

NEWS

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

AT YOUR SERVICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information, contact
Felisa Cardona, Deputy Public Information Officer
(909) 387-5429

Felisa.Cardona@cao.sbcounty.gov



Joshua Tree community planning workshop Thursday

The people of Joshua Tree will have a chance to shape the future of their community Thursday night when the County of San Bernardino Land Use Services Department hosts a special workshop to discuss updating the Joshua Tree Community Plan.

Development rules, desert preservation, downtown design, economic development, and tourism will all be on the table at the workshop from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 19, 2013 at the Joshua Tree Park & Recreation District building, 6171 Sunburst Street in Joshua Tree.

County Land Use Services Director Tom Hudson will host the workshop and moderate the discussion.

"We want to know what the people of Joshua Tree want to preserve, what they would like to change or encourage, what they want their community to look like, and how we can accomplish their goals," Mr. Hudson said.

The County is tasked with updating the Community Plans of all of its unincorporated areas in order to develop standards and guidelines for its General Plan. The plans address a variety of development factors including new businesses, housing and design guidelines.

Hudson has 30 years of experience working with rural communities on community-based economic development, downtown revitalization and general strategic planning. He was also an executive director of three rural community development corporations and has collaborated with 150 communities in 15 states on their community plans.

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Citizens are encouraged to discuss their ideas and concerns about the look and landscape of their community and other issues central to Joshua Tree's character and sense of place.

After receiving input, Land Use Services will begin updating the Community Plan late this fall through 2014.