



MEMORANDUM

TO: Deschutes County Planning Commission

FROM: Nicole Mardell, AICP, Senior Planner

DATE: December 5, 2024

SUBJECT: Newberry Country Plan / 2025 Update

Staff will provide a brief update to the Planning Commission (PC) on upcoming work related to the County's Newberry Country Plan.

I. BACKGROUND

The Newberry Country Plan (Attachment 1) was adopted in 2013 and provides area-specific land use policy guidance for the area south of Lava Butte to Deschutes County's southern border. The plan replaced a previous document *Regional Problem Solving for South Deschutes County* which was more narrowly focused on nitrate issues between Sunriver and La Pine.

An update to the Newberry Country Plan is expected to begin in early 2025. The project will consist of three phases:



- Phase 1: Project Initiation
 - Background research
 - Update existing conditions and projected trends
 - Create a community engagement plan and communication strategy
 - Establish project website and FAQs

- Phase 2: Policy Development
 - Community engagement activities
 - Policy creation
 - Initial review with PC
- Phase 3: Adoption Process
 - Compilation of final draft document
 - PC Hearings
 - Board of County Commissioner Hearings

Staff will provide more detail on the planned approach at the December 12 meeting.

II. PLANNING COMMISSION ROLE

As the County's Citizen Involvement Committee, the PC will serve as the advisory board for this project. During the plan's development, staff will provide regular updates to the PC and seek informal feedback. Once the post-acknowledgment plan amendment (PAPA) is submitted, the Commission will serve in its formal role as a hearings body and will provide a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to adopt the document.

III. NEXT STEPS

Staff will return with a project update in Spring 2025.

Attachments:

1. 2013 Newberry Country Plan