Camptonville Community Health Action Plan

Executive Summary January 8, 2008

Prepared by the Camptonville Community Health Action Team "CHAT"

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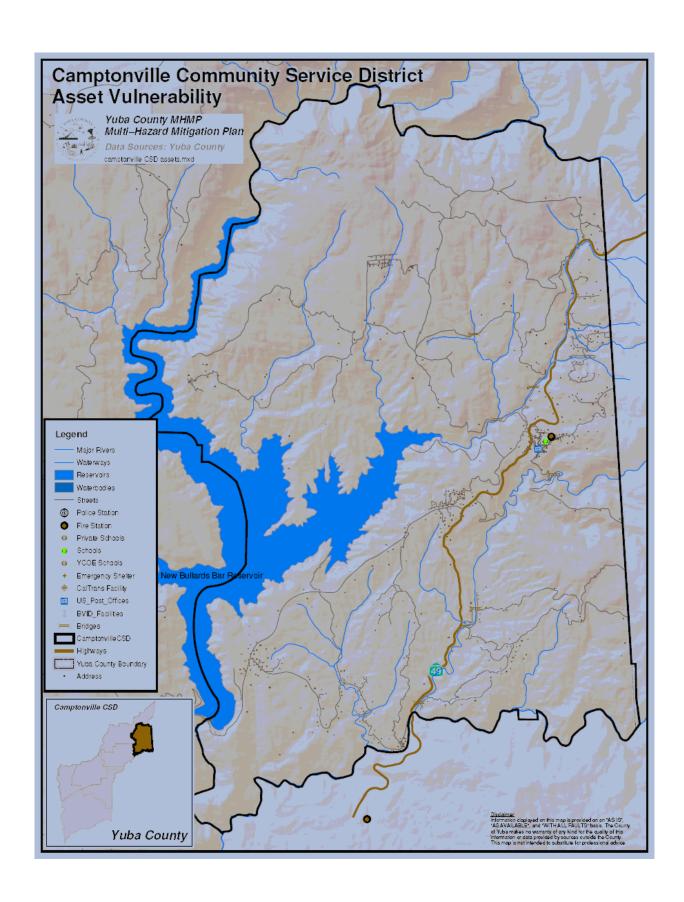
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The complete Community Health Action Plan is available @ Website:

www.camptonville.com or come to the Camptonville Resource Center.



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About the Community Health Action Plan

The purpose in creating this Camptonville Community Health Action Plan (CHAP) is to serve as a resource to guide our community and Yuba County decision makers as they revise the Yuba County General Plan over the next two years. We use the "big picture" sense of Health as encompassing all the socioeconomic, environmental and physical factors that collectively create a healthy community.

The Community Health Action Plan, or "CHAP," has been a yearlong, community-based, collaborative process. *It was created through a grass roots effort, which included a wide spectrum of diverse people living here. We feel it provides a broad base of community input.* We consider this to be a "living document" that will grow and evolve as the community and outside factors change. It was presented to the Yuba County Board of Supervisors on December 4, 2007.

<u>In addition:</u> This Camptonville Community Health Action Plan is but one part of a planning process for the future of Camptonville. Other essential elements that must be included are:

- The Camptonville Hazard Mitigation Plan
- North Yuba County-Camptonville Municipal Services Review
- U.S. Forest Service Land Management Plan
- The re-licensing of Bullards Bar Dam by FERC
- Camptonville Community Service District review of zoning and land use
- Camptonville Economic Development Plan
- Yuba County Parks Master Plan (in regard to Camptonville)

Camptonville's Community Health Action Plan Our Values and Vision

Our Rural Environment

When asked what Camptonville residents value about our community, one uniting theme that emerged was our desire to maintain and preserve our beautiful natural environment. Camptonville residents prefer treetops over rooftops, we prefer raw earth over cement covered ground, and we prefer natural and undeveloped spaces around our homes, school and businesses. We see ourselves as a community that lives in harmony with nature and promotes efforts such as recycling, responsible logging, and creative solutions to maintain healthy air quality and a healthy watershed. Camptonville realizes the rich resource it brings to Yuba County, water, and we believe in being good stewards of our natural habitat to help insure water quality and quantity.

Though we are not opposed to growth, if growth is to occur, it must not be to the detriment of our valued natural resources. Camptonville residents have chosen to live in this area because they value, respect, and want to protect our wonderful natural setting. Additionally we request that any Timber Production Zone TPZ lands that are converted to public use be used *in specific ways consistent with Rural Residential land use zoning of the adjacent acreage,* once public. We also request that the FERC relicensing of Bullards Bar Reservoir involve the Camptonville community.

(Our Rural Environment continued) Our community members have also said:

- We want to live and grow in balance with our natural environment.
- We value and want to protect our sources of clean, healthful, abundant water, both for consumption, and as a natural resource.
- We want to be a community that takes responsibility for reducing, reusing and recycling.
- We believe that natural beauty does a lot for the soul.
- We value our independence, but also value our interdependence with each other.
- We value air that is clean and clear, and nights filled with stars.
- We feel we have a responsibility to be caretakers (stewards) of all forms of life that coexist with us, including the wildlife, plants, and natural resources of our Tahoe National Forest area.

The Future: Growth and Economy

The over arching reason we all seem to be here is because of the natural beauty of Camptonville, and we all agree that we want to keep it that way. We want our rural community to be as self-sustainable as possible. We want the basis of our growth to reflect and support the value we place on our people, wildlife and natural vegetation. We want housing that is untouched by urban sprawl, and economic opportunities based on local entrepreneurship.

In respect to Growth and Zoning we would like our community to allow for long term commitments to agricultural and other rural lifestyles without fear of incompatible encroachments and include provisions for the maintenance of horses and other livestock.

Our community members have also said:

- We recognize there is a diversity of opinions about zoning (limited, controlled, none, etc).
- We want to gently expand existing commercial areas and consider new areas that can be easily accessed by residents.
- We prefer small clusters of businesses and services where people can purchase basic essentials, including food, hardware, Laundromat, coffee/breakfast spot, etc.
- We want to support ventures that provide local food, goods and services.
- We want people to be able to address special zoning circumstances.
- We feel growth must be compatible with the health of our natural resources; i.e.: be non-toxic, fire safe, preserve water quality, etc.
- We must address the future decrease in available oil/fuel by promoting alternative energy sources, mutual sustainability, and reducing travel by having goods and services available locally.
- We want to encourage privately owned, local cottage-type or small businesses.
- We recognize the need for more local employment and training opportunities, especially for our young adults.
- We enjoy the character of our Gold Rush history, and want to encourage buildings that blend with this era and are sized to the scale of our small town.
- We want to encourage tourists to visit and utilize tourism-focused businesses.

(The Future: Growth and Economy continued)

- We need to have a community group, such as the Camptonville Community Services District (CCSD), be able to monitor growth.
- We recognize that having access to fast Internet service would directly benefit our local economy and would enable people to earn a living from home.
- We want to encourage more affordable housing, as owners and as renters.
- Continue using the determining criteria in current YCGP (section5-3) "desire to protect agricultural and open space areas from incompatible development"

Connectedness and Health

We believe a healthy community is a connected community. We value having a wide variety of opportunities that promote our physical, social, educational, emotional and environmental health and well-being. Our families need a place to play organized sports and socialize as mentioned in the Discussion paper #2 Recreation Needs Assessment Yuba County Parks Master Plan June 2007. We value being able to produce, share, sell and consume locally grown food and products. We recognize the importance of being connected locally as well as globally through state of the art, high speed Internet access.

Our community members have also said:

- We value our strong "sense of community," where people have fun together, support each other during crisis, and know their neighbors.
- We recognize our elementary school as a central place for learning for all ages.
- We value the quality and caring that the school offers our children.
- We love the local Saturday morning Grower's Market and see the potential for it growing into a larger Community Market Day.
- We would like to have healthful foods sold in our local stores and served in our restaurants and school. This includes basic foods that are fresh, organic, grown locally, seasonal, and affordable to all incomes.
- We want to support and maintain the health and fitness of our residents of all ages, through education, mutual support, community recreation activities, weight loss programs, etc.
- We like the concept of community gardens, such as the old "Victory Gardens."
- We want to have a way to share and distribute excess garden goods and foods to those who may need them, such as a community food bank.
- We value having places and activities where we can get together.
- We want a central place where people can get information, referrals, classes and some services for physical and emotional health.
- We value a community environment where we are not stressed out by excess noise, pollution, and negativity.
- We want to understand and appreciate cultural differences.
- We value being connected through our local newspaper, "The Camptonville Courier," and our website, www.camptonville.com.
- We prefer to support the businesses and services of our local people, as promoted in "The Gold Pages."
- We want everyone to be able to access high speed Internet. This is important for marketing, communications, education and for making it possible to live and work in our community by telecommuting.

(Connectedness and Health continued)

- We want to promote using the natural resources we already have for recreation and fitness: the Yuba Rivers, Bullards Bar Reservoir and the Tahoe National Forest for hiking, camping, swimming, bicycling, boating, fishing, etc.
- It would be great to have a heated pool, especially for physical therapy.
- We would enjoy having facilities for organized sports, such as soccer, baseball, basketball, and track. Some of these are available at the school, but with limited use.

A Community Center

People in our small town have talked about having a *Community Center* where we can gather, have events, conduct business, and come together as a community. This has been at the top of every Town Hall Meeting since 1995. We do not currently have such a central place that is available to all. We appreciate how the elementary school has opened its doors to the community and hope to expand this by creating a center that would serve our community in new ways. The center would be recognized by locals and visitors alike as the heart of the community. We envision this center as the hub that would attract revitalizing energy to our community. This facility would be appropriately sized for our small town, be a demonstration project for green energy/building practices, and serve as a lively hub for community activities, organizations and businesses, and when needed, as an Emergency Shelter. A Community Center would enable us to realize many long-held dreams and put our visions into action. Camptonville was also recognized as a valuable site for a future Community Center in the Discussion Paper # 2 Recreation Needs Assessment Yuba County Parks Mater Plan June 2007

Our community members have also said:

We envision the Center as providing a space for the following:

- Activities for all ages, such as celebrations, meetings, recreation, performing arts, Twilight School, dinners, and educational events.
- Small Business Services, such as a Thrift Shop, Internet Café/Bakery, Recycling Center, community kitchen, and Grower's Market.
- A Business Incubation Center, providing small business support, copier, internet and fax usage, job skills classes, the "Gold Pages" Local Business and Services Directory, and rentable space for small-scale businesses, such as those producing wood products, artwork, etc.
- A regional Emergency Shelter (for forest fires, valley floods, etc.) and provide centralized 24/7 communications during emergencies.
- A central place for the offices of community organizations, such as the Camptonville Community Services District (CCSD) and Camptonville Community Partnership, Inc (CCP).
- The Camptonville History and Natural Resources Museum would be housed at the center, providing education to visitors and locals about our unique history and protecting our natural resources.
- Services that support our health and well-being, such as counseling, AA, NA, voga and exercise classes, the Camptonville Co-op, etc.
- A "community bulletin board" and a tourist information center.
- A community park.
- Drop-in centers to visit, have coffee, and spend time with each other.

(Community Center continued)

- We envision this center as a demonstration of renewable/green energy and building practices, and everyone (children to seniors) will be invited to help design and build the center.
- We are currently organizing around developing a collaborative "Community Center Plan"

Travel

We value having a variety of energy efficient, safe; economical means of travel that meet the needs of all ages, from children to seniors. Currently Camptonville can only be accessed by ones own personal vehicle due to our remote location. We realize that in order to maintain the rural quality of life that we value; we must work together to develop innovative, cooperative solutions to our travel needs. As future energy resources may be limited, we feel it is important to develop sustainable forms of transportation that do not rely on oil. We envision a trail system that encourages people to walk, bike, hike or horseback around our local settings. We also recognize the opportunity for physical recreation activity that the Tahoe National Forest area provides, and want to promote safe, sensitive use of these natural resources.

Our community members have also said:

- We would like to encourage people to walk, bike, or hike around our local settings.
- We would like to have interconnected trails for walking, biking, and horse riding, and have bus routes so that people can travel without the use of private cars.
- We'd like to be able to safely bicycle or walk between downtown Camptonville and the Rebel Ridge area, without using the highway, which is not safe.
- We are interested in maintaining and improving the roads we currently have and would like all future road improvements to include safe, adjacent walking/cycling lanes.
- We want to bring back the Gold Country Stage Bus that links us to Nevada City/Grass Valley (for high school and community college students, employment, etc.) as well as having public transit within the foothills and Marysville area.
- We enjoy the peace and guiet of afternoons with little traffic in the streets.
- We would like to improve the trails in our community so we may reach our destinations safely.
- Some local *foothill bus* transportation would be welcome for those residents who commute to and from work or are unable to drive.
- We would like to work as a community to help each other get to where we need to go, such as a local organized ride-share program, a central community bulletin board for rides or to pick up things for people, and a Senior Van.
- We feel it is important for people of all ages to be allowed to have the freedom
 of transportation either by hiking, biking, walking, car or other safe, economical
 ways.
- We would like the shoulders and guardrails on HWY 49 improved for safety.
- We want to encourage children being able to safely bicycle to school, and the use of electric bike riding as an alternative to cars.

Next steps: The Action:

A Community Center We are currently organizing around developing a collaborative "Community Center Plan". This process will involve all stakeholders, including local, county and statewide resources. We have started conversations with U. S. F. S. about the potential for having the community center built on their old compound-either through purchase or donation. They are interested in helping us.

Residents want Recycling:

There has been on-going interest and demand to get meaningful recycling up in the foothills. Many people now have more recycling than garbage! Forty-three residents completed a survey that showed a positive response to being able to recycle locally with or without compensation. Although Yuba Sutter Disposal has told us that it is not cost effective to pick up recycling in Camptonville, we are committed to working on a solution to this local and global problem. The Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department, area businesses, Camptonville Community Partnership and students are interested and continue to work on the effort. In 2007, the first prize for the Earth Awards project by a graduating 8th grade student was a pilot Community Recycling Project. There are recycling links on our web site: http://www.camptonville.com.

Health: The Summertime **Camptonville Growers Market** continues to grow with 15 or more gardeners participating a percentage of the proceeds go to local non-profit Journey Home Hospice and the school. There is interest in expanding this into a community market place to support local entrepreneurs as well as those who produce food.

Camptonville School's 2007 Wellness Policy highlights the school's involvement in community wellness including a school garden that provides produce to the school cafeteria, and provides a fun learning environment for preschoolers and elementary students. Due to community interest, healthful fresh foods are now a little more available at a local market, and in our restaurants

The Camptonville Historical Society: History and Natural Resources Museum Our mission is to preserve historical documents and artifacts and to promote interest in the history of the greater Camptonville area. We also organize, promote, and host the Family History and Genealogy Gathering, an annual reunion for anyone interested in Camptonville and it's history. We record stories and recollections of Camptonville residents on video and audiotape, and we are actively pursuing the development of the Camptonville History and Natural Resources Museum, hopefully housed in the future community center.

Connecting Community With Funding from the James Irvine Foundation (Promoting dialogues between underrepresented communities and elected official), CCP is developing a video presentation that highlights the community involvement process of creating this Community Health Action Plan. The video will be shared with other rural community neighbors to share ideas, best practices and inspire action.