



## San Anselmo News

Debra Stutsman, Town Manager  
[dstutsman@townofsananselmo.org](mailto:dstutsman@townofsananselmo.org)  
(415) 258-4652

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### Housing Element Update

On Tuesday, July 13, 2010, the Town Council will hold a public hearing to consider the Town's Preliminary Draft Housing Element.

State law requires each city and county to adopt a comprehensive, long term, general plan to guide its future. The general plan, which is essentially the constitution or blueprint for development within a community, must contain at least seven elements, including a housing element.

A housing element provides an analysis of the community's housing needs for all income levels, and strategies to respond to those needs. Unlike other mandatory general plan elements, the housing element is subject to detailed statutory requirements and mandatory review by the State Department of Housing and Community Development.

SB2, which was passed in 2007, requires that all cities have a zone in place to permit at least one year-round emergency shelter without a conditional use permit or any discretionary permit requirements.

In conformance with SB2, the Town's Preliminary Draft Housing Element includes Policy H4.9 and Implementing Program H4.A that require that the Town will establish zoning which will allow an emergency shelter for the homeless as a permitted use in the area along Greenfield Avenue and in areas zoned Limited Commercial along Sir Francis Drake Boulevard where the property is located within one-quarter mile of a transit stop.

The Preliminary Draft Housing Element states that the Town will establish written and objective standards as allowed in State law, covering maximum number of beds, off-street parking based on demonstrated need, size and location of on-site waiting and intake areas, provision of on-site management, proximity to other shelters, length of stay, lighting and security during hours when the shelter is open.

The Preliminary Draft Housing Element also indicates that the Town will encourage a dispersion of facilities to avoid an overconcentration of shelters for the homeless in any given area and will encourage positive relations between neighborhoods and providers of permanent or temporary emergency shelters.

The Town recognizes the concerns associated with locating a homeless shelter. Towards this end, the Preliminary Draft Housing Element includes provisions to ensure that shelters will be developed in a manner that protects the health, safety and general welfare of nearby residents and businesses while providing for the needs of a segment of the population, as required by State law.

The purpose of the July 13 Council hearing is to present an overview of the Preliminary Draft Housing Element and background on State law requirements and to review the Planning Commission's recommendation to the Council.

This is a preliminary step in a long process that will include many public hearings. The public is invited to attend and provide comment. At the close of the public hearing on July 13, the Council may direct Staff and the Housing Consultant to prepare a Draft Housing Element to be sent to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for their review and comment.

HCD's comments will subsequently be forwarded to the Planning Commission and Town Council for consideration at future public hearings, prior to adoption of the Housing Element.

Following adoption of the Housing Element as part of the Town of San Anselmo General Plan, the Housing Element will be returned to HCD for certification. Following certification of the Housing Element by HCD, the Town will begin to implement the policies in the document, including adopting zoning provisions to accommodate a homeless shelter. Before any property can be zoned to allow a homeless shelter, additional public hearings would be held before the Planning Commission and Town Council.

The public is encouraged to attend the Town Council meeting of Tuesday, July 13, 2010, beginning at 7 p.m., in the Town Hall Council Chambers, 525 San Anselmo Avenue.

The meeting materials for this item will be available on the Town's website on Friday afternoon, July 9, after 3 p.m. at <http://www.townofsananselmo.org/meetings/index.htm>.

## **CPR Classes**

The Ross Valley Fire Department is offering CPR classes to interested members of the public. The course is entitled "HeartSaver CPR" and is sponsored by the American Heart Association.

Students will learn how to perform CPR and relieve airway obstructions or choking in adults, children and infants. The class is geared for non-health care professionals who want to be ready in case of an emergency.

All classes begin at 9:00 a.m. and last for approximately 5 hours. Classes are held at the Ross Valley Fire Department, Fairfax Station located at 10 Park Road, Fairfax. The cost is \$25 and students should sign up in person at the Headquarters Fire Station, 777 San Anselmo Avenue, San Anselmo, prior to the date of the class.

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sorry, no phone registrations can be accepted. After successful completion of the class, students will receive a CPR card.

The 2010 CPR Class Schedule is:

- Sunday, August 8
- Saturday, October 16
- Saturday, December 4

For more information go to <http://www.rossvalleyfire.org/Home/community-education-1/>.

*San Anselmo News, published weekly on Fridays, available at San Anselmo Town Hall, Library, on the Public Notice Bulletin Board, and in the Ross Valley Reporter. Also available on the Town's website, [www.townofsananselmo.org](http://www.townofsananselmo.org), and by email subscription. To subscribe to the email list, send an email to [townclerk@ci.san-anselmo.ca.us](mailto:townclerk@ci.san-anselmo.ca.us).*