



STAFF REPORT

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING DATE: MARCH 3, 2025
FROM: CITY MANAGER DUBOIS
SUBJECT: JOINT SESSION PLANNING COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information item – no action required.

BACKGROUND:

This session is an annual opportunity for the City Council and Planning Commission to discuss priorities, ask questions and share information.

During the January 13 Planning Commission meeting, planning commissioners shared comments and concerns about items coming to them including short term rentals, sign applications and housing developments. The attached information report to the Planning Commission summarizes their discussion.

On Feb 18, the City Council held its annual priority setting discussion. The Council reviewed progress against the 2024 priorities and agreed to keep those same priorities for 2025:

CITY PRIORITIES FOR 2025

1. Developing a comprehensive plan to maintain and improve **roadways** and executing against it
2. Running the city with a **sustainable budget** which considers revenue generation and cost cutting through efficiencies and innovation.
3. Addressing Sutter Creeks **wastewater treatment needs** including collection, treatment and disposal.
4. Nurturing **economic development** including tourism and local employment.

Council discussed challenges to fund infrastructure improvements including roads and wastewater infrastructure. Changes have been made to the budgeting process and a new financial software system is being integrated. Economic development remains a top priority. Council discussed that economic improvements requires some sensible growth of the city. Council went on to discuss objectives and performance metrics for the City and the various departments.

DISCUSSION:

Commissions and Council members should use this opportunity to have a meaningful discussion. The discussion should focus on general policy in relation to land use. Specific projects should not be discussed at this time.

The Planning Commission in the last year has primarily reviewed specific projects in a quasi-judicial role. They can do more and take on an advisory role to Council on policy matters. Potential policy areas include:

- Implementation of programs in the housing element
- Feedback on ordinance update proposals including zoning map changes
- Policies on requested annexation into the City
- Other issues that may arise.

Council members should also share their policy priorities so that the Planning Commission can help the council by providing useful options and comments. Ultimately the Council is the primary decision-making body, it's best served by advice and options that supports the Council's efforts.

ATTACHMENT:

Report "PLANNING COMMISSION INPUT FOR JOIN COUNCIL SESSION"