COMMUNITY WORKSHOP
On
Naturally-Occurring Asbestos in Folsom
City of Folsom
October 5, 2004
Presentation Overview

Where we’ve been
- Discovery of Naturally-Occurring Asbestos in Folsom
- Interim Actions Taken by City

Where we are now
- Recommendations from SMAQMD

Future Actions
- Requirements for Earth-Moving Activities Within Affected Areas
Asbestos Overview

- Asbestos fibers are a human health hazard when airborne.
- Naturally-Occurring asbestos is present in at least 44 of California’s 58 counties.
  - The discovery of naturally-occurring asbestos in Folsom is not unique or necessarily unexpected.
Asbestos Overview (Con’t)

- Asbestos is classified as a carcinogen.
- Asbestos is often found in serpentine rock and ultramafic rock, especially near fault zones such as those in the foothills.
  - These conditions exist in the eastern section of Folsom.
Discovery of Naturally-Occurring Asbestos in Folsom

First discovered during soils testing at Lago Vista High School site in Empire Ranch.
City and Elliott Homes, with recommendations from SMAQMD, immediately implemented the following measures.

- Released media advisory notice to local newspapers, television, and radio stations.
- Stopped all operations at the quarry/rock-crushing plant.
- Conducted air sampling and soils tests at various locations in Empire Ranch.
- Required heavy watering of all construction sites to minimize the generation of fugitive dust.
- Issued advisory notice to all builders and contractors in the city.
Based upon discussions with the SMAQMD, City took a conservative approach and applied the State’s Airborne Toxic Control Measure requirements to all development within the City.

Elliott Homes was required to submit a dust mitigation plan for its Empire Ranch project to the SMAQMD.
Where We Are Now

SMAQMD requested a determination by the State Geologist on the potential extent of naturally-occurring asbestos in Folsom.

State Geologist concluded:

- Copper Hills Volcanic and Gopher Ridge Volcanic formations generally have low to moderate potential for naturally-occurring asbestos.
- These formations found in southern and eastern sections of Folsom (generally east of Prairie City Road).
Based on the State Geologist’s Map, naturally-occurring asbestos occurrences can be small and irregularly distributed.

- As a result, on-site inspections will be required in affected areas to determine if asbestos is present.
Future Actions

- City will continue to collaborate with SMAQMD on asbestos issues.
- City will create a standard policy for all building/grading permits within the affected areas:
  - Soils testing prior to any subsurface work
  - If naturally-occurring asbestos is present that exceeds State thresholds:
    - Require heavy/frequent watering
    - Wash down vehicles on site; no dirt track off
    - Assure all areas of site are covered at completion (building, paving, landscaping)
A more-defined geologic map is needed for the Folsom area.

- SMAQMD will work with State Geologist to determine costs and timeframe for completion.