

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

MISSION STATEMENT

Guide and Assist in the orderly development of Butte County by providing quality planning, plan checking, building inspection, code compliance and public information services.

Work Cooperatively with the County's elected officials and other County departments to carry forward the County's adopted plans, policies and programs.

Foster Public Understanding of development-related requirements, issues and opportunities through public outreach and education, participation in community groups, building industry organizations (and other forums) and enhance public access to information.

Facilitate Client Permits, Projects and Services in a timely, professional manner.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Department oversees consolidated development services consisting of Building, Planning and Administrative Divisions. The Department provides recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, other County agencies, and citizens seeking building and planning permits.

The Administrative Division of Development Services provides department-wide support including personnel records, payroll, accounts receivable and payable, budget preparation, review and control, contract administration, inventory ordering and tracking, review of system processes, and fiscal management of the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Program.

The Building Inspection Division serves a customer base that includes owner-builders, contractors and citizens who live in or use structures built in unincorporated Butte County. The Building Division ensures that the end-user is provided with a safe structure through enforcement of the provisions of the new State Building Standards Codes and recently adopted updated County Building Code throughout the plan check/permitting/construction process. The Code Enforcement Section of the Building Division investigates complaints, issues citations for the violation of Butte County Codes and implements the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) and Nuisance Abatement Programs (we recently completed our 100th Nuisance Abatement). The Building Division provides support to the Building Code Board of Appeals, the Disabled Access Board of Appeals, and the Code Enforcement Advisory Board.

The Planning Division provides staff support for the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Land Conservation Act Committee, Airport Land Use Commission, Interdepartmental Development Review (IDR) Committee, Mining Committee, and other Butte County departments as directed. In addition, the Planning Division is responsible for developing land use plans, processing land use permits, General and Specific Plan amendments, and making land use related recommendations to the various committees and commissions. Currently, and for the next 2 years, the department is providing significant resources to a comprehensive update to the County's General Plan and Zoning Ordinance, known as Butte County General Plan 2030 (www.buttegeneralplan.net).

The Department also provides coordination of the Users' Group agenda and monthly meetings. This forum is available to those that use County services, primarily Development Services, Public Works and Environmental Health as it relates to building and development processes.

SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST

- The Department budget request includes additional funding to maintain FY 2007-08 staffing and operations level, with the exception of the requested elimination of one vacant and one filled position. The requested eliminations relate to the downturn in Building activity and revenue.

Tim Snellings, Director

- The Department budget request includes additional funding for the ongoing Butte County General Plan 2030 activities scheduled in fiscal year 2008-2009.
- The Department budget request includes additional funding for the electronic conversion of files and the related retention of existing positions that could be utilized to perform this function.
- The Department budget request includes additional funding to purchase new software/hardware, allowing the Department a more efficient review and transmittal of building plans for review, corrections, approval and final electronic filing.
- The Department budget request includes additional funding for four new hybrid vehicles to replace high mileage vehicles.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

- The recommendation includes the elimination of six vacant and 11 filled positions due to declining revenue in both the Planning Division and the Building Division. The staff reductions will have an impact on the Department's ability to maintain current production levels and customers will see the impact through lengthened processing and response times.
- The recommendation includes one-time funding (\$835,100) for General Plan activities in fiscal year 2008-2009.

BUDGET CODE 440001

UNIT TITLE - DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

BUTTE COUNTY
 STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 BUDGET UNIT EXPENDITURE DETAIL
 SCHEDULE 9 2008-09

FUNCTION - 2 - DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
 ACTIVITY - 25 -
 FUND - 0010 COUNTY GENERAL FUND

ACCOUNT	TITLE	ACTUAL 2006-07	ESTIMATED 2007-08	REQUESTED 2008-09	RECOMMENDED 2008-09	ADOPTED 2008-09
EXPENDITURES						
510	SALARIES & EMPLOYEE BENE	3,515,963	4,067,273	4,141,547	3,362,778	-
520	SERVICES & SUPPLIES	1,126,546	1,765,596	2,114,144	1,791,239	-
550	OTHER CHARGES	17,991	16,000	18,000	18,000	-
560	FIXED ASSETS	66,996	104,454	129,720	6,454	-
TOTAL	DIRECT	4,727,496	5,953,323	6,403,411	5,178,471	-
570	OTHER FINANCING USES	355,962	388,210	390,929	390,929	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		5,083,458	6,341,533	6,794,340	5,569,400	-
REVENUES						
20000	LICENSES AND PERMITS	2,128,321	3,530,691	2,451,189	2,563,748	-
30000	FINES FORFIETURES & PENALTIES	83,176	254,915	229,300	229,300	-
40000	INTEREST, OTHER USES	322	-	250	250	-
50100	STATE REVENUES	-	25,900	-	100,000	-
60000	CHARGES FOR SERVICES	158,103	123,100	109,553	109,553	-
70000	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES	5,533	2,300	980	980	-
TOTAL REVENUES		2,375,455	3,936,906	2,791,272	3,003,831	-
NET COSTS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES		2,708,003	2,404,627	4,003,068	2,565,569	-

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