

## Summary of Comments

General Plan Update First Workshop, January 26, 2017

The following is a summary of comments from the public at the January workshop:

- A request to present “Our County, Our Voice” at the next workshop was made and Staff is happy to discuss it further.
- A comment was received regarding concerns that Kern County has one of the highest rates of diabetes, obesity, heart disease, opiate addiction, air pollution, teen pregnancy, asthma, lack of swimming pools; lowest funded library in California; lowest number of all-weather tracks; poor support for park system
- Support for a Healthy Communities element in General Plan was expressed.
- A request was made to consider incorporating SB 1000 and SB 379 into general plan
- Several comments were made to add/improve sidewalks in unincorporated areas
- Several comments suggested bike lanes
- Several comments were received that school closures and delays due to flooding should be addressed, as well as the desire to see drainage solutions
- Requests were made for improved park maintenance including: walking trails, sufficient trashcans, water fountains, basketball court, boxing club, volleyball court, and a swimming pool with lessons
- Several requests were made for a community cultural classes/center
- A few comments were received requesting roads maintenance including: safer, wider roads, more visible traffic signals and gutters.
- A few requests were made for street lights.
- A couple requests for sewage systems in septic tank areas were made.
- A comment was received that there is trash on the streets, especially bug infected furniture, it was suggested that cameras be added as well as more no littering signs, and fines for those who litter
- A couple comments received requested affordable housing
- A few comments suggested buffer zones/setback separating agriculture and oil from new residences and gathering areas such as schools and parks
- A request for health, affordable food made available in underserved areas was made.
- A comment was received to increase commercial business in small communities
- A request was made to annex private streets for maintenance

- The fee for Hart Memorial Park was noted a couple times and it was suggested that either all parks be the same or no fee at all.
- A comment was received requesting reliable public transportation
- A comment was received that drinking water is contaminated and it was requested that water treatment be made available to schools, homes and businesses affected.
- A comment was received that there are dog problems makes walking unsafe it was suggested that an ordinance to fine people with multiple dogs be added
- A comment was received requesting the preservation of land around stream courses
- A request for additional funds for library branches for cultural exchange and education was made.
- The comment was made that the following are needed: employment and substance abuse programs.
- It was suggested to impose social host fine for underage alcohol consumption in a home.
- A request for limited smoke shops was received.

The following are comments provided from the Planning Commissioners:

- It was requested that a hard look be taken into incorporating urban farming and marketing what is grown.
- It was requested that a look be taken into using parks for weekly farmer's markets with small seller's fees in disadvantaged areas.
- The comment was received that poor water, air and sewage should not be normal for children and that General Plan policies should focus on improving these problems.
- All the Planning Commissioners made it a point to thank the community for coming out and sharing ideas and problems.