.

The board concluded the Tuesday and Wednesday hearings by tentatively approving modifications they agreed upon during the two-day session and directing staff to bring back the appropriate findings and a resolution to adopt the General Plan amendments at a future meeting. Approval of the motion was unanimous.

When Board Chairman Jack Garamendi asked Planning Director Peter Maurer how soon the final documents would be ready for approval, he responded, “As soon as we possibly can.”

The board's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 13.

Approval of the General Plan update is moving forward without the inclusion of some community plans.

The board agreed the inclusion of community plans for Copperopolis and Valley Springs should be the highest priorities.

Waiting completion of all the community plans would be a bad idea, Garamendi said, as the update needs to move forward.

"Progress trumps perfection in this case," he said.

Video of the hearings can be viewed at the Board of Supervisors website, <http://bos.calaverasgov.us//>.

School district saves \$1.8 million with bond refinancing

The Valley Springs News / August 2, 2019

The Calaveras Unified School District is refinancing bonds that will save local taxpayers more than \$1.8 million.

Dale Scott & Co. served as CUSD's financial advisor to help the district refinance the bonds and take advantage of lower interest rates.

"We remain committed to the attentive stewardship of taxpayers funds while providing our students with a safe, positive and fulfilling educational environment," said Dennis Dunnigan, CUSD Board of Trustees president. "Local taxpayers have demonstrated their support of the district, and we are doing everything we can to make good on their investment in the future of our students."

CUSD refinanced \$10,485,000 of general obligation bonds resulting in total taxpayer savings of \$1,822,240. This represents a 12 percent reduction in payments. The refinancing comprised general obligation bonds approved by voters in 1997 and 2006.

"We closely monitored the interest rate market and took action to maximize savings for our district residents," said Mark Campbell, CUSD superintendent. "It's money back in the pockets of the taxpayers and we're really happy that this worked out in this manner."

The savings from refinancing the bonds will be reflected in lower property tax rates to the community. Most of the savings will occur in fiscal years 2022-2027, with an estimated reduction in tax rates of approximately \$9 per \$100,000 of assessed value per year during this period.

“CUSD has taken a proactive approach to debt management, which is a benefit to local taxpayers,” said Mark Farrell, DS&C senior financial advisor. “The district’s refinancing of bonds came at an opportune time to maximize taxpayer savings.”

Survey Hopes To Raise Awareness Of Fire Insurance Purchasing Woes

[By Tori James](#) / MML / Aug 2, 2019

Sonora, CA – Mother Lode realtors are asking for the public’s help to provide specific data proving there is a spreading epidemic affecting homeowners in the state’s highest wildfire hazard areas.

As [reported here](#), back in May, Tuolumne County Association of Realtors (TCAR) officials reported a troubling trend of local insurance policy cancellations or non-renewals — and tripled premium rates for those seeking new policies from insurance companies willing to cover high-risk properties for elevated prices.

On Friday, TCAR President Judy Austin confided to Clarke Broadcasting that her group has prepared a survey to gather hard data to help determine how many homeowners are being affected and how.

“Every day people are getting canceled, non-renewals. They are forced into being in the Fair Plan [with the State of California]. The higher up areas...say Mi Wuk...it is very difficult to find anybody to write [an insurance policy],” she maintained. “All the smaller companies are pulling out. We do have other companies that are coming in, but it’s very expensive.”

Taking A By The Numbers Approach

Increasingly, she noted, homeowners are having to get onto the Fair Plan to cover their home in the event of a wildfire, then purchase other policies to completely cover their residence. “If someone was paying \$800 to cover a 2,000-square foot house and now it’s \$3,000, we want to see and show the percentage of increase and we want to know how many companies that homeowners have gone through,” she continued. “We encourage all homeowners to take this survey because the more data we can collect, the better it is and the better our case to get some help up here,” she emphasized.

At the California Association of Realtors meetings back in June, Austin and the TCAR delegation took anecdotal stories they collected, which made it to Governor Gavin Newsom's desk. She hopes that the personal experiences, combined with data quantifying what is happening will further raise awareness.

“This affects homeownership so much — we are trying to be in front of it and bring that awareness to our state,” Austin stated. She said she found it interesting that the Insurance Commissioner's position is that local insurance prices were suppressed for a long time and now are catching up. “We are the only area getting our insurance policies canceled or tripled. It's not happening in the Bay Area,” she points out.

The surveys can be taken anonymously and there is also an option for home insurance buyers to go on record to share their experiences. Once the numbers are in and crunched, Austin hopes the state can come up with a better solution than the Fair Plan. “What our situation is now – it's not good – people can't buy houses because the insurance is too much.”

To take the survey, [click here](#).

Tuolumne County Considering Development And Parcel Fees To Fund Fire Protection

By [B.J. Hansen](#) / MML / Aug 5, 2019

Sonora, CA — Facing a short and long term deficit to fund fire protection, the Tuolumne County Supervisors will discuss new ways to increase revenue.

[We reported in June](#) that the county is facing financial challenges when it comes to fire protection due to things like increasing service costs and a decline in volunteer members. So, the county is looking to restructure how it provides services.

At Tuesday's meeting the board will give staff direction, during a brainstorming session, on various ways to increase revenue.

For example, staff is recommending the implementation of a development impact fee to offset the cost of providing fire services to future homes and businesses. A similar fee was recently implemented in parts of Calaveras County. Using the Calaveras fee structure as an example, Tuolumne County estimates that it would have brought \$189,236 in 2018 based on the 65 single family homes built, 18 mobile homes and five commercial structures.

Other revenue options to be discussed include a business license fee and correlating required annual fire code, and life-safety inspection, per business license. There will also be talk about a false fire alarm fee, first responder fee, a fee to respond to residential care facilities, and a fee

attached to a visitor's hotel and RV reservations. Related to the latter, the county estimates there are 900 hotel rooms, and an average occupancy rate of 60-percent, would bring in \$197,000 per year if there is a \$1 public safety fee. If the fee is increased to \$5, it could bring \$985,000 annually.

Another option to be discussed is a fire parcel tax, which would require a 2/3 vote of the public, and could range anywhere from \$75-130 per parcel, annually.

The various options will be reviewed at Tuesday's meeting which starts at 9am in the board meeting room.

All-Mailed Ballots With Vote Centers Coming In Time For 2020 Elections

[By **Tori James**](#) / MML / **Aug 5, 2019**

San Andreas, CA – Calaveras officials are announcing that they too are working to adopt plans already in the works by other counties for adopting a new voting process.

On Monday, the Calaveras Registrar of Voters stated the county would opt, as Tuolumne and Amador counties had previously decided, to adopt the Voter's Choice Act Election Model in time for the 2020 elections.

Back in 2002 state law was amended, allowing voters to permanently register as voters by mail (VBM); since then the number of VBM voters in Calaveras County has steadily grown to now encompass nearly three-quarters of its registered voters.

The 2016 passing of the Voters Choice Act (SB 450), authorized all counties to conduct any election by an all-mailed ballot with vote centers, beginning next year. Last year, the process was successfully established in five pilot counties, Sacramento, Madera, Napa, Nevada, and San Mateo.

A year after SB 450 became law, the Calaveras County Registrar of Voters established a combined Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) and a Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC) to provide critical feedback election administration, which it will continue to do.

For more details on the EAP and joining the VAAC/LAAC, [click here](#).

Board approves General Plan update for adoption

Public speaks out against elimination of community plan for Valley Springs, among others

[By Davis Harper davis@calaverasenterprise.com](mailto:davis@calaverasenterprise.com) / August 8, 2019

After two days of public hearings, the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve its long-anticipated General Plan update on July 31. The plan is a long-term blueprint meant to reflect the community's vision for growth over the next 20 years, and it hasn't been updated since 1996.

One of the most contentious issues to arise was the board's decision to exclude existing community plans for Arnold, Avery/Hathaway Pines, Ebbetts Pass, Murphys/Douglas Flat and Valley Springs.

Community plans are meant to identify characteristics of individual communities and provide policies to support and assist development and preservation of their social, economic, environmental and historic assets.

In January of 2014, county supervisors directed staff to exclude community plans from the General Plan update due to "concerns about the length of time needed to ensure consistency and outstanding controversy on some of the plans," the Community Planning Element narrative reads.

Under the updated General Plan, 14 of the county's 24 designated "community areas" do not have community plans, despite various planning efforts undertaken over the past 12 years to produce them.

District 3 Supervisor Merita Callaway said that policies and visions laid out in community plans along the Highway 4 corridor are covered in the General Plan update. She said she spent seven years working on Arnold's community plan and another seven years for Hathaway Pines.

"If I felt that those plans had components in it that were critical to those communities that were not in the updated General Plan, I'd have an entirely different feeling," Callaway said, with reference to bike and walking paths, community centers, retention of community character, mixed-use zoning and provisions to prohibit building large commercial developments like strip malls.

She also voiced support for staff to prioritize adoption of community plans in Copperopolis and Valley Springs, where community plan efforts have already been undertaken over the past 12 years.

In the public seating section in board chambers, members of the Calaveras Planning Coalition (CPC) held up photos of county residents that signed petition forms to include community plans in the update as speakers listed their names to supervisors.

According to Valley Springs resident and CPC member Muriel Zeller, a \$255,000 community plan for Valley Springs that was completed in 2009 through an “unprecedented public outreach and participation” process should have been included in the General Plan update. Funded by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and administered by the Calaveras Council of Governments (CCOG) in partnership with MyValleySprings.com, the initiative began in 2007 as a response to planning staff encouraging county residents to draft community plans, Zeller told supervisors.

The plan included many unique community policies, according to Colleen Platt of MyValleySprings.com. Some of those included “creating greenway and park spaces for recreational and trail use utilizing the Cosgrove Creek and Spring Valley Creek riparian corridors, wetlands, and flood areas; limiting development on steep hillsides to the north and west of the historic Valley Springs settlement to protect natural resources and scenic views that frame the area; and preserving, revitalizing and extending the area’s unique gridded street system and historical buildings.”

Another plan for the region was subsequently developed by a small ad hoc committee formed by District 1 Supervisor Gary Tofanelli.

An Enterprise report in 2010 called the sequence of planning meetings the “Valley Springs plan battle,” as it divided community members that, on one end, felt their property rights were being taken away.

“CCOG and myvalley-springs.com were accused of trying to force an agenda of high-density, clustered living onto the west end of the county,” the article indicated.

The two plans were combined into one draft in 2017, but none of it was included in the most recent General Plan update.

“You told us community plans would be cost prohibitive,” Zeller said in the meeting. “Now you tell us community plans will be added later. Forgive me if I don’t believe you ... You have wasted time and money. Forgive me if I have lost faith in you.”

Platt echoed Zeller’s sentiment in an Aug. 8 email.

“With the elimination of the Valley Springs Community Plan, area residents and businesses lose their community voice and their say in local growth and development,” she said.

In the meeting, Tofanelli said that the combination of the two aforementioned Valley Springs plans had verbiage inconsistencies that would need to be fixed before adopting into the General Plan. Tofanelli could not be reached for further comment.

Ben Stopper, the supervisor for District 5, said a portion of Valley Springs falls within his district, and that adopting a community plan for the area is a high priority of his.

District 4 Supervisor Dennis Mills said Copperopolis is in “desperate need” of a new community plan, noting the area’s deficiencies in parks, lake access and services.

He added that past attempts at plans would need to be replaced to account for changes that have since occurred. Some factors that would “change the dynamic of the boundaries,” according to Mills, include the loss of Oak Canyon Ranch, the addition of Sanguinetti – now Copper Valley developments, Tuscany Hills, DeNova Homes, La Cobre Mina and an infill development project on the corner of O’byrnes Ferry and Connor Estates.

Mills could not be reached for further comment.

District 2 Supervisor Jack Garamendi said that while he thinks “waiting on community plans is a very bad idea,” moving the General Plan forward is “really vital to the future of our county.” He added that all community plans in District 2 are still included in the update.

“I recognize it’s not perfect,” he said. “I think it’s better ... to move forward a little bit and let progress trump perfection in this case. I support (supervisors) in bringing their community plans to the planning department and I know they will do a good job in representing their communities.”

The General Plan should be refreshed on a regular basis to ensure future boards won’t have to face an “out-of-date document in need of such massive revisions again,” according to Garamendi. By law, the plan can be updated up to four times per year.

Planning Director Peter Maurer told the Enterprise Tuesday that the planning department is working on the findings and hopes to bring them back to the board in early September for final adoption.

County auditor-controller stepping down due to insufficient pay, heavy workload

[By Davis Harper](#) / Calaveras Enterprise / Aug 5, 2019

Calaveras County Auditor-Controller Rebecca Callen is leaving her post to take a job as a Save Mart accountant in Modesto.

“I have immensely enjoyed my time here as an employee and a public servant and I am so grateful to the board, employees and the constituents for supporting me for almost 13 years,” Callen wrote in a July 29 resignation letter. “I am so proud of the work that my staff and I have done here and I know that most of those accomplishments will continue to support the county long after I am gone.”

After serving as auditor-controller for two four-year terms, Callen took almost 99% of the votes in the 2018 primary election for the position.

In an Aug. 2 phone interview, Callen told the Enterprise that she’s leaving for a few reasons. She and other elected department heads are compensated around 30% to 40% of the rate of those positions in other jurisdictions, and since she took office, supervisors have been hesitant to grant increases, Callen said.

Callen, along with other elected department heads, currently makes \$53.79 per hour.

“We are working department heads,” Callen said, with reference to the County Assessor, Auditor/Controller, Treasurer/Tax Collector and Clerk Recorder, which are all elected positions. “We have daily responsibilities that are in the weeds ... There are a lot of requirements to do these jobs and not enough staff to (handle the workload) ... If the board had done something to acknowledge the growth and equity and compensation of all the elected (department heads) and making that better, I think that I probably would not have been looking (outside of the county for work). As much as I love being a public official, I have to consider my future, my retirement benefits and my family.”

Additionally, Callen said she’s had to take on a heavier load than an auditor-controller normally would due to the rapid turnover rate of county officials. She added that some non-elected department heads in the county have less responsibilities but are earning more.

“I think over the years I’ve had to assume a lot more responsibility than what the role of auditor-controller is supposed to be handling,” Callen said, with reference to her oversight on the county budget process, the Office of Emergency Services and the overall administration of the county. “I’m just burnt out.”

Callen will remain a resident of the county, and is “excited to just be a voter and taxpayer, and enjoy what Calaveras County has to offer. I’m ready to make a move, and this is a great opportunity for me and my career,” she said.

In an Aug. 5 phone interview, District 3 Supervisor Merita Callaway called Callen’s resignation “a loss for the county, in that she is very professional.”

“She didn’t let any department get away with anything, but at the same time, if there was a creative way to help pay for something, she would help them find it,” Callaway said. “Her loyalty was definitely to the taxpayers and the accounting system of the State of California. She educated us on it, and she was very good at explaining why something had to be the way it was. She also understood the goals of departments and she always walked a fine line between what we

legally had to do, and tried to help us find a way to provide a service. I'm going to miss working with her."

Callaway said salary increases for elected officials are always controversial, but sometimes that's something a board has to take up.

"Sometimes we have to do what's equitable ... what's correct, but what might not be politically popular," Callaway said.

The last day on the job for Callen will be Sept. 1, 2019.

Callen has recommended that county supervisors appoint Kathy Gomes, the current deputy auditor-controller to fill the position for the remainder of the term through 2022.

Crime is dropping statewide, but what about the Mother Lode?

By [Dakota Morlan dakota@calaverasenterprise.com](mailto:dakota@calaverasenterprise.com) / Aug 3, 2019

Crime is in decline in California, according to statistics released this month by the attorney general. Most violent and property crimes decreased last year, continuing a trend spanning the past decade. In the Mother Lode, however, the data shows a relatively steady ebb and flow of most offenses, with some county-specific exceptions.

Statewide, rape was the only violent crime to see an increase last year. Between 2009 and 2018, the number of reported cases rose by 78%. In a recent Sacramento Bee article analyzing crime trends, experts pointed to the expansion of the legal definition of rape in 2013 as a likely cause for the dramatic shift.

In Calaveras County, where the population has hovered around 45,000 for the past decade, 27 rapes were reported last year, showing a 69% increase since 2009. Tuolumne County, with a population of 54,539 citizens, saw a 140% increase, with 60 incidents reported last year. In Amador County, population 39,383, rates have remained fairly stable, averaging eight reported incidents per year since 2009.

According to Calaveras County District Attorney Barbara Yook, the increase in reported rape in many counties may be a positive sign of more victims choosing to press charges.

"With sex crimes, it's often very common that victims aren't able to come forward for years," Yook told the Enterprise. "People are more willing to report, and I think that's a good thing. People are believing that they will be heard and believed."

Calaveras County Sheriff Rick DiBasilio agreed that increased reports of older incidents may be “skewing statistics.”

Contrary to statewide trends, aggravated assault is also on the rise in Calaveras County, with 154 cases reported last year. Between 2015 and 2016, reported incidents increased by 47% and have remained relatively high in recent years. Rates in Tuolumne and Amador, however, have remained fairly steady, with those counties averaging 93 and 85 cases per year, respectively.

Although similar spikes in aggravated assault have occurred within the last 30 years in Calaveras County, both Yook and DiBasilio point to activities surrounding the commercial marijuana urgency ordinance of 2016 as a probable factor in more recent incidences of violent crime.

“During the 2015-2016 time period, as far as homicides and robberies and assaults, that’s absolutely what we saw. With what the county did, with the influx of marijuana, I’m not surprised to see that (increase) at all,” Yook said. “You’ve got this influx of population and a lot of different, new elements occurring. We knew that this was very likely, and then it happened.”

According to DiBasilio, whose department has raided 158 illegal grows since 2016, reports of robberies associated with marijuana activity have seen an uptick in recent years.

Nonetheless, the sheriff maintains that most crime in the county has dropped, including drug offenses.

“Overall, (Calaveras County) is still the safest place to live in California, as far as I’m concerned,” DiBasilio said.

Last year, the county saw two murders, maintaining its annual average within the past decade. Murder rates in Tuolumne and Amador counties have remained similarly low.

In Calaveras County, arson offenses have fallen to zero over the past four years, showing a staggering decline from the previous century, when 97 incidents were reported in 1986 alone.

The unusually sharp drop shown by the state-collected data prompted both DiBasilio and Yook to remind citizens to be mindful of potential inaccuracies and inconsistencies within statistics.

“So many varying factors go along with statistics. ... I don’t think they’re as accurate as a lot of people think they are, ” DiBasilio said. “(They) don’t have all the info. If we have something that occurs today and enter it as arson, down the road, we may deem it not an arson after an investigation. ... We didn’t have an arson investigator in 1986, so where did they get those statistics?”

Yook added that the sample size in Calaveras County may be “too small” to produce reliable statistics for crimes like arson, which are typically reported to the Department of Justice by the Sheriff’s Office and the Angels Camp Police Department.

California Planning To Create Legal Fund To Help Fight Eviction

[By B.J. Hansen](#) / MML / Aug 8, 2019

Sacramento, CA — We reported earlier that the California Supreme ruled that around \$331-million was improperly spent from a settlement agreement paid to the state by large banks and lenders in 2012.

The funds were supposed to help those impacted by the mortgage crisis, but instead were used to help balance the state budget and pay off housing bonds. The actions were taken during the administration of former Governor Jerry Brown.

Governor Gavin Newsom is now proposing to spend the \$331-million on a program to help provide legal aid for homeowners and renters who are being foreclosed or evicted.

Newsom says, “Families facing eviction and foreclosure should know their rights and have legal advocates who can fight on their behalf – especially at this moment when Californians are grappling with sky-high rents and huge housing costs.”

Newsom still needs approval from both the Senate and Assembly.

Senate Republican leader Sharon Grove of Bakersfield has released a statement reading, “Senate Republicans have been advocating to return these funds to help struggling homeowners since 2015. Unfortunately, it took mounting pressure and the California Supreme Court weighing in, before the governor relented and did the right thing. Senate Republicans will continue to monitor the situation to ensure these funds are directed to their intended purposes.”

Teaming Up To Tackle Forest Resiliency

[By Tracey Petersen](#) / MML / Aug 8, 2019

Tuolumne County, CA — Sierra and Stanislaus National forests want to hear from the public regarding forest resiliency.

Forest officials will host two public engagement sessions on the same day next week at separate locations. Moving Toward Resiliency within the Mokelumne to Kings Landscape project, also known as MOTOR M2K, is a vegetation management project that forest officials say will help move both forests further toward becoming more resilient ecosystems.

“This is the first large landscape project in the California region,” said Jason Kuiken, Stanislaus National Forest Supervisor. “Both the Sierra and the Stanislaus need to become more resilient, but it’s a big project – one that needs a large footprint to be effective and efficient.”

As forests’ landscapes continue to be greatly modified by fire, insects, disease and drought — leaving a less healthy and less resilient system – forest officials say the project’s goal is to change the trajectory.

Kuiken adds, “That’s why we’re designing a new way of restoring the balance of prescribed fire and other treatments on the landscape. To do so, we need each participant to bring their education, experience and capacity to this project. The challenges before us are many, but with our collective dedication, we believe we can overcome those challenges.”

Board approves General Plan update for adoption

Public speaks out against elimination of community plan for Valley Springs, among others

By Davis Harper davis@calaverasenterprise.com

Aug 8, 2019 Updated 3 hrs ago

After two days of public hearings, the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve its long-anticipated General Plan update on July 31. The plan is a long-term blueprint meant to reflect the community’s vision for growth over the next 20 years, and it hasn’t been updated since 1996.

One of the most contentious issues to arise was the board’s decision to exclude existing community plans for Arnold, Avery/Hathaway Pines, Ebbetts Pass, Murphys/Douglas Flat and Valley Springs.

Community plans are meant to identify characteristics of individual communities and provide policies to support and assist development and preservation of their social, economic, environmental and historic assets.

In January of 2014, county supervisors directed staff to exclude community plans from the General Plan update due to “concerns about the length of time needed to ensure consistency and outstanding controversy on some of the plans,” the Community Planning Element narrative reads.

Under the updated General Plan, 14 of the county’s 24 designated “community areas” do not have community plans, despite various planning efforts undertaken over the past 12 years to produce them.

District 3 Supervisor Merita Callaway said that policies and visions laid out in community plans along the Highway 4 corridor are covered in the General Plan update. She said she spent seven years working on Arnold’s community plan and another seven years for Hathaway Pines.

“If I felt that those plans had components in it that were critical to those communities that were not in the updated General Plan, I’d have an entirely different feeling,” Callaway said, with reference to bike and walking paths, community centers, retention of community character, mixed-use zoning and provisions to prohibit building large commercial developments like strip malls.

She also voiced support for staff to prioritize adoption of community plans in Copperopolis and Valley Springs, where community plan efforts have already been undertaken over the past 12 years.

In the public seating section in board chambers, members of the Calaveras Planning Coalition (CPC) held up photos of county residents that signed petition forms to include community plans in the update as speakers listed their names to supervisors.

According to Valley Springs resident and CPC member Muriel Zeller, a \$255,000 community plan for Valley Springs that was completed in 2009 through an “unprecedented public outreach and participation” process should have been included in the General Plan update. Funded by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and administered by the Calaveras Council of Governments (CCOG) in partnership with MyValleySprings.com, the initiative began in 2007

as a response to planning staff encouraging county residents to draft community plans, Zeller told supervisors.

The plan included many unique community policies, according to Colleen Platt of MyValleySprings.com. Some of those included “creating greenway and park spaces for recreational and trail use utilizing the Cosgrove Creek and Spring Valley Creek riparian corridors, wetlands, and flood areas; limiting development on steep hillsides to the north and west of the historic Valley Springs settlement to protect natural resources and scenic views that frame the area; and preserving, revitalizing and extending the area’s unique gridded street system and historical buildings.”

Another plan for the region was subsequently developed by a small ad hoc committee formed by District 1 Supervisor Gary Tofanelli.

An Enterprise report in 2010 called the sequence of planning meetings the “Valley Springs plan battle,” as it divided community members that, on one end, felt their property rights were being taken away.

“CCOG and myvalley-springs.com were accused of trying to force an agenda of high-density, clustered living onto the west end of the county,” the article indicated.

The two plans were combined into one draft in 2017, but none of it was included in the most recent General Plan update.

“You told us community plans would be cost prohibitive,” Zeller said in the meeting. “Now you tell us community plans will be added later. Forgive me if I don’t believe you ... You have wasted time and money. Forgive me if I have lost faith in you.”

Platt echoed Zeller’s sentiment in an Aug. 8 email.

“With the elimination of the Valley Springs Community Plan, area residents and businesses lose their community voice and their say in local growth and development,” she said.

In the meeting, Tofanelli said that the combination of the two aforementioned Valley Springs plans had verbiage inconsistencies that would need to be fixed before adopting into the General Plan. Tofanelli could not be reached for further comment.

Ben Stopper, the supervisor for District 5, said a portion of Valley Springs falls within his district, and that adopting a community plan for the area is a high priority of his.

District 4 Supervisor Dennis Mills said Copperopolis is in “desperate need” of a new community plan, noting the area’s deficiencies in parks, lake access and services.

He added that past attempts at plans would need to be replaced to account for changes that have since occurred. Some factors that would “change the dynamic of the boundaries,” according to Mills, include the loss of Oak Canyon Ranch, the addition of Sanguinetti – now Copper Valley developments, Tuscany Hills, DeNova Homes, La Cobre Mina and an infill development project on the corner of O’byrnes Ferry and Connor Estates.

Mills could not be reached for further comment.

District 2 Supervisor Jack Garamendi said that while he thinks “waiting on community plans is a very bad idea,” moving the General Plan forward is “really vital to the future of our county.” He added that all community plans in District 2 are still included in the update.

“I recognize it’s not perfect,” he said. “I think it’s better ... to move forward a little bit and let progress trump perfection in this case. I support (supervisors) in bringing their community plans to the planning department and I know they will do a good job in representing their communities.”

The General Plan should be refreshed on a regular basis to ensure future boards won’t have to face an “out-of-date document in need of such massive revisions again,” according to Garamendi. By law, the plan can be updated up to four times per year.

Planning Director Peter Maurer told the Enterprise Tuesday that the planning department is working on the findings and hopes to bring them back to the board in early September for final adoption.

http://www.calaverasenterprise.com/community/article_11489844-b966-11e9-be8d-4b566a6c5b9b.html

Board of Supervisors Completes General Plan Update Hearing & Prepares to Rescind Community Plans

San Andreas, CA...On July 31, the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors unanimously directed staff to prepare the paperwork needed for the Board to adopt the updated General Plan. The Board's direction concluded a two-day review of the General Plan's ten elements. The updated General Plan will rescind the existing community plans for Arnold, Avery/Hathaway Pines, Murphys/Douglas Flat, and Valley Springs. Fourteen of the county's 24 Community Areas do not have community plans in the updated General Plan.



Unfortunately, the General Plan adoption hearing was characterized by a lack of responsiveness to both public and Supervisor concerns. Public comment was limited to three minutes on each element, which forced speakers to condense and, consequently, minimize multiple complex land use and public policy issues. Tom Infusino, Facilitator of the Calaveras Planning Coalition (CPC), expressed his exasperation with the two days of special meetings. "They were paced and conducted more like a calf-roping than a public hearing," he said.

The three minute time limit even jeopardized individual property rights, as Dianne Kindermann, an attorney representing a local landowner, was cut off in mid-speech. There were also many items of concern to District Four Supervisor Dennis Mills, but they were only discussed in detail if two other supervisors agreed. In this fashion, the genuine concerns of people regarding a plan that will affect the county for decades were rapidly roped, tied, and left in the dust.

The gallop through the plan was led by District Two Supervisor Jack Garamendi, Chairman of the Board, who indicated during his July 30 introductory remarks that he wanted to move forward with the General Plan Update as quickly as possible, favoring progress over perfection. Throughout the hearing when other supervisors identified complex problems with the plan that would take time for discussion, Garamendi encouraged them to move on, reminding them that the Board would have the opportunity to amend the plan four times a year.

On the occasions when actual policy debate was allowed, a couple of positive changes were made to the plan. The Land Use Element was modified to ensure that all new Specific Plan developments will include public access to recreational assets, open space, a diverse range of housing types, and measures to protect biological and cultural resources. The Circulation Element was changed to maintain free flowing traffic along Highways 4 and 49.

During discussion of the Resource Production Element, Infusino implored the supervisors to correct the damage done by the Planning Commission to the measures to mitigate impacts to agricultural land, streamside zones, oak woodlands, and sensitive species habitat. He warned that letting some development projects destroy habitat without mitigation, when combined with the effects of climate change, would result in rapidly pushing local sensitive species populations to the brink of extirpation. This could result in a federal injunction on development. This would prevent other development project proponents from exercising their property rights. He exclaimed, "If you don't restore the mitigation proposed by your experts, you won't be protecting the environment or property rights."

The CPC, which believes public participation is critical to a successful planning process, was well represented at the hearing. United behind eleven land use and development principles, CPC members seek to balance the preservation of local agricultural, natural, and historic resources with the need to provide jobs, housing, safety, and services.

The hearing concluded Wednesday with a discussion of the Community Plans that were being eliminated by the Board. Members of the CPC read long lists of names of people from multiple communities who signed petitions asking for the retention of the community plans. CPC members held up pictures of some of those people that were captioned with requests like "Plan for Arnold," "Plan for Murphys," and "Plan for Copper."

Muriel Zeller of the CPC reminded supervisors that in 2007, the public was told "to go forth and plan, and we did." She said Valley Springs has an updated "\$250,000 Community Plan that included unprecedented public outreach and participation." She spoke of her deep disappointment in the

County's failure to keep its promise and adopt that plan. "Forgive me if I have lost faith in you," she said.

Colleen Platt of MyValleySprings.com said communities had trusted that their community plans would be included in the General Plan Update. She said the Board had betrayed that trust. She encouraged the Board, "To find the backbone and will... to include all Community Plans in the General Plan." CPC member Marti Crane asked the Board to fix the updated General Plan in order to deliver the "accountability, commitment, and transparency" asked for by the people.

Also left out of the updated General Plan is a Community Plan for Copperopolis. Ralph Copeland, another CPC member, proclaimed, "The people of Copperopolis have worked hard enough. The people of Copperopolis have waited long enough. Now is the time to include the 2013 Copperopolis Community Plan in the General Plan Update." He concluded, "The community plan is our voice. Please don't try to silence our voice."

Clearly touched by the public comments, District Three Supervisor Merita Callaway nevertheless agreed to the elimination of the community plans in her district, but also designated the communities of Copperopolis and Valley Springs as the priorities for later inclusion in the General Plan.

Mills acknowledged that a new Community Plan was desperately needed for Copperopolis, because the community was deficient in parks, lake access, and services. He recognized that the plans prepared for Copperopolis in 2005 and 2013 had useful components, but he concluded that yet another plan would have to be drafted before he would consider adopting a Community Plan for Copperopolis.

District One Supervisor Gary Tofanelli struggled for words as he inquired of Planning Director Peter Maurer about the process for yet again updating the Valley Springs Community Plan and securing its environmental review. This would mark the fourth attempt, as two community plan updates were drafted in 2010, and a compromise blending of those plans was completed in 2017.

In fact, Maurer had recommended adoption of a Valley Springs Community Plan in January of 2017. However, Tofanelli had the item removed from the Planning Commission agenda. The Commission did nothing in the ensuing 30 months to advance the plan toward adoption even though during that time the Commission cancelled ten regular meetings for lack of agenda items.

While Board members and staff claimed that adopting plans for Valley Springs and Copperopolis would be a "priority," they again refused to provide a timeline for adoption. This is in contrast to their other "priority," completion of the state-mandated greenhouse gas reduction plan. For that priority they set 2022 as the deadline for completion.

General Plan to be adopted without Community Plans for priority areas

Muriel Zeller / Take A Lode Off / Calaveras Enterprise / August 8, 2019

There are 24 community areas identified in the Community Planning Element of the updated General Plan unanimously accepted by the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors on July 31 as ready for adoption. Fourteen of those community areas do not have community plans, including Copperopolis and Valley Springs, the two communities most likely to grow and develop and, hence, the two communities most in need of planning. I have lived in Valley Springs for 33 years. It is my home.

During the July 31 hearing, supervisors told us that Valley Springs and Copperopolis are their planning priorities. I don't know whether to laugh or cry, because that's the same thing supervisors said when the General Plan update began 12 years ago. To make matters worse, supervisors abandoned an Administrative Draft General Plan in 2011 that cost over \$900,000. Yes, we had a nearly complete General Plan eight years ago that was to have included 16 new or updated community plans. They have wasted our time and our money. I have lost faith in county government.

In 2007, Calaveras County planning staff gave the citizens of this county a gift when they passed out copies of the smart growth Ahwahnee Principles at the first General Plan workshops when the update was in its infancy. Our supervisors told us to go forth and plan and gave us the tools to do it. We embraced smart growth and applied it to our communities.

In Valley Springs, MyValleySprings.com, a nonprofit organization, spearheaded the community planning effort, which eventually produced a state-of-the-art \$25,000 community plan in October 2010. The project included unprecedented public outreach and participation and was led by the Calaveras Council of Governments (COG). The Calaveras County Community Development Department (now separated into Planning and Building) was a project partner.

The resulting pplan sits gathering dust, because District 1 Supervisor Gary Tofanelli did not endorse it in his first term as supervisor from 2009-2013, and he has not endorsed it since his re-election in 2017 to the present. Cliff Edson, the District 1 supervisor in the interim, did nothing to advance the plan either. Neertheless, Gary Tofanelli is the single biggest reason that Valley Springs does not have a community plan.

Bill Claudino, District 1 supervisor when the community plan effort began, provided a letter of support for the successful Caltrans grant application that funded the COG-led Valley Springs Community Plan project., and I was on the board of directors of MyValleySprings.com at the time, and I remain a supporter. (I co-wrote the Caltrans grant application, and I was on the board of directors of MyValleySprings.com at the time, and I remain a supporter.)

The process that produced the Valley Springs COG plan is similar to that used to produce the updated General Plan and, not unlike the General Plan, there was controversy. One of the biggest objections to the COG plan was the map. Many Rancho Calaveras residents didn't want to be included in the community plan boundaries, but the public process worked as it was intended. Rancho Calaveras was removed.

There were eccentric claims of an Agenda 21 conspiracy to promote smart growth principles and undermine property rights. Since that time, smart growth has become a widely accepted mainstream planning concept. Even the supervisor-approved General Plan has embraced rural smart growth by promoting community-centered development that maximizes infrastructure and preserves open space. It isn't conspiratorial, it's just smart.

Perhaps most controversial was the other Valley Springs community plan submitted to the county by a Citizens' Committee formed by Supervisor Tofanelli. His committee wrote their plan in a vacuum with negligible public participation and submitted it to the county in September 2010. Two of the committee members have moved out of the county, one is deceased, and one lives in Copperopolis.

Further objections to the COG plan map came from the Citizens' Committee, because they wanted to preserve the 1974 boundaries. They didn't want Gold Creek or La Contenta to be considered part of Valley Springs. On June 1, 2010, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion made by Supervisor Tofanelli to insert the Citizens' Committee map into the updated General Plan as the preferred land-use map and to make the map from the COG plan an alternative.

Supervisor Tofanelli likes to claim, as he did once again on July 31, that the Board of Supervisors voted to make the Citizens' Committee plan the preferred plan, which is simply not true. As board minutes make clear, "Motion made to have the May 27, 2010, map (Citizens' Committee map) as the preferred map and the COG map as the alternate map. Approval; Majority." A map is not a plan.

However, Tofanelli's insistence is moot, because nothing made it into the updated General Plan – not the committee map, not the COG map, and certainly not any kind of community plan. The updated General Plan land-use map for Valley Springs Community Area now includes

both Gold Creek and La Contenta and resembles the COG plan map much more closely than the Citizens' Committee map.

Back in 2007, county officials told us to get our community plans done as quickly as possible so they could be included in the General Plan environmental impact report (EIR). They explained that adding the community plans "later" as General Plan amendments would be cost prohibitive, because each plan would require its own environmental review, perhaps its own EIR.

Yet, on July 31, we were told it won't be cost prohibitive to add the community plans to the General Plan "later." Planning Director Peter Maurer said it could probably be done with a mere addendum to the General Plan EIR, which doesn't even require public review. Even though I'm pretty sure that's what Supervisor Tofanelli wanted to hear, it's highly unlikely that an addendum will be adequate for the Valley Springs Community Plan.

You need to understand that "an area or community plan may provide greater detail regarding policies affecting development in a defined area (General Plan Guidelines, page 24)." In other words, a community plan may be more restrictive than the General Plan, because it is intended to address the specific challenges and opportunities of the community in greater detail than the General Plan. If all that's required for a community plan is an addendum then it won't be much of a plan.

Please go to the MyValleySprings.com website and read the completed COG Community Plan. Click on "Planning," then "Community Planning" and scroll down to "Final Draft Valley Springs 'Community Consensus' Plan." Why would we want to spend more time and more money on community planning for Valley Springs when we already have a finished plan that cost \$250,000?

No doubt the 2010 COG plan needs some updates and revisions, but the heavy lifting is done. Just read the executive summary. It gives a good overview. If you like what you see, dig a little deeper. And please contact Supervisor Tofanelli and Supervisor Ben Stopper (because part of the Valley Springs planning area is in District 5). Let them know you support this plan. Let them know a community plan for Valley Springs really is a priority.

Muriel Zeller is a member of the Calaveras Community Action Project (CAP) Governing Committee and the Calaveras Planning Coalition (CPC). CAP administers the CPC, which has been advocating for sustainable land-use planning since 2006.
