

From the Desk of the City Administrator

Last month I attended a Highway 20 Association meeting where representatives from the state reported that the stretch of Highway 20 between Lytton and Early is on schedule to open in 2013. Since January 2010, a city committee has been reviewing the impact of the state's decision to move highway 20 north of our community. Additionally, the committee has been considering what actions may be suggested to benefit from the move. After careful consideration of the options, the committee is preparing to recommend a joint development agreement between our community and Sac County. The agreement would establish the framework for cooperative improvements to infrastructure within a determine location known as an urban renewal area. The establishment of the area along with the burden of improvements would be included in the negotiation among the City and the County.

The proposed plan suggests that any infrastructure improvements would be financed by tax increment financing (TIF) collected from new commercial or industrial development within the urban development area. TIF allows governmental bodies to use tax dollars generated from private development to help fund certain public improvements or packaged as financial incentives for new businesses and industries looking to expand or locate within the urban renewal area. What this means is that taxes collected on the new businesses or industries developed within the district will be used to pay for the cost associated with providing public services within the same district. The initial plan states that improvements would only be conducted once an interested commercial or industrial party had been identified. At this time, no such party has approached our community.

The city committee would like your input on their initial plan being developed for submittal to the Sac City Council. A copy of the tentative initial plan and proposed map is on display at the Sac City Library, the Sac City Office, and available for download on our website at www.cityofsaccity.org. When the committee has completed their plan, the Council will be asked to present the plan to the Sac County Supervisors. If the Council approves this step, a series of public meetings including both the City and the County would be conducted to negotiate details. The desired result would be a complete agreement which allows not only the City, but the County to benefit from commercial or industrial development along the new corridor.

I encourage anyone interested in commenting on the proposed plan to attend our public information meeting on September 29 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the City Council Chamber unless a larger room is deemed necessary.