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**Shaver Lake
Citizens Advisory Council
Shaver Lake, California**

**COUNTY OF FRESNO
PUBLIC WORKS & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPT.**

June 6, 1999

The Shaver Lake Citizens Advisory Council appointed a committee to respond to the Fresno County General Plan Update proposal. The following are some of the ideas, concerns, and suggestions from that committee.

In general, the committee felt that the general plan should not be updated without reviewing, and in some cases, revising the regional, community, and specific plans to prevent conflicts between the various plans.

With regards to economic development as it pertains to the Shaver Lake area, the following items need to be addressed;

1. Development of a lake water system and supply. Continued development using only groundwater will not meet the needs of the community in the future.
2. Enlargement of the community sewer system. At present certain type of businesses are prevented from being established, because of a lack of hook-ups and capacity. An example of this is a Laundromat.
3. Unification of special districts, water companies and associations into one community services district. Example would be to merge County Water Works District #41, County Service Area #31 and 31b, County Service Area 35-0 and local water companies and associations into Sierra Cedars Community Services District. This would provide for more local control.
4. Assist the Shaver Lake community in developing off street parking in the commercial areas of the village.
5. Assist the community in working with Cal-Trans to provide marked crosswalks across Highway 168. This would provide safety to the pedestrians who walk along the highway.
6. Simplify and streamline the permit process throughout Fresno County. This proposal would help to develop new business and provide for increased employment.

For land use we propose;

1. Maintain rural residential with less density, rather than more. This appears to be in conflict with the economic development strategy as proposed by the consultants. People move to the rural areas so as not to have close neighbors.
2. Develop an ordinance or enforce an existing ordinance for the clean up of old buildings and blighted properties.
3. Develop a plan to insure that the forests within Fresno County are kept open to the taxpayer and continue to provide recreational activities to all. This plan should insure that our forests are kept in a healthy condition. The plan could be developed by working with the United States Forest Service, The California Department of Forestry, Edison International forestry department, Pacific Gas and Electric forestry department, the Fire Safe Council, and any other group so

interested. The forests of Fresno County are a very important industry, and provide many jobs.

Transportation needs are as follows;

1. Is the proposed Highway 168 freeway going to be built? If not take it out of the various plans. This proposed alignment through Shaver Lake is not wanted or warranted. Straightening of the existing highway would be much more cost effective and justified. A county collector road built along the proposed highway right of way would be a better solution for traffic congestion in the future. This would also provide a second way out of the area in case of a major forest fire or other emergency.
2. Development of walkways and bicycle paths throughout the Shaver lake area.

Parks and Recreation;

1. Continue funding for the Shaver Lake Community Center. This center is the heart of the community. It also has been used for emergency housing when the Big Creek fire forced evacuation of the community of Big Creek.
2. Keep the boat-launching ramp free from use fees. This boat launching facility is very important to the economy of Shaver Lake.
3. Support the development of the Shaver Lake Museum. This museum is being built to preserve the Indian culture of the Sierras as well as the history of hydroelectric, logging and railroading in the mountains of Fresno County.

Safety issues;

1. Continue increasing funding for the sheriff's office. A big complaint in the mountain area, is the amount of time it takes for a deputy to respond. The mountain will continue to grow and will need expanded law enforcement services.
2. Make sure a sufficient fee structure is in place to pay for the growth of the various fire departments in the mountain areas. At present revenues are short for even maintaining the departments at current levels. Increased development will require an increase in equipment and facilities, which should be paid for by the developer.

Noise;

1. Keep most commercial development along the Highway 168 corridor.

Needed public facilities;

1. Assist in development of public restrooms, and reststops.
2. Increase size of sewer farms, to provide for more sewer hookups.
3. Continue to provide solid waste disposal.
4. Support Edison International in keeping the pine needle disposal site open. This site provides an area to dispose of pine needles and brush for hazard reduction in and around the homes and businesses of Shaver Lake.

In conclusion, one item that needs to be addressed is notification of interested parties. Very few people in the Shaver Lake area were notified of this general plan update. For something of this importance a better method needs to be devised. Please place the Shaver Lake Citizens Advisory Council, the Shaver Lake Civic League and the Shaver Lake Chamber of Commerce on your mailing list.

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Sincerely;
Jerry Sandstrom, President
Shaver Lake Citizens Advisory Council

By Gary Blasingame, Committee Chairman
General plan update committee