

**Department of
Conservation and
Development**

30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553

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**Contra
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February 3, 2023

NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND AVAILABILITY

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
(SCH#22022070481)**

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY 6th CYCLE HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE
(COUNTY FILE: GP#18-00001)**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared for the 6th Cycle Housing Element Update. Contra Costa County issued a Notice of Preparation for this project on July 27, 2022 and reissued on December 19, 2022.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared for the proposed Downtown El Sobrante General Plan Amendment. Contra Costa County issued a Notice of Preparation for this project on January 26, 2009.

The Contra Costa County Housing Element Update (proposed project) is one of the required elements of the General Plan. As a policy document, the Housing Element does not normally result in physical changes to the environment but rather encourages the provision of affordable housing within the land use designations shown in the Land Use Element of the General Plan. The Housing Element identifies policy direction to meet the housing needs of the County by preserving existing homes and clarifying priorities for housing creation. The proposed Housing Element will include an overview of housing policies and programs and will identify locations that can accommodate future housing.

The proposed project will require that the County redesignate land to meet the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) of 7,610 total housing units. The County also intends to comply with No-Net-Loss (Gov. Code Section 65863) through identifying a surplus of sites available to meet its RHNA allocation. In total, the County's surplus unit capacity is 2,485 units. In order to meet this requirement, the County must redesignate up to approximately 560 acres of land.

The proposed project would require changes in land use designations for sites that currently allow residential uses but would need to be redesignated to allow for increased residential density, in addition to sites with designations that do not currently allow residential density and would need to be redesignated to allow residential development.

The Housing Element Update also includes an additional 92 acres of land that do not require a designation or zone change but are counted toward the County's RHNA.

REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD: There will be a forty-five (45) day review and comment period for this Draft Environmental Impact Report, beginning on February 3, 2023, and closing on March 20, 2023. Comments on this Draft Environmental Impact Report should be submitted before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023, to:

Contra Costa County
Department of Conservation and Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553
Attn: Daniel Barrios

For accuracy of record, written comments are desirable and encouraged and should be supported by factual information whenever possible. Substantive comments or information will be included, and, if necessary, responded to in the Final Environmental Impact Report.

In addition, the Contra Costa County Planning Commission is anticipated to conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the adequacy of the Draft Environmental Impact Report on Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. The Contra Costa County Planning Commission meeting is conducted at 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

REPORT AVAILABILITY: The Draft Environmental Impact Report is available for public review at <https://envisioncontracosta2040.org/> and the following locations:

Contra Costa County
Department of Conservation and Development
Application and Permit Center
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94564

Contra Costa County Library – El Sobrante Branch
4191 Appian Way
El Sobrante, CA

Contra Costa County Library – Central Branch
2 Monticello Avenue
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Contra Costa County Library – Brentwood Branch
104 Oak Street
Brentwood, CA 94513

MORE INFORMATION: For more information on the Draft Environmental Impact Report, please contact Daniel Barrios, Senior Planner, at (925) 655-2901, or by email at housing.element@dcd.cccounty.us.

NOTICE ISSUED: 2/2/23