

City Council Considers General Plan Decision

The **City Council** is tentatively scheduled to discuss defining a preferred alternative for the **General Plan** land use map on **Jan. 16, 2010**. The alternatives were previously brought before the **Planning Commission** in November and December to collect input for consideration by the City Council. The Planning Commission recommended that Alternative C, calling for city limits expansion, **not** be included as one of the preferred alternatives for future study.

For the last two years, the City has been reviewing its General Plan, the basic document which controls development in the city. The preferred alternative will be the City land use map which will be analyzed through an Environmental Impact Report. The General Plan is anticipated for adoption by early 2011. Once adopted the General Plan is then implemented with zoning designations on specific properties. These documents will determine the form of new development over the next 20 years.

The preferred alternative is being developed following a public process considering three alternative land use maps with projected build out populations of 94,600, 110,000, and 115,000. Ultimate build out under any of the alternatives could be as late as 2050. For information about the three alternatives, see the online General Plan Update: http://mintierhamish.com/projects/westsac/pdf/wsgpu_altsnews.pdf. Most of West Sacramento's established neighborhoods will not see any proposed changes in any of the land use alternatives. The City Council may choose to develop a preferred alternative which would be a combination or modification of any of the alternatives. The preferred alternative is developed for the purpose of an analysis of the potential impacts of the proposed changes on City infrastructure, finances, traffic, noise, air quality, safety, open space and other factors. The eventual alternative approved by the City Council could change as a result of this analysis or as a result of comments received from the community.

Winter Storms

Reports indicate the area will have a wetter-than-usual winter this year. Are you ready? Be prepared to cope with the dangers of winter storms. For more information on storm readiness, call your city **Emergency Management Coordinator, (916) 617-4725**, or visit the **City of West Sacramento's Emergency Management webpage** at www.cityofwestsacramento.org (then go to the Fire Department and click on Emergency Management.) Information is available on precautions to take in times of major storms.

Insurance Protection

Most homeowners insurance policies do NOT offer protection against flood losses. For information about flood insurance, call your local insurance agent, or call the **National Flood Insurance Program at (888) Call-Flood**.

Update on FEMA Remapping for West Sacramento

The **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** is implementing its Map Modernization Program (MMP) nationally, including digitization of older paper flood insurance rate maps (FIRMs) for each county in California. FIRMs are used to set insurance rates and determine when certain floodplain management measures must occur. FEMA and the **City of West Sacramento** are coordinating closely to determine the most appropriate flood zone designation for the city. At this time it is not known when a preliminary FIRM will be issued. Until then, the current flood zone designation for the majority of properties in West Sacramento is Flood Zone X (areas protected by levees from 100-year floods). Properties in Flood Zone X are not required to carry flood insurance, however, should they choose to do so **as recommended by the City**, they are eligible for Preferred Risk Policies.

When new information becomes available the City will update the public. If you have any questions, please contact the **City's Flood Protection Manager, Michael Bessette, (916) 617-4645**.

Hungry for Restaurant Survey Results?

The **City of West Sacramento** thanks the many residents and businesses for completing the recent restaurant survey. The City reports an 11.3 percent response rate with 89 percent of the respondents residing in West Sacramento. The survey provides valuable information about dining choices that will assist the **City's Economic Development Division** to attract and retain restaurants. The survey report is available at <http://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/residents/default.asp>.



If You Live or Work in West Sacramento, CERT Wants You!

The **West Sacramento Fire Department (WSFD)** opens the third training class of the **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)**, Jan. 21, 2010. The program trains citizens in disaster preparedness skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using classroom and exercise training, CERT members assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event—when professional responders are not immediately available to help. If you can take a more active role in local emergency preparedness projects, contact the WSFD, (916) 617-4600 or look for application information online at www.cityofwestsacramento.org.



City Staff Receives EOC Training as Storm Season Begins

In November, **City of West Sacramento** staff participated in an eight hour **Emergency Operations Center (EOC)** training course. Funding was authorized by the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services, through the national Department of Homeland Security. The course examined elements of the Standardized Emergency Management System, differences between field and EOC levels, and fundamentals of EOC functions and responsibilities. With more than 30 participants representing the cities of West Sacramento, Woodland, and the Washington Unified School District, the training was another step in expanding the City's emergency management program and reinforcing EOC awareness and education to better serve the residents of West Sacramento.

Want a Glass of Water? "Go Green"—Use the Tap

It's a priority of the **Mayor** and **City Council** that the **Public Works Department** deliver safe and affordable drinking water for citizens. While bottled water is regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, municipal tap water is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency, which has more stringent requirements for testing. In addition:

- The cost of bottled water is up to 1,000 to 10,000 times more than tap water.
- About 40 percent of all bottled water comes straight from the tap of many city water systems.
- Bottled water may travel several miles from the source of bottling, increasing the fossil fuels that release CO2 and other pollution into the atmosphere.
- In landfills, plastic bottles are one of the fastest growing sources of municipal waste.

USE GOOD TASTE—use the tap for your drinking water!

Need a New Roof or Other Home Repairs?

The **City of West Sacramento** wants to help preserve and improve the neighborhoods of Bryte, Broderick and Washington. Low interest loans of up to \$60,000 are available through the City's **Residential Rehabilitation Program** for repairs such as roofing, siding, window replacement, heating and air conditioning systems, water heater, electrical, plumbing, insulation, wheelchair access and energy efficiency repairs or installations. Eligible homeowners must be at or below the following income levels.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE

1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
\$40,650	\$46,500	\$52,300	\$58,100	\$62,750	\$67,400	\$72,050	\$76,700

Additional restrictions apply. Contact Mercy Housing, (916) 414-4412. Hearing impaired persons may call the toll-free TDD line, (800) 735-2929.