



## Planning Commission Staff Report

Date: March 8, 2006  
Item 6a

**SUBJECT:** General Plan Update – Draft Public Facilities and Community Programs Element

**PURPOSE:** Second Review of the Draft Public Facilities and Community Programs Element; provide input prior to City Council review

### I. BACKGROUND

The Planning Commission considered changes to the Public Facilities Element at its February 22, 2006 regular meeting. At the hearing the Planning Commission directed staff to further revise the 1996 Public Facilities Element. Prior to the hearing the following commissions discussed sections of this element and recommended amendments: Civic Arts Commission (meeting of June 6, 2005), Human Services Commission (meeting of August 3, 2005), Library Commission (meeting of August 11, 2005), Youth Commission (meeting of December 14, 2005), Park and Recreation Commission (meeting of February 9, 2006).

Following preliminary Planning Commission and City Council review of the revised and reorganized Public Facilities and Community Programs Element including background material and Goals, Policies and Programs, the Planning Department staff will supplement the Draft with additional tables on Pleasanton's 2005 and 2025 annual wastewater discharge, annual water demand by use, and annual garbage generation and diversion.

### II. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE FEBRUARY 22, 2006 PUBLIC FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS ELEMENT

The Planning Commission recommended changes that would apply to other elements, including the Conservation and Open Space Element with a program to retain the Chain of Lakes as an area for passive recreation, and the Public Safety Element with a program to reduce Pleasanton's risk of flood damage and improve Pleasanton's rating under FEMA's Community Rating System.

The Draft Public Facilities and Community Programs Element (Attachment 1) uses strikeout and underline to show changes to the February 22, 2006 text that the Planning Commission recommended. In summary, the proposed changes to the background text include:

- Adding reference to high-speed wireless internet access (Wi-Fi) in the City.
- Moving the discussion of "Chain of Lakes" from the "Water" section to "Flood Control" under "Stormwater Facilities."

- Adding more information about Zone 7’s future water supplies to the “Water Supply” section.
- Adding a discussion of water quality to the “Water Supply” section.
- Adding discussions about Zone 7 and Pleasanton educating the public about flooding to the “Flood Control” section under “Stormwater Facilities.”
- Deleting all references to private schools, including private colleges from the “Schools and Education” section. Deleting School District information about school enrollment.
- Adding the concept of the Library providing Wi-Fi (high-speed wireless internet access).
- Deleting Table VI-5 that shows existing sports facilities, standards and guidelines, and future facilities planned at buildout from the “Parks and Recreation” section. The Planning Commission had requested that staff develop standard for sports fields based on Pleasanton’s residents’ needs and desires. This would require a significant work effort both by staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission, beyond that which was anticipated. Therefore, staff has removed the table showing sports facility standards from the General Plan until such time as this issue can be discussed and resolved with the City Council. If authorized by the City Council, staff will prepare a revised table for future Planning Commission review.
- Changing the description of the future community park planned on the Staples Ranch property in the “Parks and Recreation” section.
- Adding discussion about drainage on existing sports fields and plans for a toddler pool at the aquatic center in the “Parks and Recreation” section.
- Reorganizing the “Community Facilities and Cultural Arts” section for clarity and adding a definition for “Cultural Arts.” Also adding discussion of the need for public restrooms downtown to the “Community Facilities and Cultural Arts” section.
- Adding a discussion on diversity and adding a section on “Child Care” including a table identifying child-care centers to the “Human Services” section.
- Discussing how the Circulation Element relates to the “Public Facilities and Community Programs Element.

Attachment 1 incorporates the following recommended changes to the Goals, Policies and Programs in the Draft Public Facilities and Community Programs Element:

- Under “Capital Improvements and Financing,” adding a new policy and a program to maintain existing City facilities and provide sustainable financing.
- Under “Stormwater Facilities,” rewriting the program about supporting Zone 7’s plan to establish the Chain of Lakes to include public awareness about the need for the lakes.
- Under “Schools and Education,” clarifying that support is relevant to “public and private” educational facilities, and including a preferred elementary school enrollment size of 650 students.

- Under “Library Facilities and Programs” adding a program for Wi-Fi access in the library.
- Under “Parks and Recreation” adding programs to continue not charging access fees for use of City parks, and providing trails or walkways connecting parks. Also adding a new policy and programs regarding the need to maintain and improve existing facilities including drainage at the Upper Pleasanton Field and at the Sports and Recreation Community Park, and providing a toddler pool at the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center. Adding a new policy and program to increase hours of operation for some recreational facilities. A program was also added regarding development of a neighborhood park in the Happy Valley Area. It should be noted that this action is not consistent with City Council priorities for park planning.
- Under “Community Facilities and Cultural Arts,” adding a policy encouraging a visitor-friendly downtown and including programs to provide public restrooms in the downtown, signage locating public facilities, including restrooms, and Wi-Fi access in the downtown
- Under “Human Services” adding a policy and programs for diversity and clarifying that services are for a diverse population. Also providing new program for meeting child-care demand.

### **III. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Review and consider the Draft Public Facilities and Community Programs Element (Attachment 1); provide input prior to City Council review.

#### **ATTACHMENT:**

1. Draft Public Facilities and Community Programs Element (underline and strikeout)

Staff Planner: Janice Stern/Principal Planner/925.931.5606/jstern@ci.pleasanton.ca.us

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