



COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

November 29, 2007

California Department of Transportation
Attention: Katie Benour
Division of Transportation Planning, MS-32
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001

Dear Ms. Benour:

I am a member of the National Association of Realtors (NAR) and have been active in all phases of real estate in Shasta County since 1977. In addition to NAR, I also belong to the CCIM Institute and the Urban Land Institute (ULI). ULI has been active in the development of "blueprints" for development in metropolitan areas all over the United States. My experience in land use planning includes serving as a member of the Redding Planning Commission between 1992 and 2000 and as a planning commissioner for the County of Shasta from 2001 to this date. In addition, I have worked with a non-profit housing development corporation that has constructed over 270 affordable housing units in Shasta County.

The experience noted above makes me a believer in sound land use planning and a supporter of the Shasta County RTPA's grant application entitled "ShastaFORWARD>> Implementation Coalition."

The non-profit housing corporation assesses the need for a particular type and style of housing in the communities it serves and then works to design a product that fulfills the need. We have found that efforts to build homes to meet "blueprint" objectives have fallen short in several areas. The areas include poor basic design and often the wrong location for a particular type of housing. In addition, we have found it very difficult to build housing that meets the needs of those that need housing that is affordable in terms of the median income ranges in this community. Big factors are the cost of land and ever increasing fees that do not differentiate between affordable housing and market rate housing units.

Access to good information is a key to developing affordable housing. The Shasta County RTPA's grant application will provide the support documentation needed to access financing and construct blueprint type developments that hit all of the marks.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Rutledge".

David Rutledge, CCIM