

SHASTA LAFCO

Shasta Local Agency Formation Commission

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April 14, 2009

Dick Dickerson, Chair
Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency
1855 Placer St.
Redding, CA 96001

Dear Mr. Dickerson,

As the Executive Officer of the Shasta Local Agency Formation Commission (Shasta LAFCO), please accept my support for the ShastaFORWARD>> regional blueprint effort. Although the final outcome of ShastaFORWARD>> is not yet known, there is clear and substantial overlap in our respective program objectives, including:

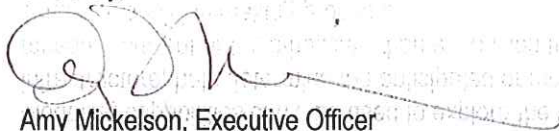
- Discouragement of urban sprawl,
- Protection of productive agricultural lands,
- Protection of open space lands,
- Protection of environmentally sensitive lands,
- Efficient delivery of community services and infrastructure, and
- Reconciliation of differences between local agency growth plans

In addition, we are greatly interested in the potential application of ShastaFORWARD>> regional growth modeling tools and new GIS data sets in the carrying out Shasta LAFCO responsibilities; in particular, those applications relevant to our review of municipal spheres of influence and prospective revisions to governmental boundaries. Modeling capabilities could be used to explore the impact of proposed annexations on local services and infrastructure; help determine the anticipated or most appropriate timing for changes in governmental boundaries; measure current or hypothetical urban expansion trends on regional land resources; and create a more informed and confident decision making process.

From a communication perspective, ShastaFORWARD>> creates a larger stage for city/county elected officials and community stakeholders to interact and build regional consensus. It also provides citizens an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the growth, development, and inter-jurisdictional issues facing their county.

No doubt there are further challenges and unexplored opportunities. I look forward to ongoing collaboration and coordination between Shasta LAFCO and the Shasta County RTPA.

Sincerely,



Amy Mickelson, Executive Officer

cc: Marilee Mortenson, Caltrans Regional Blueprint Project Manager

Les Baugh (County) • Dick Dickerson (City) • Larry Farr (City) • Irwin Fust (Special Districts) • Dan Gover (Public)
Linda Hartman (Alt. County) • Brenda Haynes (Special Districts) • David Kehoe (County) • John Mathena (Alt. Public)
Stephen Morgan (Alt. Special Districts) • Keith Webster (Alt. City)