



## **MEMORANDUM**

### **August 30, 2013**

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TO: General Plan Update Working Group

FROM: Beth Thompson and Ben Ritchie, De Novo Planning Group

SUBJECT: September 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Circulation and Growth Management

DATE: August 30, 2013

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

The September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting will focus on the topics of Circulation and Growth Management. The discussion will focus on circulation and growth management goals, policies, and actions to be included in the General Plan.

This meeting packet includes specific reading materials related to circulation and growth management, and raises key issues to consider in preparation for the next Working Group meeting. As the Working Group is aware, it is critical that each member come to the next meeting having read the materials identified in this memo and having prepared and organized thoughts, comments, and questions related to these General Plan topics. Please direct any questions regarding the assigned reading materials or the issues to be discussed during this next Working Group meeting to Erik Nolthenius, Planning Manager. Erik can be reached by phone at: 925-516-5137, or by email at: [enolthenius@brentwoodca.gov](mailto:enolthenius@brentwoodca.gov).

The Circulation Element will compliment the Growth Management and Land Use Elements, building upon the work conducted for the Existing Conditions Report and the 2001 Circulation Element. Consistent with the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) *Update to the General Plan Guidelines: Complete Streets and the Circulation Element*, which took effect in January 2011, the circulation projects and policies included in the Circulation Element will balance local and regional roadway projects with a "complete streets" theme that emphasizes a multi-modal system providing safe access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities.

The Growth Management Element will employ a range of techniques to determine the amount, type, and rate of development desired by the community and to channel that growth into designated areas. The element will form a system organized into a set of goals, policies, and performance standards that guide the physical growth of the community in order to ensure that roadways, parks, police and fire protection, sanitary sewer, water, and flood control facilities are provided in a manner that best serves Brentwood's current and future residents. The Growth Management Implementation Guide, Measure J Technical Procedures, and Urban Limit Line Policy Advisory will each be reviewed. This element will be consistent with the requirements of Measure J to ensure

To: General Plan Update Working Group  
Subject: Circulation and Growth Management  
Date: August 28, 2013  
Page: 2 of 2

Brentwood's eligibility to receive various funds distributed by the Contra Costa Transportation Agency (CCTA).

As part of the visioning process that occurred in November and December of last year, residents and stakeholders were asked to identify their vision and priorities for the city's future, as well as challenges and opportunities associated with the General Plan Update. The need to expand transportation options, including BART or eBART connectivity, was cited by several workshop participants.

The City's existing General Plan includes goals, policies, and action programs specifically related to the topics of circulation and growth management. It is expected and anticipated that the Working Group will review these for relevancy and scope, and if necessary, expand upon them as part of this General Plan Update.

### **REQUIRED READING**

Prior to the meeting on September 5<sup>th</sup> please read the following items:

- **Background Information** – Section 2.0 of the Existing Conditions Report
- **Opportunities and Constraints** – Section 4.4 of the Opportunities and Constraints Report
- **Existing General Plan** - goals, policies, and actions related to circulation and growth management (see the Circulation Element and Growth Management Element pages in the "Goals and Policies" tab of your binder)

### **WORK EXERCISE**

After reading the materials identified above, please consider the following questions and be prepared to succinctly discuss your responses:

1. Does the existing circulation and roadway network in Brentwood function properly to provide regional access and convenient intra-city access?
2. How should bicycle and pedestrian improvements be incorporated into the city's existing transportation network?
3. In terms of growth management, should the City seek to restrict the total amount of population growth that may occur under the General Plan Update, even if additional population growth can be adequately served by public services and infrastructure, and would not overburden the City's financial resources?
4. Please review the Key Questions contained in Section 4.4 of the Opportunities and Constraints Report, and come prepared to discuss your thoughts in response to these questions.