Capitola Planning Commission Agenda Report

Meeting: June 5, 2025

From: Community Development Department

Topic: Partner Agencies Presentation

Project Description: Partner Agencies Presentation

Recommended Action: This item is informational only. No action is required. Staff recommends the Planning Commission receive the presentations and may ask questions or provide feedback to agency representatives.

Background: The City of Capitola is not a full-service city, meaning we do not operate our own water, wastewater, or fire protection services. Instead, Capitola relies on outside agencies for the provision of these essential services. As the City plans for future growth, coordination with these agencies is critical to ensuring that infrastructure and public services can support new development.

In light of Capitola's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) of 1,336 new housing units for the 6th housing cycle (2023–2031), it is important for the Planning Commission to understand how our partner agencies evaluate capacity, participate in the building permit process, and plan for future growth.

The meeting will feature brief presentations from key partner agencies:

- Santa Cruz Water Department
 - o Heidi Luckenbach, Water Director
 - o Sarah Easley Perez, Principal Planner
- Soquel Creek Water District
 - Melanie Mow Schumacher, General Manager
 - Alyssa Abbey, Staff Analyst
- Santa Cruz County Sanitation District
 - Ashleigh Trujillo, Senior Civil Engineer
- Central Fire District of Santa Cruz County
 - Jason Nee, Fire Chief

Representatives from each agency will provide an overview of their role in the building plan review process, how they evaluate proposed development projects, and their long-term planning strategies to accommodate future growth, including anticipated new housing.

These presentations are intended to inform the Planning Commission and the public about interagency roles involved in land use planning and how these service providers are preparing to meet the City's housing and infrastructure needs.

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