

Good Morning Director Elliott:

My husband and I have been Copperopolis (Copper) residents for twenty three years. We have lived in the country for most of our adult lives. We fell in love with Copper when we decided to relocate to the foothills where we could have a small ranch (42 acres).

I have reviewed both community plans; one drafted by citizens of Copper that was sent to the Planning Department in September 2022 and the County Community Plan which was released at the community workshop in May 2023. We support the many positive aspirations for the Copperopolis community expressed in the vision, goals and policies in the draft community plan.

However, when possible, we would request the County link the positive aspirations in the community plan policies to actual implementation measures already approved by the Board of Supervisors in the 2019 General Plan Update. This will help make the aspirations become a reality.

Additionally, we would ask that evasive terms like "encourage" and "support" be exchanged for verbs that commit the County to achieve the plan's positive aspirations like "ensure", "employ", "apply", "complete", "require" and "secure". Again, this will help to make the aspirations become a reality.

Further, we would like the community plan to reference the keeping of a small-town atmosphere which is why people live here. The term small-town was replaced with "rural" which is not in keeping with the intended meaning and use. Rural could denote rather large towns; e.g., 40,000, 50,000+ people. This is not what the residents of Copper want or were hoping for when they referred to a small town. In drafting a community plan, we need to make sure there are reasonable standards to support infrastructure, businesses and housing, to name a few, so we can assure Copper is safe, sustainable, and prosperous.

I look forward to a well written community plan that will preserve the small-town atmosphere and the resources needed for the residents of Copper. Thank you.

Janet Sterling