

Transportation and Land Management Agency - Planning Department

Background

The Transportation and Land Management Agency (TLMA) consists of three departments, Transportation, Planning and Building and Safety. This agency was created by the Board of Supervisors in November 1991.

The intent of TLMA was to remove duplicate efforts, improve services to the public, achieve a higher degree of efficiency and cut costs.

The Riverside County Planning Department is responsible for the development of a comprehensive general plan for land use goals, immediate and long range.

Findings

1. The Riverside County General Plan was prepared in accordance with state law and adopted in 1984.
2. The plan was intended to be flexible enough to reflect changes in infrastructure and public services. The plan needs to be continually updated to reflect the changes due to the growth within the county.
3. Due to downsizing of the department in 1995, the workload often exceeds the ability of personnel to inspect projects on a timely basis.
4. The Hemet Building and Safety office was closed five years ago. The downsizing caused the closure of the Temecula satellite office. These offices provided a planning officer who enabled developers and homeowners to obtain permits conveniently. Currently, the Riverside and Indio offices are the only ones open.

Recommendations

The Board of Supervisors direct:

1. Planning Department to continue to revise and update the County General Plan.
2. The Planning Department to contract, on a limited basis, for additional inspections as the workload demands.
3. The Planning Department to study the feasibility of reopening the Temecula office because of the continuing growth in this area.