The inaugural meeting of the 20-member General Plan Advisory Meeting kicked off on Thursday, January 18, 2007 at the Agoura/Calabasas Community Center.

The regular meeting opened with GPAC Chairman Gary Klein welcoming everyone and leading the pledge of allegiance. City Planner Tom Bartlett introduced Joe Power, Principal-in-Charge with Rincon Consultants, who commenced with project team introductions and presented an overview of the project and schedule (see PowerPoint presentation).

In attendance were Mayor Washburn, Mayor Pro Tem Bozajian and Council Members Barry Groveman, Mary Sue Maurer and Jonathon Wolfson.

GPAC Members in attendance included: Britt Aaronson, Dana Ashton, David Brown, Andrew Cohen-Cutler, Michael Friedman, Amber Gendein, Michael Kaplan, Gary Klein, Peter Kraut, Bob Lia, Marvin Lopata, Robert Odello, Robert Pope, Rebecca Reyes, Mark Shear, Deborah Stern, Sandford Teitelman, Peter Valk and Candice Weber.

City staff in attendance included City Manager Tony Coroalles, Maureen Tamuri, Tom Bartlett, Glenn Michitsch, Isidro Figueroa and Elizabeth Parker. Consultant team members in attendance included Joe Power, Steve Svete and Mike Gialketsis with Rincon Consultants and Erik Justesen and Diane Bathgate with RRM Design Group.

PROJECT OVERVIEW
The project includes a comprehensive update to the City’s General Plan and Development Code as well the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The project entails four phases over the next 21 months:

- **Phase 1** – Public Outreach, Assessment, and Land use Alternatives Development
- **Phase 2** – General Plan Policy/Element Development
- **Phase 3** – General Plan Update Completion
- **Phase 4** – Development Code Update
Driving the schedule is a target for General Plan adoption in 18 months (next Summer) in order to meet state housing element update requirements. During Phase 1, the GPAC is planned to meet six times:

January 18
February 15
March 15
April 19
July 19
September 20

In addition, three public workshops will be held before a preferred land use scenario is confirmed at a joint meeting of the Planning Commission and City Council. Public workshops are tentatively planned for:

March 29
May 18 & 19
August 16

LEGAL MEETINGS OVERVIEW
After a brief break, Assistant City Attorney Lawrence Permaul furnished an overview on conflict of interest laws as well as the Brown Act which governs public meeting requirements (see PowerPoint presentation).

GENERAL PLAN 101
Steve Svete with Rincon Consultants provided a brief primer on what constitutes a General Plan and the key role it plays in the community’s public policy and future form.

The updated General Plan will include the seven state-mandated elements (Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Open Space, Noise and Safety) as well as optional elements important to the community (Community and Economic Design, Parks and Recreation, Cultural Resources, and Communication, Technology and Infrastructure). More specific contents of the Land Use, Circulation and Housing Elements also were explained.

The General Plan will contain goals, objectives, policies and implementation measures in the form of text and graphics to convey the community’s vision. Each GPAC member received a copy of the City’s current General Plan.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS
Mayor Washburn, Mayor Pro Tem Bozajian and Council Members Barry Groveman, Mary Sue Maurer and Jonathon Wolfson as well as City Manager Tony Coroalles provided introductory remarks and underscored the importance of the GPAC’s mission - to help shape the vision and plan for the future of Calabasas.

What is a General Plan?
- Citizen-based statement for long-term civic vision
- “Constitution” or “Blueprint” for future development decisions
- Required of every City and County in California
Erik Justesen with RRM Design Group, who will be heading up the public outreach effort for the project, explained a short assignment distributed to GPAC members. At the next meeting, each member will be asked to describe their reasons for serving on the GPAC and identify their three top issues that need to be addressed in the General Plan.

Opportunity for public comments was provided and the meeting was adjourned to February 15, 2007.

Submitted by:

Gary Klein, Chairman