

## CALAVERAS PLANNING COALITION

**Parent Organization Mission:** The mission of Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch is to protect, promote, and restore healthy forests and watersheds to maintain the quality of life in the Sierra Nevada.

**Parent Project Mission:** The Community Action Project, or CAP, is a community-based, community-focused project in Calaveras County whose mission is to promote citizen participation in local government.

**MISSION:** The mission of the Calaveras Planning Coalition is to promote public participation in land use and resource planning to ensure a healthy human, natural, and economic environment now and in the future.

**PHILOSOPHY:** The Calaveras Planning Coalition values the inherent wisdom of local residents in determining the design and development of their communities. The people are not only the beneficiaries of public policy, but they are the shapers of it. We are united in our desire for principled, strategically planned growth and development that is the result of an open and transparent process. The Coalition believes a well-planned approach to growth and development will:

- ❖ call upon the insight of the people
- ❖ respect the integrity and character of our communities
- ❖ honor tradition, history, and local legacies
- ❖ preserve open space, wildlife habitat, and critical environmental areas
- ❖ provide adequate community resources and services
- ❖ stimulate economic vitality
- ❖ ensure a healthy, sustainable future
- ❖ produce shared citizen and government accountability

**WHO ARE WE?** The Calaveras Planning Coalition is a group of community organizations and individuals united behind eleven “Land Use and Development Principles.” Like you, we want a healthy, sustainable future that will be reflected in the people, the land, and the economy of Calaveras County. We are neighbors, friends, local businesspeople, parents, grandparents, and volunteers.

Formed in 2006, the Coalition supports a comprehensive update of the Calaveras County General Plan and updates of individual community plans. We believe public participation is critical to a successful planning process and necessary to preserve the unique character of the region. We care about our agricultural heritage, our foothill oaks and mountain forests, and our Gold Rush history. We want to balance their preservation with jobs, housing, safety, and services.

### **LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES:**

1. Land uses should be consistent with stated community visions or goals.
2. Development should not outpace the ability of local governments to provide adequate services and infrastructure or reduce the level of services provided to existing community residents.
3. Project design should work with the contour of the land, preserve physical features such as rock outcroppings, trees, watercourses, and wetlands, and protect important wildlife habitat.
4. County and city plans should protect key wildlife habitat, visual quality, agricultural lands, and open space resources.
5. Projects should be approved only if there is adequate water to supply them.
6. New residential and commercial development should be concentrated in existing towns and communities where shopping, services, schools, jobs, and infrastructure are available.

- 7. Infrastructure such as water lines, sewer lines, and roads should not be extended outside existing developed areas unless those areas are contiguous to existing communities and scheduled for development in the near future as part of a general or community plan.**
- 8. Communities should have clear boundaries with separation between them provided by working landscapes, greenbelts, or parks.**
- 9. A range of housing types should be available for people of all income levels.**
- 10. Land uses should not put land-use conversion pressure on agricultural lands or threaten the continued operation of existing industrial and commercial businesses.**
- 11. Environmental mitigation measures should adequately address local and community-wide impacts in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act.**

#### **Goal I. Land Use Consistent with Community Visions and Goals**

**Objective A. Recruit Community Organizations and Individuals**

**Objective B. Promote Public Participation in the General Plan Update & Implementation**

**Objective C. Update Community Plans**

**Objective D. Track Development Projects**

#### **Goal II. Protected Wildlife Habitat, Visual Quality, Agricultural Land, and Open Space**

**Objective A. Concentrate Development in Existing Communities**

**Objective B. Develop a Land Conservation Strategy**

**Objective C. Identify Critical and/or Sensitive Environmental Areas and Species Habitat**

**Objective D. Encourage Mitigation Vehicles**

#### **Goal III. Adequate Infrastructure and Services**

**Objective A. Water Supply**

**Objective B. Environmentally Sound Treatment of Wastewater and Gray Water**

**Objective C. Circulation and Transportation**

**Objective D. Safety**

**Objective E. Communications and Information**

#### **Goal IV. Vital, Sustainable Economy**

**Objective A. Encourage “Green” Building**

**Objective B. Affordable Housing and a Range of Housing Options**

**Objective C. Development of Locally-Owned Environmentally Compatible Businesses**

**Objective D. Promote and Preserve Agriculture**

**Objective E. Protect and Enhance Our Natural Resources**

**Objective F. Include Protection, Health and Human Services in Economic Development**

**Objective G. Promote Post-secondary Education Locally**

**Goal V. Innovative, Legally Compliant Planning**

**Objective A. Enforce Applicable Federal, State, and Local Planning and Environmental Laws, Codes, and Ordinances**

**Objective B. Comprehensive, Internally Consistent General Plan**

**Objective C. Open and Transparent Planning Process**

**(revised 6/17/08)**