



**Municipal Services Agency  
Development Services  
Steven M. Pedretti,  
Deputy Administrator**

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## **County of Sacramento**

### **News Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **COUNTY TO RESTRUCTURE PLANNING COMMISSIONS and COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

*Part of streamlining development services processes for more efficiency, better customer service*

Sacramento, Calif., -- As part of the County's effort to streamline processes related to development services, including planning entitlement, environmental review, site plan review and building inspection, the Board of Supervisors approved modifying ordinances on September 30 that directly affect how projects are reviewed by hearing bodies in Sacramento County.

#### **Two planning commissions will merge into one:**

Two planning commissions charged with hearing development matters and countywide policy matters such as the General Plan Update, Housing Element and Zoning Code Amendments will merge into a single **County Planning Commission**.

"It just makes sense to merge the two commissions into one," said Deputy Administrator of Development Services Steven M. Pedretti. "It's more efficient and is a better use of taxpayer dollars."

Merging the commissions will also allow related projects within geographic areas to be heard by one Planning Commission to eliminate confusion. The County Planning Commission will also serve as the Board of Zoning Appeals. The effective date will be December 1, 2008.

#### **Community Councils will change name and three will be appointed at-large:**

The four Community Councils that currently hear development matters in their respective areas will be renamed to "Community Planning Commissions" and will all be appointed at-large.

The proposed change in membership will allow for more flexibility in appointing members. The Board has committed to ensuring that the Councils (Commissions) will be broadly represented from all sectors of each community.

The Community Council/Planning Commission program, launched in 2005, is expected to expand in the future when funding is available. The effective date of the modified Community Council (Community Planning Commission) structure would be January 31, 2009.

At that time, all Community Council (Commission) terms would expire and the Board would have the option of reappointing existing members or appointing new members depending on the circumstances of each Council (Commission). The terms from that time forward will be staggered.

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