



Dateland/East County Planning Area Citizen Advisory Group Report



Long Range Planning Section
Yuma County Department of Development Services
January 2009

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Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report **Executive Summary**

The Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report represents the third of seven citizen reports that will be prepared by Long Range Planning Staff in an effort to update the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan (Plan). Since its adoption in December of 2001, the Plan has been amended numerous times, but it has not been the subject of a detailed citizen review. In the summer of 2006 a new edition of the Comprehensive Plan was published, compiling amendments from 2002 through June 2006. At this time, it was determined that staff should take the Plan back to the citizens in each of the Planning Areas and Sub-Regional Planning Areas to determine if the Plan needs updating to meet current and future needs. This Plan update will be a valuable precursor to the efforts by Yuma County to develop the Yuma County 2020 Comprehensive Plan for adoption by the end of 2010. Figure 2 on page 6 outlines the Plan update process.

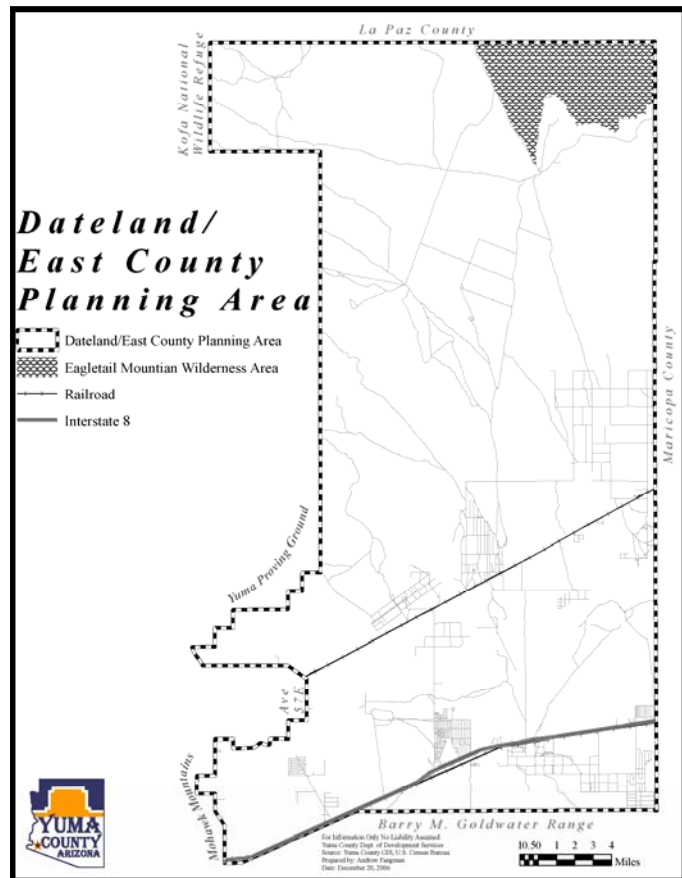


Figure 1: Dateland/East County Planning Area

The update of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan for the Dateland/East County Planning Area began with the publication of a background study in February of 2008. The background study examined demographic, housing, and economic development trends in the Planning area between 2000 and 2008. A copy of the Dateland/East County Planning Area Background Study can be obtained online at <http://www.co.yuma.az.us/ddc/studies.htm>.

On March 12, 2008 a community meeting for the Dateland/East County Planning Area was held at the Dateland School. Approximately 25 area residents attended the community meeting. At this meeting, a synopsis of the background study was presented and residents identified a wide variety of issues and ideas that they felt were important to the future of the area.

A Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) made up of residents of the planning area was formed to review the Comprehensive Plan and to provide information and comments to be utilized in the process of updating the Plan in the Dateland/East County Planning Area. Membership in the CAG was composed of area residents who volunteered at the community meeting to participate in a series of meetings that would review the Plan as it affects their planning area. The Yuma County Long Range Planning staff used nominal group techniques to derive information, set priorities and build consensus among the members of the CAG. This effort led to this report and the recommended changes contained in it to improve the Plan.

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report **Executive Summary**

A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was also established to review the Plan in tandem with the CAG. The TAC was composed of representatives of major institutional and business stakeholders in the planning area. The TAC members participated fully with CAG in reviewing the Plan and making recommendations for changes; however, they were not included in the consensus building process regarding the final draft of the CAG Report.

A series of three Citizen Advisory Group meetings were held between April and November of 2008. At these meetings the CAG and TAC members reviewed the goals, objectives and policies of the Plan and the following elements of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan: Land Use Element-Dateland/East County Planning Area; Open Spaces & Recreational Resources, Circulation, Environmental, Water Resources, Safety and Housing. The CAG made recommendations proposing changes to each of the elements. Staff then compiled the recommended changes into an amendment format that could be reviewed by county decision makers for possible action to update the Plan.

The Dateland/East County Planning Area is a rural area that contains two small unincorporated communities, Dateland and Hyder. The 2000 U.S. Census reported a population of 1,137 persons. Between 1990 and 2000 the population of the Dateland/East County Planning Area declined by 295 individuals, a decrease of 20.6%. There was a much different trend in Yuma County and Arizona as a whole. The population of Yuma County as a whole increased by 49.7% between 1990 and 2000, and the State of Arizona's population increased by 40%. A demographic trend that is completely opposite of the state and county as whole exists in the Dateland/East County Planning Area.

The opinion of the Citizen Advisory Group was that the population of the Dateland/East County Planning Area continued to decline between 2000 and 2008. The CAG directly attributed this decline on a continuing shrinking of the amount of agricultural employment in the area. However the CAG felt that a lack of infrastructure was stifling economic diversification and residential growth.

The CAG felt that a need to improve road infrastructure was the most important issue facing the area. The CAG came up with a list of transportation projects/policies that they would like to see identified as critical to future of the area in the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan. Two projects/policies were identified as the most critical to the future of the area: 1) creation of a paved loop of roads that would be comprised of Avenue 64E, Glendale Rd., Ventura Rd., and an additional north-south connector between Glendale Rd. and Ventura Rd, 2) adoption of a policy that provides for the periodic grading of primitive roads upon which most Dateland area residents live.

Improvements to water and sewage treatment infrastructure was identified by the CAG as second most necessary type of improvement to the area and necessary before any significant economic development or residential growth could occur. The CAG identified the lack of any centralized sewage treatment facilities as hampering residential and commercial development of the area. The CAG noted that there was a need for the amount of available potable water to be increased. This would require drilling more wells and the construction of greater treatment facility and storage capacity. The CAG also noted a need for increased water storage capacity in order to assist in fire fighting, and to create a reserve of potable water in case of extended power outages.

Other needs and issues that the CAG wanted to see identified in the Plan include: community cleanup days, periodic community clean up days in which a specific area is targeted for an organized cleanup by members of the community; a partnership developed between Yuma County and Hyder Elementary School District #16 to develop a community park at Dateland School; insufficient housing stock that is stifling economic development and need to be addressed.

**Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
Overview of Planning Area Update Process**

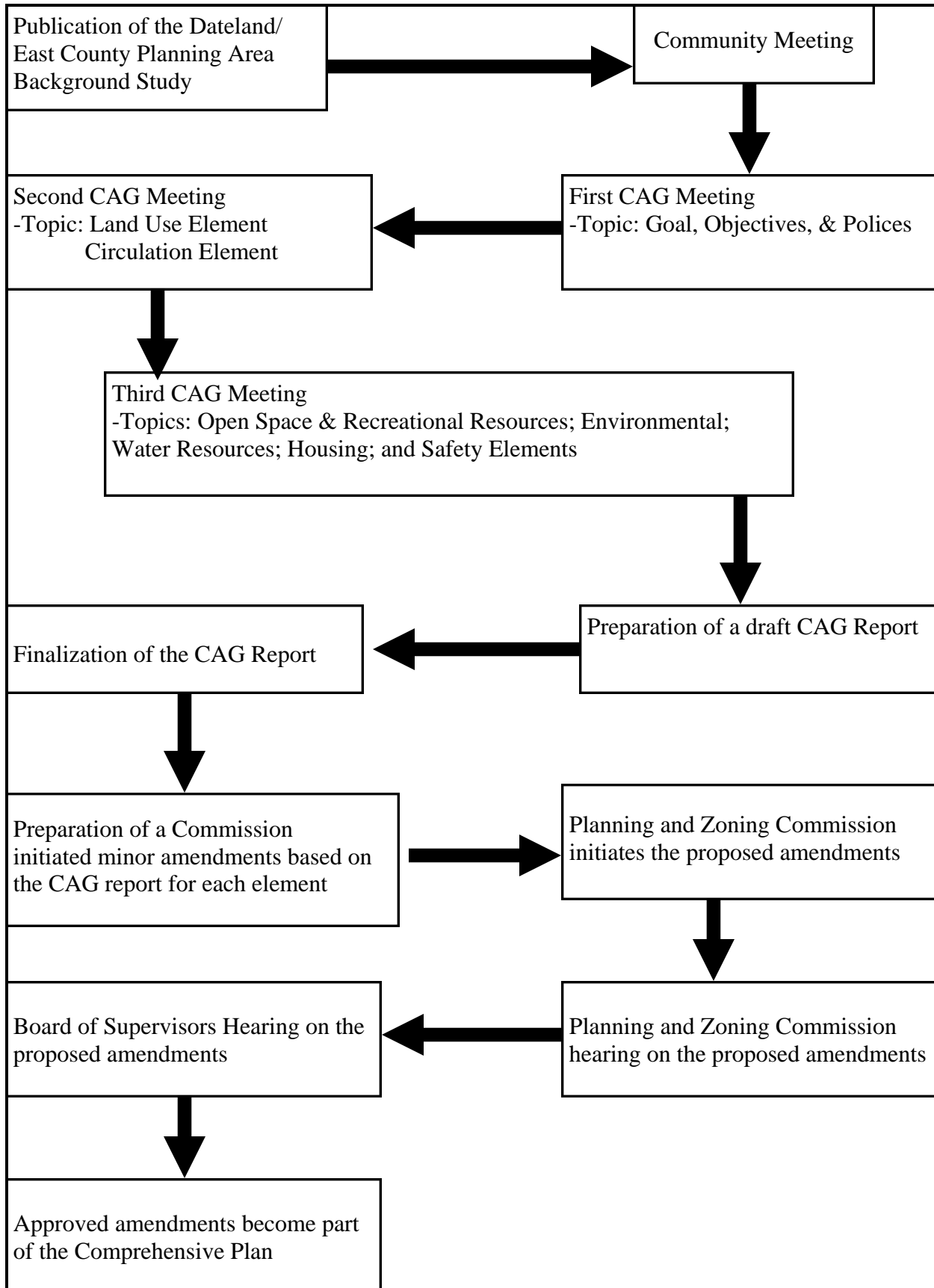


Figure 2: Planning Area Update Process

Community Meeting, March 12, 2008

On March 12, 2008 Long Range Planning staff hosted a community meeting for the Dateland/East County Planning Area was held at Dateland Elementary School in Dateland, Arizona.

Approximately 25 area residents attended the community meeting. The agenda for the community meeting can be found in Appendix A on page 34.

The purpose of the community meeting was to gather all the issues of concern to Dateland residents. The meeting was also held so that residents who would be interested in serving on the Citizen Advisory Group could be identified. The entire planning area update process was explained to the public at this meeting.

Presentation of the Background Study

The community meeting began with a presentation on the Dateland/East County Planning Area Background Study. The background study contains information regarding demographics, land use, and economic development in the Dateland/East County Planning Area.

The Dateland/East County Planning Area is a rural area that contains two small unincorporated Communities, Dateland and Hyder. In 2000 the U.S. Census reported a population of 1,137 for the entire planning area. Between 1990 and 2000 the population of the Dateland/East County Planning Area declined by 295 individuals, a decrease of 20.6%. There was a much different trend was observed in Yuma County and Arizona as a whole. The population of Yuma County as whole increased by 49.7% between 1990 and 2000, and the State of Arizona's population increased by 40%. This demographic trend was completely opposite of the state and county as whole exists in the Dateland/East County Planning Area.

Between January 1, 2000 and August 31, 2007, 89 building/placement permits for residential dwelling units were issued in the Dateland/East County Planning Area. Ninety-four percent of these additional units were classified as manufactured or mobile homes. Most building/placement permits issued for the planning area occurred in the relatively small area bounded by Avenue 65E, Ventura Rd., Balboa Rd., and Belmont Rd. Because it is not know if the permits for manufactured or mobile homes represent additional units added to area or replacements for previously existing units it is not clear how the overall number of housing units in the planning area has changed.

The agricultural industrial sector employs over 60% of employed planning area residents. Likely a significant number of these jobs in agriculture are as farm laborers: 17% of the workforce and 29% of those working in agriculture in the planning area live in what the Census Bureau terms "agriculture workers' dormitories on farms." Agricultural workers comprise a significant portion of the Dateland/East County Planning Area population.

Breakout Groups

The community meeting was divided into three breakout groups. The topics of these three groups were: land use, transportation and utilities, and community facilities. A county staff member facilitated discussion on each of these topics, during which residents voiced their concerns on the topics. The issues raised by area residents were recorded on large sheets of paper. These were used in an exercise later in the meeting in which residents would use dot stickers to indicate which issues they felt were the most important to the area.

Breakout Groups

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The breakout group exercise revealed that residents in attendance at the community meeting believe that two closely related issue were the most important to the future of the Dateland/East County Planning area; the need for more paved roads, and for the regular grading of existing unpaved roads. A desire for more health services was expressed. No one dominate issue of concern was identified in regards to land use issue, rather desire to land use changes to support economic development and residential growth was expressed.

<i>Comments</i>	<i># of Dots</i>
Land Use	
Change designation of land along Avenue 64E from Glendale Road to reflect actual and proposed uses	5
More industrial land uses at Avenue 64E and County 3 rd Street	1
Change 40 acres minimum to RA-10 between Avenue 64E and Avenue 52E	2
More multifamily uses in existing subdivisions	5
Change zoning to make it easier for economic growth	1
Tax incentive for development of wind/solar farms	3
RV park growth for the proposed refinery and ethanol plant	5
Aircraft park	1
Transportation	
Paved roads	16
How do we get roads officially designated	2
Ventura Road – What happened to the turnaround at the terminus?	0
Need drainage and paving to resolve pooling problems (vector issue)	1
Roads need to be graded	16
Improvements to the Avenue 64E interchange like those at Wellton	1
Remove cattle guards	0
Better maintenance of Avenue 64E	1
Truck traffic along Highway 80	0
Light rail to Phoenix using old Phoenix rail line	2
Avenue 64E – cut shoulder and improve	0
Brighton Road, need improvement, grading, floods	0
The local streets need street signs! An improvement for fire and EMS	0
Community Services	
Police, Fire, and EMS services	0
Shuttle into Yuma	0
Longer hours for the library	0
More pay phones	0
Housing development for economic development	1
Solar power plant	2
Health services – doctor/dentist at least two times a month	6

Table 1: Comments from the Community Meeting 9

Chapter 3—Goals, Objectives, and Policies

The goals, objectives, and policies contained in Chapter 3 are the foundation upon which the rest of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan is based. Achieving these goals is the focal point of the individual elements of the Plan.

Chapter 3 defines a *goal*, an *objective*, and a *policy* as follows:

- **Goal:** An end toward which county activities are directed. A goal is abstract, not fully measurable and broadly addresses an outcome identified in the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan.
- **Objective:** A specific target which supports the stated goal.
- **Policy:** A statement prescribing a specific course of action to implement a stated objective.

April 30, 2008 Meeting

Long Range Planning staff hosted a meeting of the Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group to discuss Chapter 3-Goals, Objectives and Police on April 30, 2008 at the Dateland School.

Nine members of the CAG and the TAC attended this meeting. A copy of the meeting agenda and meeting notes can be found in Appendix B starting on page 36.



Figure 6: CAG Members

Meeting Conclusions

Staff reviewed all comments received from the public at the community meeting and selected all the issues and ideas that could be addressed under Chapter 3. Suggested modifications to Chapter 3 to address each issue raised at the community meeting was then prepared by staff. These suggested modifications are shown in Table 2 on the following pages.

This table of suggested changes to the Plan was the basis of discussion for the first CAG meeting. The CAG reviewed and discussed each issue raised at the community meeting and the suggested modification to the goals, objectives, and policies, associated with it. A consensus on whether to accept, reject, or modify the suggested change was then reached. Changes on which a consensus was reached on recommending are shown in the right-hand column of Table 2 on pages 11 to 12.

**Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
Goals, Objectives, and Policies**

Comments From Community Meeting	Citizen Advisory Group’s Recommended Changes
Need to address drainage in relation to roadway through paving and other improvements to resolve pooling problems. Pooling water is a breeding ground for insects (vector issue) that may potentially spread disease.	Under the existing goal of “ <i>Improve Infrastructure, Public facilities, & Services</i> ” on page 3-7 add the following objectives and polices: Objective: To the maximum extent practicable public and private roads will be improved or graded to ensure adequate drainage. Policy: Yuma County will work with area residents to identify and resolve the problems areas in which improper roadway drainage imperils the health, safety and welfare of area residents.
Roads need to be graded.	
Brighton Road needs improvements, grading, and protection against flooding	Policy: Yuma County will work to identify all possible alternative funding sources to pay for an increased level of road maintenance.
Better maintenance of Avenue 64E is needed.	Policy: All new subdivisions will be required to improve and construct roads to standards and specifications that will ensure proper drainage.
Avenue 64E – cut shoulder and improve.	Policy: Yuma County will provide courtesy maintenance on unpaved public roads.
The local streets need street signs. Improvements are needed for fire and emergency medical services.	Under the existing objective of “ <i>Improve existing local roads and access</i> ” on page 3-7 add the following policy: Policy: Assure that all public roads on which there are residences and roads leading to them have appropriate signage.
Roads need to be paved.	Under the existing objective of “ <i>Improve existing local roads and access</i> ” on age 3-7 add the following policy: Policy: The need for additional paved roads will be a critical consideration of any future change in zoning and subdivision of land.
Ventura Road – What happened to the turnaround at the terminus?	Under the existing objective of “ <i>Improve existing local roads and access</i> ” on age 3-7 add the following policy:
Improvements to the Avenue 64E interchange should be like those at the Wellton interchange.	Policy: Any available grant money, such Community Development Block Grant, should be used to pave Glendale Road and the road connecting Glendale Rd to Ventura Rd.
Remove cattle guards	
Truck traffic along Highway 80	

**Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
Goals, Objectives, and Policies**

Comments From Community Meeting	Citizen Advisory Group’s Recommended Changes
How do we get roads officially designated?	<p>Under the existing objective of “<i>Improve existing local roads and access</i>” on page 3-7 add the following policy:</p> <p>Policy: Yuma County staff will assist area residents with the process of getting more area roads accepted into the county system.</p>
Police, Fire, and EMS services should be improved.	<p>Under the existing objective of “<i>Identify infrastructure needs to accommodate build-out and land use patterns in the Dateland Community</i>” on page 3-7 add the following policy:</p> <p>Policy: Yuma County will work with area residents to identify grants that could be used to construct a building to house health and emergency services.</p>
Change zoning to make it easier for economic growth	<p>Under the existing objective of “<i>Encourage a pattern of development that balances agricultural demands with residential, recreational, commercial and industrial uses</i>” on page 3-8 add the following policy</p>
Support RV park growth to house construction worker who will build the proposed refinery and ethanol plant.	<p>Policy: Yuma County will make economic development a consideration when considering any future change in land use designations.</p>
Need more housing development to support future economic development.	
Tax incentive for development of wind/solar farms	<p>Under the existing goal of “<i>Promote Land Use Compatibility</i>” on page 3-8 add the following objective and policy</p>
We need a solar power plant.	<p>Objective: Promote the construction of solar or wind power plants in the Dateland area.</p> <p>Policy: Yuma County will identify the need for alternative sources of energy, such as wind and solar, and identify potential land use categories which would support the construction of wind or solar power plants.</p>

Chapter 4B—Dateland/East County Planning Area-Land Use Element

Chapter 4B includes *Map 4B Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designations* which depicts the land use designation for the planning area. The Land Use Element is critical to providing guidance for future growth and development in the County. Specific intentions and functions of the Land Use Element include: representing countywide interests in where land uses should be located as well as the evolution of land use patterns; setting forth the general categories, distribution, location and extent of land uses; and providing maps to illustrate the location and distribution of land use categories.



Figure 7: CAG Members

August 13, 2008 Meeting

Long Range Planning staff hosted a meeting of the Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group to discuss Chapter 4B—Dateland/East County Planning Area-Land Use Element was held on August 13 2008 at the Dateland School. Ten members of the CAG and the TAC attended this meeting. A copy of the meeting agenda and meeting notes can be found in Appendix C starting on page 41.

Discussion on Long & Short Term Issues

Staff reviewed all ideas and issues received from the public at the community meeting and selected all the ideas and issues that could be addressed under Chapter 4B. A list of suggested modifications to Chapter 4B to address each issue raised at the community meeting was then prepared by staff. A list of long and short term issues was developed for insertion into Chapter 4B which would reflect the concerns of the CAG related to the most important land use issues facing the Dateland/East County Planning Area are.

The CAG reviewed and discussed each long or short term issue raised in Chapter 4B. A list of the issues on which a consensus was reached can be found on the following page.

Long & Short Term Issues Identified by the CAG for Insertion into Chapter 4B

Short Term Issues:

- **Bulk Trash** – There is need for the periodic pick up of bulk trash items.
- **Tires** – There needs to be a mechanism for property owners that have a large numbers of illegally dumped tires on their properties to dispose of them without being charged for disposal. Current Yuma County regulations allow each household in the County to dispose of up to five tires at transfer stations without charge. Many properties in Dateland area, through no fault of the current property owners, are littered with more than five tires. There needs to be a way for property owners to clear their property of illegally dumped tires without being charged for tire disposal.
- **Community cleanup days** – There needs to be periodic community clean ups days in which a specific area is targeted for an organized cleanup by members of the community.
- **Maintenance of Primitive Roads** – There is need for Yuma County to review the development of a policy that would provide for blading and basic maintenance of roads designated as primitive roads by the Board of Supervisors as provided for under ARS §18-207.01.
- **Animal Control** – There is an urgent need for enhanced animal control as a significant numbers of feral dogs are creating a public safety issue.
- **Locally Based Emergency Services** - There is a need for enhanced effort to recruit and train local residents as emergency medical technicians and volunteer firefighters.

Long Term Issues:



Figure 8: CAG & TAC Members

Open Space & Recreational Resources Element

The Open Space & Recreational Resources Element is contained in Chapter 5 of the Comprehensive Plan and addresses the following:

- Provide references to define open space.
- Review and inventory existing lands designated as open space and recreational resources.
- Address strategies to acquire and conserve open space and recreational resources.
- Outline plan criteria so the Yuma County Parks and Recreation Department can operate more effectively.

November 18, 2008 Meeting

Long Range Planning Staff hosted a meeting of the Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group to discuss the Open Space & Recreational Resources Element was held on November 18, 2008, at the Dateland School. Six members of the CAG and the TAC attended this meeting. A copy of the meeting agenda and meeting notes can be found in Appendix D starting on page 45.

Discussion on the Open Space & Recreational Resources Element

Based on input from the CAG on issues relating to open space and recreational resources facing the Dateland/East County Planning area, a new section 5.10, which lists the issues identified by the CAG is being proposed for addition to the Open Space and Recreational Element of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan.

CAG Identified Issues

- Developing a partnership between Yuma County and Hyder Elementary School District #16 to develop a community park at Dateland School
- Restore a portion of the Gila River and include along with this restoration recreational facilities such as trails, ramada's, and other improvements.



Figure 2: Mohawk Mountains

CAG Meetings

The Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group discussed Chapter 6—Dateland/East County Planning Area-Circulation Element on August 13 2008, at the Dateland School. The Circulation Element was also discussed at the November 18, 2009, meeting of the CAG.

Ten members of the CAG and the TAC attended this meeting. A copy of the meeting agenda and meeting notes can be found in Appendix C starting on page 41.

Circulation Element

The Circulation Element is contained in Chapter 6 of the Comprehensive Plan and identifies existing transportation plans. Key issues and concerns originating from public participation are then addressed.

Discussion on the Circulation Element

Chapter 6—*Circulation Element* was reviewed by having CAG members write down their concerns regarding transportation on sticky notes and then placing those sticky notes on the relevant location on a map of the planning area. The CAG then reviewed on all these comments and came to a consensus on what the most important transportation issues facing the planning area were.

Based on input from the CAG on transportation issues facing the Dateland/East County Planning area, new sections 6.6 and 6.6.2 are being proposed for addition to the circulation element of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan.

Raw Comments Regarding Transportation Issues

- Highland Road needs to be graded and paved. Rain Water stands $\frac{3}{4}$ feet high in some places.
- Stop signs at the intersection of Ventura Rd. and Glendale Rd.
- Improved lighting on busy corners.
- School zone speed limit sign.
- Run off from Interstate 8 completely closes Mission Rd, and Frontage Road when it rains, needs some sort of flood control.
- The roads indicated in Figure 4 on page 16 have been identified by area residents as flood prone.



Figure 3: A Primitive Road in the Dateland Area

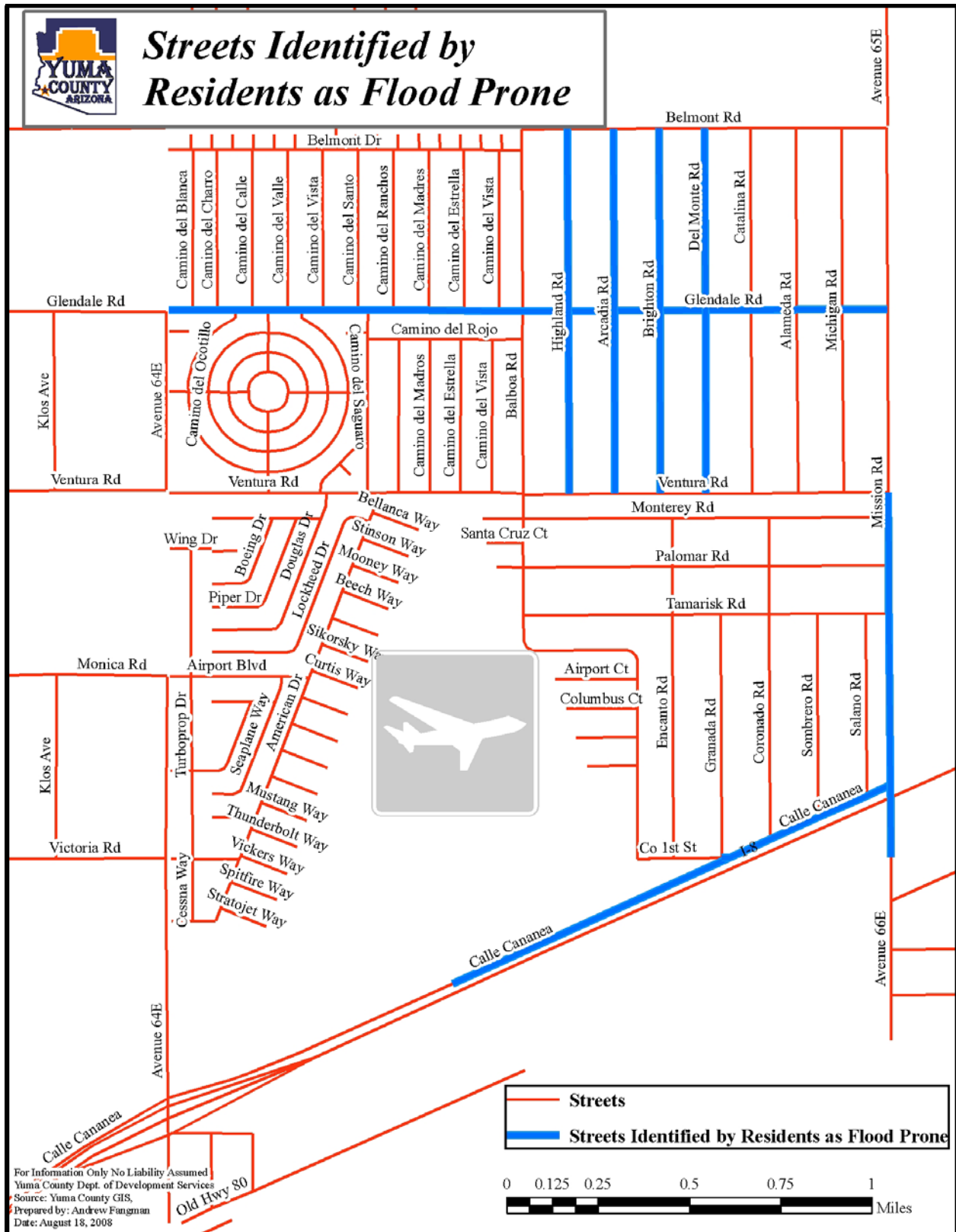


Figure 4: Streets Identified by Residents as Flood Prone

Proposed Section 6.6 Citizen Advisory Group's Recommended Transportation Improvements

In 2008 Citizen Advisory Groups composed of area residents for each planning area reviewed the Comprehensive Plan and made recommendations on updating it to reflect the concerns of area residents. The Citizen Advisory Groups were set up as part of a mid-decade review of the Plan. This process began with a town hall style community meeting. Each Citizens Advisory Group also made recommendations on transportation improvement projects for their planning area. These recommendations should be considered when Yuma County offers input on the development of the Regional Transportation Plan and other transportation improvement plans. Full details of the Citizens Advisory Group's recommendations can be found in the Citizens Advisory Group report for each planning area.

Proposed Section 6.6.2 Dateland/East County Planning Area

- Creation of a paved loop of roads that is comprised of Avenue 64E, Glendale Rd., Ventura Rd., and an additional north-south connector between Glendale Rd. and Ventura Rd.
- Maintenance of Avenue 64E.
- Wherever and whenever roads in the Dateland/East County Planning Area need to be Improved in order to provide residents with reliable all weather access.
- Periodic grading of primitive roads.
- Improvements to the roads that link the Hyder and Aztec areas to Interstate 8.
- Currently many county roads in the Dateland/East County Planning Area become impassable during wet weather. Grading and drainage of roads in the Dateland/East County Planning Area need to improved in order to ensure all weather access.
- Dust Control.



Figure 5: Glendale Road

Environmental Element

The Environmental Element of the Comprehensive Plan is contained in Chapter 7. The stated purpose of the Environmental Element is to:

- Ensure compliance with existing State and Federal Environmental Laws, Regulations, and Executive Orders.
- Recognize the value and condition of existing natural resources in the county and their ecological value.
- Determine the extent to which development activities are required to comply with the goals, objectives and policies contained within The Plan.
- Promote the use of natural resources in the county in a manner that provides for continued economic viability.

Discussion on the Environmental Element

Based on input from the CAG on environmental issues facing the Dateland/East County Planning area, a new section 7.6 which will detail the long and short term issues identified by the CAG is being proposed for addition to the Environmental Element of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan.

Short Term Issues

- Community cleanup days. There need to be periodic community cleanup days in which a specific area is targeted for an organized cleanup by members of the community.

Long Term Issues

- Bulk trash. There is need for the periodic pick up of bulk trash items
- Tires There needs to be a mechanism for property owners that have a large numbers of illegally dumped tires on their properties to dispose of them without being charged for disposal. Current Yuma County regulations allow each household in the County to dispose of up to five tires without charge at a transfer station. Many properties in Dateland area, through no fault of the current property owners, are littered with more than five tires. There needs to be a way for property owners to clear their property of illegally dumped tires with out being charged for tire disposal.
- Restoration of the Gila River
- PM₁₀ (dust) control

Water Resources Element

The Water Resources Element is contained in Chapter 7A in of the Comprehensive Plan and addresses the following:

- Authority to address water resource issues
- Existing water plans
- Existing conditions and trends
- Wastewater management

November 18, 2008 Meeting

A meeting of the Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group to the water Resources Element was held on November 18, 2008, at Dateland School.

Six members of the CAG and the TAC attended this meeting. A copy of the meeting agenda and meeting notes can be found in Appendix D starting on page 45.

Discussion on the Water Resources Element

Based on input from the CAG on issues relating to water resources facing the Dateland/East County Planning area a new section 7A.10 which will detail long and short term issues identified by the CAG is being proposed for addition to the opens space and recreational element of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan.

CAG Identified Issues

- The amount of available potable water privately provided needs to be increased. This will require drilling more wells and the construction of a greater treatment facility and storage capacity.
- Water storage capacity needs to be increased in order to assist in fire fighting, and to create a reserve of potable water in case of extended power outages.
- The quality of drinking water, particularly in regard to fluoride and salt levels, needs to be improved.
- The lack of any centralized sewage treatment facilities is hampering the residential and commercial development of the area.

Safety Element

The Safety Element is contained in Chapter 7B of the Comprehensive Plan and overviews existing safety plans, assesses the nature of these hazards and lists projects and actions to minimize their impact. The Element does not address in-depth responder capabilities, specific procedures used in emergencies or detailed emergency operational strategies.

November 18, 2008 Meeting

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group met to discuss Chapter 7B-*Safety Element* of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan on November 18, 2008 at the Dateland School.

Six members of the CAG and the TAC attended this meeting. A copy of the meeting agenda and meeting notes can be found in Appendix D starting on page 45.

Discussion on the Safety Element

Based on input from the CAG on issues relating to water resources facing the Dateland/East County Planning Area, a new section 7B.6 which will detail issues identified by the CA1 is being proposed for addition to the safety element of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan.

CAG Identified Issues

- Identify and map points where surface water (canals, etc.) is readily available for use in fire fighting.
- Increase the amount of stored water that is available for fire suppression.
- Enhanced effort to recruit and train local residents as emergency medical technicians.
- Enhanced effort to recruit and train local residents as emergency volunteer firefighters.
- There is an urgent need for enhanced animal control, as significant numbers of feral dogs are creating a public safety issue.
- Because the nearest medical clinic is in Wellton, there is need for a mobile medical clinic to visit at least a two days a week.
- Location of an ambulance in the Dateland area, as the nearest ambulance is based out of Wellton.

Housing Element

A housing element is being proposed as a new addition to the Comprehensive Plan. The Housing Element would identify housing opportunities and deficiencies in Yuma County and ways that Yuma County can work with residents and other organizations and entities to assure the effective development of new housing opportunities, protect and enhance existing residential neighborhoods, and revitalize of deteriorating areas to better accommodate the housing needs of Yuma County residents.

November 18, 2008 Meeting

The Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group met to discuss a potential housing element was held on November 18, 2008 at Dateland School

Six members of the CAG and the TAC attended this meeting. A copy of the meeting agenda and meeting notes can be found in Appendix D starting on page 45.

Discussion on the Housing Element

Based on input from the CAG on housing issues facing the Dateland/East County Planning area, a new section will detail the housing issues facing the planning area as identified by the CAG, another new section will contain series of goals, objectives, and policies designed to address the housing related issues.

Housing Issues

- Low rate of home ownership
- Low rate of home construction
- Dire need for more site built homes
- Lack of multi-family housing
- Need for low income housing
- Insufficient housing stock is stifling economic development
- Road, water, and sewer infrastructure are insufficient



Figure 6: An undeveloped residential lot in the Dateland Area

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
Housing Element

Based on these identified housing issues the following goals, policies and objectives were developed with the aim of improving housing in the Dateland/East County Planning Area.

Goal: To increase the homeownership rate in the Dateland/East County Planning Area

Objective: To improve the homeownership rate in the Dateland/East County Planning Area. Currently 47.8% of housing units are owner occupied. This compares to rates of 72.2% and 68% in Yuma County and Arizona, respectively. It is desired that the Dateland/East County Planning Area have a homeownership rate that more closely compares to what is found in the rest of the county and state.

Policy: Yuma County will support grant applications for project that have the goal of increasing homeownership in the Dateland/East County Planning Area.

Policy: To the extent that County resources allow, Yuma County will work to support the efforts of non-county entities and organizations that are working to increase the rate of homeownership in the Dateland/East County Planning Area.

Goal: Housing stock that meets all the needs of the Dateland/East County Planning Area

Objective: To increase diversity in type of housing available in the Dateland/East County Planning Area. Currently approximately 65% of existing housing units are non site built (manufactured homes, RV's, etc.), and multi-family housing is nearly nonexistent in the planning area.

Policy: When considering any future rezoning, land use designation change or change in regulations Yuma County, to the maximum practicable, will take actions that promote the construction of site built homes in the Dateland/East County Planning Area

Policy: When considering any future rezoning, land use designation, or change in regulations Yuma County to the maximum practicable extent will take actions that promote the construction of multi-family housing in the Dateland/East County Planning Area

Objective: To increase the affordability of housing available in the Dateland/East County Planning Area.

Policy: Yuma County will support grant applications for projects that have the goal of increasing housing affordability in the Dateland/East County Planning Area.

Policy: To the extent that County resources allow, Yuma County will work to support the efforts of non-county entities and organizations working to increase housing affordability in the Dateland/East County Planning Area.

CAG Proposed Text Changes

The following pages detail how the text of the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan would need to be modified in order to implement all the CAG recommended changes. These proposed changes are in strike-bold format. Text to be added is shown in all bold and all uppercase, like **THIS**. Text to be removed is shown with a line through it, ~~like this~~.

4B Dateland/East County Planning Area

Goal:	Improve Infrastructure, Public Facilities & Services.
<i>Objective:</i>	Improve existing local roads and access.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will plan for road facilities to reasonably accommodate projected build-out densities.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will upgrade the roadway system through improvement projects.
POLICY:	ASSURE THAT ALL PUBLIC ROADS ON WHICH THERE ARE RESIDENCES AND ROADS LEADING TO THEM HAVE APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE.
POLICY:	THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL PAVED ROADS WILL BE A CRITICAL CONSIDERATION FOR ANY CONSIDERATION OF ANY FUTURE CHANGE IN ZONING AND SUBDIVISION OF LAND
POLICY:	ANY AVAILABLE GRANT MONEY, SUCH AS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS, SHOULD BE USED TO PAVE GLENDALE ROAD AND ROAD CONNECTING GLENDALE RD TO VENTURA RD.
POLICY:	YUMA COUNTY STAFF WILL ASSIST AREA RESIDENTS WITH THE PROCESS OF GETTING MORE AREA ROADS ACCEPTED INTO THE COUNTY SYSTEM.
<i>Objective:</i>	Identify infrastructure needs to accommodate build-out and land use patterns in the Dateland Community.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will perform a cost-benefit and needs analysis for water supply and wastewater treatment facilities.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will perform a cost-benefit and needs analysis for communication and power facilities.
POLICY:	YUMA COUNTY WILL WORK WITH AREA RESIDENTS TO IDENTIFY GRANTS THAT COULD BE USED TO CONSTRUCT A BUILDING TO HOUSE HEALTH AND EMERGENCY SERVICE.

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
CAG Proposed Text Changes—Chapter 3-Goals, Polices, and Objectives

OBJECTIVE:	TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PRACTICABLE, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ROADS WILL BE IMPROVED OR GRADED TO ENSURE ADEQUATE DRAINAGE.
POLICY:	YUMA COUNTY WILL WORK WITH AREA RESIDENTS TO IDENTIFY AND RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS AREAS IN WHICH IMPROPER ROADWAY DRAINAGE MOST IMPERILS THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF AREA RESIDENTS.
POLICY:	YUMA COUNTY WILL WORK TO IDENTIFY ALL POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCES TO PAY FOR AN INCREASED LEVEL OF ROAD MAINTENANCE.
POLICY:	ALL NEW SUBDIVISIONS WILL BE REQUIRED TO IMPROVE AND CONSTRUCT ROADS TO STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS THAT WILL ENSURE PROPER DRAINAGE.
POLICY:	THE COUNTY WILL PROVIDE COURTESY MAINTENANCE ON UNPAVED PUBLIC ROADS
GOAL:	Sustain Agriculture and Rural Character
Objective:	Promote the preservation and productivity of the existing farmlands in the area.
Policy:	Yuma County will provide land use designations to protect agricultural and agricultural residential areas.
Goal:	Plan for Infrastructure Service Area Boundaries
Objective:	Optimize infrastructure support within defined infrastructure service area boundaries.
Policy:	Yuma County will encourage the Planning and Zoning Commission to initiate the formation of infrastructure service area boundaries in the Dateland Community as permitted by A.R.S. §11-826.
Policy:	Yuma County will designate an infrastructure service area boundary around the Dateland Community showing the proposed location of residential development.
Policy:	Yuma County will develop a specific method to estimate future infrastructure needs within the infrastructure service area boundary.
Goal:	Promote Land Use Compatibility
Objective:	Encourage a pattern of development that balances agricultural demands with residential, recreational, commercial and industrial land uses.

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
CAG Proposed Text Changes—Chapter 3-Goals, Polices, and Objectives

<i>POLICY:</i>	YUMA COUNTY WILL MAKE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT A CONSIDERATION WHEN CONSIDERING ANY FUTURE CHANGE IN LAND USE DESIGNATIONS.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will identify appropriate land use patterns in the Dateland Community.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will encourage new development be placed in proximity to existing development.
<i>OBJECTIVE:</i>	PROMOTE THE CONSTRUCTION OF SOLAR OR WIND POWER PLANTS IN THE DATELAND AREA.
<i>POLICY:</i>	YUMA COUNTY WILL IDENTIFY THE NEED FOR ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY, SUCH AS WIND AND SOLAR, AND IDENTIFY POTENTIAL LAND USE CATEGORIES WHICH WOULD SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF WIND OR SOLAR POWER PLANTS.
<i>Goal:</i>	Protect & conserve sensitive areas and resource lands
<i>Objective:</i>	Utilize available resources to inventory and plan for the conservation of environmentally sensitive areas and resource lands.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will coordinate with local government, state and federal agencies to assist in designating environmentally sensitive areas and resource lands.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will use available mapping resources to designate environmentally sensitive areas and resource lands.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will institute methods to conserve sensitive areas and resource lands.
<i>Objective:</i>	Balance development along the Gila River corridor with environmental concerns.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will work with local residents to identify future Gila River corridor development types.
<i>Goal:</i>	Protect historical & unique assets
<i>Objective:</i>	Preserve historical assets and local areas of significance.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will conduct inventories of cultural areas including but not limited to: Sears Point, Butterfield Stage Route and WWII Training Sites.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will contact appropriate organizations for assistance to identify its cultural resources.
<i>Policy:</i>	Yuma County will develop a plan to preserve cultural resources and implement preservation measures.

Short Term Issues:

Public Services –

o There is a need for police, fire and paramedic assistance. Emergency services are currently unavailable on an immediate or routine basis.

THERE IS A NEED FOR ENHANCED EFFORT TO RECRUIT AND TRAIN LOCAL RESIDENTS AS EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS AND VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTERS.

Disposal of Solid Waste - There is a need for **MORE** transfer station **OPERATING HOURS**, disposal program and more county support in order to assist in abating junk, trash and other debris.

o **BULK TRASH –THERE IS NEED FOR THE PERIODIC PICK UP OF BULK TRASH ITEMS**

TIRES – THERE NEEDS TO BE A MECHANISM FOR PROPERTY OWNERS THAT HAVE A LARGE NUMBERS OF ILLEGALLY DUMPED TIRES ON THEIR PROPERTIES TO DISPOSE OF THEM WITHOUT BEING CHARGED FOR DISPOSAL. CURRENT YUMA COUNTY REGULATIONS ALLOW EACH HOUSEHOLD IN THE COUNTY TO DISPOSE OF UP TO FIVE TIRES WITHOUT CHARGE. MANY PROPERTIES IN DATELAND AREA, THROUGH NO FAULT OF THE CURRENT PROPERTY OWNERS, ARE LITTERED WITH MORE THAN FIVE TIRES. THERE NEEDS TO BE A WAY FOR PROPERTY OWNERS TO CLEAR THEIR PROPERTY OF ILLEGALLY DUMPED TIRES WITH OUT BEING CHARGED FOR TIRE DISPOSAL.

MAINTENANCE OF PRIMITIVE ROADS – THERE IS A NEED FOR YUMA COUNTY TO DEVELOP A POLICY THAT WOULD PROVIDE FOR BLADING AND BASIC MAINTENANCE OF ROADS DESIGNATED AS PRIMITIVE ROADS BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARS §18-207.01.

ANIMAL CONTROL – THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR ENHANCED ANIMAL CONTROL, SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF FERAL DOGS ARE CREATING A PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUE.

5.10 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS IDENTIFIED ISSUES

IN 2008 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS, COMPOSED OF AREA RESIDENTS, FOR EACH PLANNING AREA, REVIEWED THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND MADE RECOMMENDATIONS ON UPDATING IT TO REFLECT THE CONCERNS OF AREA RESIDENTS. THE CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS WERE SET UP AS PART OF A MID-DECADE REVIEW OF THE PLAN. THIS PROCESS BEGAN WITH A TOWN HALL STYLE MEETING. EACH CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP THEN IDENTIFIED A LIST OF ISSUES REGARDING OPEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES THEY CONSIDERED CRITICAL TO THEIR PLANNING AREA. THE COUNTY SHALL WORK TOWARDS ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES WHEN EVER POSSIBLE. FULL DETAILS OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUPS RECOMMENDATIONS CAN BE FOUND IN THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP REPORT FOR EACH PLANNING AREA.

5.10.1.1 DATELAND/EAST COUNTY PLANNING AREA SHORT TERM ISSUES

- DEVELOPING A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN YUMA COUNTY AND HYDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #16 TO DEVELOP A COMMUNITY PARK AT DATELAND SCHOOL**
- RESTORE A PORTION OF THE GILA RIVER AND INCLUDE ALONG WITH THIS RESTORATION RECREATIONAL FACILITIES SUCH AS TRAILS, RAMADA'S, ETC.**

6.6 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS RECOMMENDED TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

IN 2008 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS COMPOSED OF AREA RESIDENTS FOR EACH PLANNING AREA REVIEWED THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND MADE RECOMMENDATIONS ON UPDATING IT TO REFLECT THE CONCERNS OF AREA RESIDENTS. THE CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS WERE SET UP AS PART OF A MID-DECADE REVIEW OF THE PLAN. THIS PROCESS BEGAN WITH A TOWN HALL STYLE COMMUNITY MEETING. EACH CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP ALSO MADE RECOMMENDATIONS ON TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THEIR PLANNING AREA. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHEN YUMA COUNTY OFFERS INPUT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLANS. FULL DETAILS OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUPS RECOMMENDATIONS CAN BE FOUND IN THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP REPORT FOR EACH PLANNING AREA.

6.6.1 DATELAND/EAST COUNTY PLANNING AREA

- **CREATION OF A PAVED LOOP OF ROADS THAT IS COMPRISED OF AVENUE 64E, GLENDALE RD., VENTURA RD., AND AN ADDITIONAL NORTH-SOUTH CONNECTOR BETWEEN GLENDALE RD. AND VENTURA RD.**
- **MAINTENANCE OF AVENUE 64E.**
- **WHEREVER AND WHENEVER ROADS IN THE DATELAND/EAST COUNTY PLANNING AREA NEED TO BE IMPROVED.**
- **PERIODIC GRADING OF PRIMITIVE ROADS.**
- **IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ROADS THAT LINK THE HYDER AND AZTEC AREAS TO INTERSTATE 8.**
- **CURRENTLY MANY ROADS IN THE DATELAND/EAST COUNTY PLANNING AREA BECOME IMPASSABLE DURING WET WEATHER. GRADING AND DRAINAGE OF ROADS IN THE DATELAND/EAST COUNTY PLANNING AREA NEED TO IMPROVED IN ORDER TO ENSURE ALL WEATHER ACCESS.**
- **DUST CONTROL**

7.6 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS IDENTIFIED SHORT AND LONG TERM ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

IN 2008 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS, COMPOSED OF AREA RESIDENTS, FOR EACH PLANNING AREA, REVIEWED THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND MADE RECOMMENDATIONS ON UPDATING IT TO REFLECT THE CONCERNS OF AREA RESIDENTS. THE CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS WERE SET UP AS PART OF A MID-DECADE REVIEW OF THE PLAN. THIS PROCESS BEGAN WITH A TOWN HALL STYLE MEETING. EACH CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP IDENTIFIED A LIST OF SHORT AND LONG TERM ISSUES REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENT THEY CONSIDER CRITICAL TO THEIR PLANNING AREA. THE COUNTY SHALL WORK TOWARDS ADDRESSING THE SHORT AND LONG TERM ISSUES WHEN EVER POSSIBLE. FULL DETAILS OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUPS RECOMMENDATIONS CAN BE FOUND IN THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP REPORT FOR EACH PLANNING AREA.

7.6.1.1 DATELAND/EAST COUNTY PLANNING AREA SHORT TERM ISSUES

COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAYS – THERE NEEDS TO BE PERIODIC COMMUNITY CLEAN UPS DAYS IN WHICH A SPECIFIC AREA IS TARGETED FOR AN ORGANIZED CLEANUP BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

7.6.1.2 DATELAND/EAST COUNTY PLANNING AREA LONG TERM ISSUES

- BULK TRASH –THERE IS NEED FOR THE PERIODIC PICK UP OF BULK TRASH ITEMS.**

- TIRES – THERE NEEDS TO BE A MECHANISM FOR PROPERTY OWNERS THAT HAVE A LARGE NUMBERS OF ILLEGALLY DUMPED TIRES ON THEIR PROPERTIES TO DISPOSE OF THEM WITHOUT BEING CHARGED FOR DISPOSAL. CURRENT YUMA COUNTY REGULATIONS ALLOW EACH HOUSEHOLD IN THE COUNTY TO DISPOSE OF UP TO FIVE TIRES WITHOUT CHARGE. MANY PROPERTIES IN DATELAND AREA, THROUGH NO FAULT OF THE CURRENT PROPERTY OWNERS, ARE LITTERED WITH MORE THAN FIVE TIRES. THERE NEEDS TO BE A WAY FOR PROPERTY OWNERS TO CLEAR THEIR PROPERTY OF ILLEGALLY DUMPED TIRES WITH OUT BEING CHARGED FOR TIRE DISPOSAL.**

- RESTORATRION OF THE GILA RIVER.**

- PM¹⁰ CONTROL.**

7A.10 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS IDENTIFIED SHORT AND LONG TERM WATER RESOURCES ISSUES

IN 2008 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS, COMPOSED OF AREA RESIDENTS FOR EACH PLANNING AREA, REVIEWED THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND MADE RECOMMENDATIONS ON UPDATING IT TO REFLECT THE CONCERNS OF AREA RESIDENTS. THE CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS WERE SET UP AS PART OF A MID-DECADE REVIEW OF THE PLAN. THIS PROCESS BEGAN WITH A TOWN HALL STYLE MEETING. EACH CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP IDENTIFIED A LIST OF ISSUES REGARDING WATER RESOURCES THAT THEY CONSIDER CRITICAL TO THEIR PLANNING AREA. THE COUNTY SHALL WORK TOWARDS ADDRESSING THE ISSUES WHENEVER POSSIBLE. FULL DETAILS OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUPS RECOMMENDATIONS CAN BE FOUND IN THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP REPORT FOR EACH PLANNING AREA.

7A.10.1 DATELAND/EAST COUNTY PLANNING AREA ISSUES

- **THE AMOUNT OF AVAILABLE POTABLE WATER NEEDS TO BE INCREASED. THIS WILL REQUIRE DRILLING MORE WELLS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TREATMENT FACILITY AND GREATER STORAGE CAPACITY.**
- **WATER STORAGE CAPACITY NEEDS TO BE INCREASED IN ORDER TO ASSIST IN FIRE FIGHTING, AND TO CREATE A RESERVE OF POTABLE WATER IN CASE OF EXTENDED POWER OUTAGES.**
- **THE QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER, PARTICULARLY IN REGARDS TO FLUORIDE AND SALT LEVELS, NEEDS TO BE IMPROVED.**
- **THE LACK OF ANY CENTRALIZED SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES IS HAMPERING RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA.**

7B.6 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS IDENTIFIED SHORT AND LONG TERM SAFETY ISSUES

IN 2008 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS, COMPOSED OF AREA RESIDENTS FOR EACH PLANNING AREA, REVIEWED THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND MADE RECOMMENDATIONS ON UPDATING IT TO REFLECT THE CONCERNS OF AREA RESIDENTS. THE CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUPS WERE SET UP AS PART OF A MID-DECADE REVIEW OF THE PLAN. THIS PROCESS BEGAN WITH A TOWN HALL STYLE MEETING. EACH CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP THEN IDENTIFIED A LIST OF SHORT AND LONG TERM ISSUES REGARDING SAFETY THAT THEY CONSIDER CRITICAL TO THERE PLANNING AREA. THE COUNTY SHALL WORK TOWARDS ADDRESSING THE SHORT AND LONG TERM ISSUES WHENEVER POSSIBLE. FULL DETAILS OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUPS RECOMMENDATIONS CAN BE FOUND IN THE CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP REPORT FOR EACH PLANNING AREA.

7B.6.1 DATELAND/EAST COUNTY PLANNING AREA SHORT TERM ISSUES

- **IDENTIFY AND MAP POINTS WHERE SURFACE WATER (CANALS, ETC.) IS READILY AVAILABLE FOR USE IN FIRE FIGHTING.**
- **INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF STORED WATER THAT IS AVAILABLE FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION/**
- **ENHANCED EFFORT TO RECRUIT AND TRAIN LOCAL RESIDENTS AS EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS.**
- **ENHANCED EFFORT TO RECRUIT AND TRAIN LOCAL RESIDENTS AS EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS.**
- **THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR ENHANCED ANIMAL CONTROL, SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF FERAL DOGS ARE CREATING A PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUE.**
- **BECAUSE THE NEAREST MEDICAL CLINIC IS IN WELLTON, THERE IS NEED FOR A MOBILE MEDICAL CLINIC TO VISIT AT LAST A TWO DAYS A WEEK.**
- **LOCATION OF AN AMBULANCE IN THE DATELAND AREA, RIGHT NOW THE NEAREST AMBULANCE IS BASED OUT OF WELLTON.**

Appendix A
March 12, 2008
Community Meeting



Dateland/East County Planning Area Community Meeting Agenda

DATE: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
TIME: 5:00 P.M.
PLACE: Dateland Elementary School, 1300 S. Avenue 64E, Dateland, AZ

STAFF:
Anne Eichberger, Manager, Long Range Planning
Andrew Fangman, Planner III
Fernando Villegas, Planner II
Angelica Gomez, Office Specialist II

Welcome and Introductions

Process Overview

Presentation – Dateland/East County Planning Area Background Study

Breakout Sessions:

Land Use

Community Facilities

Transportation and Utilities

Presentation Summaries for Breakout Session Findings: Presentation to the entire group

Issues Prioritization

Wrap Up

Adjourn

Appendix B
April 30, 2008
Meeting



Citizen Advisory Group Meeting #1
Dateland/East County Planning Area
Dateland Elementary School, Dateland, Arizona

April 30, 2008, 5:00 PM

Agenda

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Introductions**
- 3. Overview of the Citizen Advisory Group process**
- 4. Review of changes to proposed changes to Chapter 3 – Goals, Objectives, and Policies.**
Review of a table containing all comments relating to Chapter 3 gathered at the community meeting, showing how Chapter 3 could be modified to address these concerns.
- 5. Discussion on any other issue related to Chapter 3 that the C.A.G. wishes to address**
- 6. Discussion of and setting of future CAG meeting dates**
- 7. Next Meeting: TBA**
Review of Chapter 4D - Land Use Element, Including the Land Use Map.

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
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YUMA COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
REGULAR MEETING NOTES
April 30, 2008

Staff members present were Andrew Fangman, Planner III, Fernando Villegas, Planner II and Angelica Gomez, Office Specialist II. Chairman Melchionne and Commissioner Briggs from the Planning Commission were present.

The meeting was held at the Dateland Elementary School, Dateland, Arizona 85333.

Andrew Fangman, Planner III introduced staff, welcomed the Citizen Advisory Group members and stated the meeting was a follow up meeting from the community meeting held in March. He stated the intent of the meeting was to talk about issues and ideas that came up at the community meeting pertaining to the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Fangman indicated to the members they would be reviewing Chapter 3 of the Goals, Objectives & Policies of the Plan which would assist staff in gathering ideas and information for the Dateland Planning Area. He gave a brief explanation on the comments received relating to Chapter 3 and noted the comments were grouped by topic.

Fernando Villegas, Planner II, gave a brief explanation on what would be discussed at the meeting. He indicated that staff would be talking about zoning and transportation issues at the next meeting. Mr. Villegas read comments 1 through 5 and how they could be implemented. Mr. Fangman asked the members if they would like to make any changes.

Roland Walker, 17215 S. Avenue 64E, questioned if any of the improvements requested in 2001 had been made.

Mr. Fangman stated they were mostly the same issues from 2001. He noted that the 2010 Comprehensive Plan covers a lot of topics and could do more in certain areas.

Pat Koury, 1300 S. Avenue 64E stated growth would not occur until roads were built and water was available in these areas.

Joe Melchionne, Planning & Zoning Commission Chairman, stated that if there was a problem it needed to be resolved within a certain amount of time. He noted that the members needed to be loud so they could be heard by the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Koury mentioned that the lack of infrastructure in Dateland was holding growth back in the area. He talked about reactivating the courtesy maintenance agreement under the primitive road statute. Mr. Koury indicated the agreement would allow the County to grade roads in the Dateland area every four years.

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
Appendix B

Mr. Fangman stated the new comment should read “Reactivate the Courtesy Maintenance under the primitive road statute policy. The members agreed to the change and there were no more comments.

Mr. Villegas read comment six and how it could be implemented. There were no changes from the members.

Mr. Villegas read comment seven and how it could be implemented. **Mr. Walker** stated grant money could help pave the roads. **Mr. Koury** stated roads could be built with block grant money similar to what the school receives each year. He noted that Ms. Nancy Ngai has helped them in the past.

Mr. Villegas read comments 8 through 11 and noted these comments would be reviewed in the next meeting.

Mr. Villegas read comment twelve and how it could be implemented. **Mr. Koury** stated this issue has never happened with the Board of Supervisors. He noted they have had a lot of problems when trying to designate roads. Mr. Koury noted if roads could be designated they could be maintained by the County. **Mr. Fangman** stated there could be a policy saying “Yuma County staff will work with area residents to get more roads designated into the county system”.

Mr. Villegas read comments thirteen and fourteen and how they could be implemented. The members decided to remove these comments due to the lack of interest.

Mr. Villegas read comments fifteen through seventeen and how they could be implemented. The members decided to keep these comments as they were written.

Mr. Villegas read comment eighteen and how it could be implemented. He stated this comment would be addressed in Chapter 7B-Safety Element.

Mr. Villegas read comments nineteen through twenty-one and how they could be implemented. He indicated that in the next meeting the members could designate a specific location on the map to address these comments.

Mr. Villegas read comments twenty-two through twenty-four and how they could be implemented. He indicated that staff has not denied any subdivision projects in the Dateland area because staff was in support of this type of development. **Mr. Villegas** noted the problem in this area was with infrastructure. He indicated there was a policy for these comments already in the Plan. **Mr. Koury** noted people want to build RV parks and some want to keep farming the land.

Mr. Villegas read comment twenty-five and how it could be implemented. **Mr. Koury** stated that with any big business tax incentives would come in. **Mr. Fangman** stated staff would look into zoning to make sure there are no obstacles in doing this. There were no changes from the members.

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
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Mr. Villegas read comment twenty-seven and how it could be implemented. The members were satisfied with the objective.

Mr. Villegas read comment twenty-eight and how it could be implemented. There were no changes from the members.

Mr. Fangman stated the next meeting would be in late June. He also noted he would bring the primitive road statute for the members.

Mr. Koury stated the most important issue in Dateland was infrastructure.

Mr. Walker questioned what the status was in getting Dateland assigned with 911.

Mr. Fangman stated he would invite Lou Miranda who is familiar with this issue to the next meeting.

There were no more questions or concerns from the members.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Appendix C

August 13, 2008

Meeting



Citizen Advisory Group Meeting #2

**Dateland/East County Planning Area
Dateland, Arizona**

August 13, 2008, 5:30 PM

Agenda

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Introductions**
- 3. Work session on potential changes to Chapter 4B –Dateland/East County Planning Area**
- 4. Drawing session for specific changes to the Land Use Map**
- 5. Drawing session for specific changes to the Zoning map in the Dateland/East County Planning Area**
- 6. Discussion and workshop on Chapter 6 – Circulation Element**
Workshop in which the CAG will identify desired transportation improvements
- 7. Discussion of and setting of future CAG meeting date**
- 8. Next Meeting: TBA.**

Review of Chapter 5 – Open Space & Recreational Resources, Chapter 7 – Environmental Element, Chapter - 7A Water Resources, and Chapter - 7B Safety Element

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
Appendix C

YUMA COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
REGULAR MEETING NOTES
August 13, 2008

Staff members present were Andrew Fangman, Planner III, Fernando Villegas, Planner II and Angelica Gomez, Office Specialist II. Chairman Melchionne and Commissioner Briggs from the Planning Commission were present.

The meeting was held at the Dateland Elementary School, Dateland, Arizona 85333.

Andrew Fangman, Planner III, introduced staff, welcomed the Citizen Advisory Group members to the second meeting. He informed the members they would be reviewing Chapter 4A, Land Use Designations and Chapter 6, Circulation Element which were two major portions of the 2010 Comprehensive Plan as it pertains to the Dateland area. **Mr. Fangman** stated staff would review the Short and Long Terms issues discussed at the last CAG meeting and staff would add or delete any additional comments. He read both short term issues discussed in the last meeting.

Diane Nunn, 1278 Alameda, stated the local transfer station was open only on Sunday's from 8:00 am to 4:00 p.m. **Mr. Fangman** stated he would delete the reference for the transfer station because it was not needed.

Lucy Shipp, ADOT questioned if there was still the need for the second sentence which read "County support to assist abating junk, trash,, and debris. Ms. Shipp asked if the Dateland area still had problems with desert dumping.

Ms. Nunn stated the dumping still occurred and noted a clean up was done two years ago. She noted that Mr. Peterson and Mr. Koury head up the project and nothing had been done since then.

Don Lane, 1775 Brighton Rd, suggested there be an educational program to inform people in the area about the transfer station.

Ms. Shipp questioned how well known it was there was a transfer station and when was it open. **Ms. Nunn** stated there was a sign at the post office and store. She asked how a littering ordinance could be enforced.

Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman Melchionne, stated the transfer station could be open an extra day as well as on Sunday's. The members agreed that Sunday would be a better day to have the transfer station open. **Ms. Nunn** noted the transfer station could be open one Saturday in every month. **Mr. Fangman** stated the City of Yuma performs neighborhood cleanups once a year. The CAG members stated there was also a tire disposal problem and residents were only allowed to dispose five tires per year to the transfer station.

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
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The members stated they would like to see more recruitment of EMT'S for medical services for adults in the Dateland area. Mr. Fangman read the comments given by the CAG members.

Ms. Nunn stated many residents have problems with animal control issues or stray dogs in the area.

Mr. Fangman asked the members is there were any more short term issues that needed to be addressed. There were no more short term issues discussed. He then proceeded to read the Long Term issues in the Dateland area which were improved roads, agriculture and public infrastructure. The members stated that one of the issues in the area was the flooding of roads.

Gary of Dateland stated the roads were below grade of the desert and recommended earth work being done on both sides to raise the elevation and prevent the flooding.

Chairman Melchionne asked how long was a long term issue and when could it be turned into a Short Term issue. **Mr. Fangman** stated that all short term issues were directed towards policy changes. **Chairman Melchionne** stated these long term issues needed to be moved up to priority.

Mr. Fangman noted in the last meetings held one of the main topics was primitive roads. He stated residents could petition the County to designate county roads as primitive roads. He informed the members that Gila County developed a county policy where residents go through the process to get roads designated as primitive roads and the county would grade roads on an annual basis.

Ms. Shipp asked if this would fit under a state statute. **Mr. Fangman** stated it would.

Ms. Nunn stated her main concern was if the roads were designated as primitive they would just stay there and nothing would be done to them. **Mr. Fangman** stated that none of the roads in Dateland were designated as primitive.

Ms. Lane asked how these roads could get listed as primitive roads. **Ms. Shipp** stated the county would have to establish a policy. **Mr. Fangman** stated the residents would need to start a petition. The members would like these roads be designated as primitive roads.

Commissioner Melchionne stated he could contact Monty Stansbury to initiate a commission initiative to adopt a policy on primitive roads and indicated he would talk to the Planning Director.

Mr. Fangman asked the members to write down any questions or concerns they had with transportation or anything related to roads for the long term issues. He read the comments posted on the map that was a concern in the Dateland area. He asked the members to write any changes on the land use designation and zoning district maps that needed to be changed. Mr. Fangman gave a brief explanation on both of the maps that were displayed. The members would like to see stop signs on primitive streets and requested there be a stop sign on Ventura and Glendale. The members stated the lighting on busy corners also needed to be improved.

Mr. Fangman stated he would send a letter to the members to inform them when the next meeting would be.

Meeting adjourned 7:15p.m

Appendix D

November 18, 2008

Meeting

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Meeting #3
Dateland Elementary School, Dateland, Arizona
November 18, 2008, 5:00 PM

Agenda

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Introductions and Overview**
- 3. Follow up on discussion at the CAG #2 meeting on primitive roads.**
- 4. Discussion on Chapter 5 – Open Space & Recreational Resources**
An opportunity for CAG members to discuss any changes that they wish to see to Chapter 5
- 5. Discussion on Chapter 7 – Environmental Element**
An opportunity for CAG members to discuss any changes that they wish to see to Chapter 7
- 6. Discussion on Chapter - 7A Water Resources**
An opportunity for CAG members to discuss any changes that they wish to see to Chapter 7A
- 7. Discussion on Chapter - 7B Safety Element**
An opportunity for CAG members to discuss any changes that they wish to see to Chapter 7B
- 8. Discussion on the next of the Citizen Advisory Group process**

Dateland/East County Citizen Advisory Group Report
Appendix D

YUMA COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
REGULAR MEETING NOTES
November 18, 2008

Staff members present were Andrew Fangman, Planner III, Long Range Planning, Fernando Villegas, Planner II and Angelica Gomez, Office Specialist II.

The meeting was held at the Dateland Elementary School, Dateland, Arizona 85333.

Andrew Fangman, Planner III introduced staff and welcomed the Citizen Advisory Group members to the meeting. He informed the members they would be reviewing Chapter 5, Open Space & Recreational Resources, Chapter 7, Environmental Element, Chapter 7A, Water Resources and Chapter 7B, Safety Element which were part of the 2010 Comprehensive Plan as it pertained to the Dateland area.

Mr. Fangman discussed the issue of primitive roads in the Dateland area and indicated he had been discussing this issue with the Engineering and Public works department.

John “Pat” Koury, 1300 S. Avenue 64E, Dateland stated Ventura Rd. and Glendale Rd. were roads that needed to be brought up to code. Mr. Koury stated he had been working with Nancy Ngai in the past on possible ways of receiving funds to pave these roads.

Diane Nunn, 1278 Alameda, Dateland, stated Glendale should be the first road to be paved due to the problems with dust control and because it was a main artery road.

Mr. Fangman continued with Chapter 5, Open Space & Recreational Resources and noted there had not been a lot of items for recreation.

Ms. Nunn asked if they could treat the school campus as there Community Park.

Mr. Fangman indicated there were many school campuses’s that were treated as Community Parks.

Ms. Nunn stated that a small wetland’s walking trail could be requested near the Gila River.

Mr. Fangman stated there was money for brush removal and it would be under the Safety Element.

Ms. Nunn stated this could be a project for students who need community service hours.

Mr. Fangman read the items that were requested from the members.

Steven Steenhard, Deputy Zoning Inspector stated the park could include a baseball field and whatever amenity ththatneeded to be installed.

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Mr. Fangman went over the Environmental needs and stated there was an issue with disposing of tires. He noted there should be a method of disposing those tires for those residents who have had illegally tires dumped on their property.

Ms. Nunn stated if residents could dispose of tires correctly there would not be a problem.

Mr. Koury stated there was a problem with dust in the area.

Mr. Fangman stated this could be put into the Environmental and Infrastructure Element. He indicated it was called PM¹⁰ and would address it in the report.

Mr. Fangman continued with the Water Resources Element and asked if there was a need for this.

Mr. Koury stated there was not enough water to support housing in Dateland. He indicated there were only two wells and noted there needed to be more wells and more storage for water. He indicated potable water was high in fluoride and was illegal to drink. He also noted the water was high in salts in the Dateland area.

Mr. Fangman noted everything was on septic systems in the Dateland area and residents needed to connect to a major arterial.

Mr. Koury said this was affecting the infrastructure and growth of the community.

Mr. Fangman continued with the Safety Element.

Mr. Koury stated they trained three EMT's and a paramedic with school money. He noted the nearest ambulance service was 50 miles from Dateland and there was a fire truck on site that was purchased through a grant and had been tagged to the Tacna Fire Department. Mr. Koury indicated if the fire truck left school grounds it would have trouble hooking up to water. He also stated they had given up a space for the Sheriff's Office.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

