



**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY/NOTICE OF PUBLIC
COMMENT PERIOD AND HEARINGS
FOR THE
DRAFT INITIAL STUDY NEGATIVE
DECLARATION FOR CITY OF SUSANVILLE
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE**

DATE: December 4, 2023

TO: California State Clearinghouse
California Responsible Agencies
California Trustee Agencies
Lassen County, County Clerk
Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Other Interested Agencies
Susanville Rancheria
Interested Parties and Organizations
Affected Property Owners

FROM: City of Susanville
Planning and Building Enforcement

LEAD AGENCY: City of Susanville Planning Department

CONTACTS: Kelly Mumper, City Planner/Code
Enforcement Supervisor
City of Susanville, Lassen County
(530) 252-5104
kmumper@cityofsusanville.org

SUBJECT:

The City of Susanville City Council will be holding a public hearing to allow public comment on the proposed Circulation Element Update, associated Negative Declaration, and Land Use Element Assessment Report in order to update the Land Use Element and Circulation Elements of the City of Susanville General Plan 1990-2010.

The City of Susanville has hired a consultant team to work with city planning staff to update the Land Use and Circulation Elements of the existing City of Susanville General Plan. The intent of the General Plan Element updates is to provide a snapshot of how the city could grow in the future and how the land use classifications would look. The proposed project environmental status pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is exempt for the Land Use Element and a Negative Declaration has been prepared for the Circulation Element. This project is scheduled to have a public hearing by the City Council at 5:00 p.m. on December 20, 2023, in the City of Susanville City Council Chambers located at 66 N. Lassen Street Susanville, CA 96130. Copies of the Land Use Assessment Report and Circulation Element Update are available at the aforementioned address and are also available on the City of Susanville website at cityofsusanville.net under city services/planning.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD:

The Lead Agency invites public comment on the Draft Initial Study Negative Declaration in response to this NOA. A 30-day comment period will begin on December 8, 2023, and end on January 8, 2024. In your response, include your name, the name of your agency or organization (if applicable), and contact information.

The public is invited to attend and provide verbal and/or written comments on the proposed project. Written comments must be received at the above address at, or prior to, the meeting date and time. Note: Any appeals regarding the above-mentioned proposal must be based on comments made known (either through written or verbal comments) at the public hearing. Appellants must also be represented at the public hearing for an appeal to be accepted by the City Council. "If you challenge the City's action on this proposal in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City at, or prior to, the public hearing." Govt. Code 65009. Any questions regarding this or the proposal may be directed to the City Planner, Kelly Mumper at (530) 252-5104 during normal business hours.

Comments on the Draft Circulation Element Neg Dec NOA may be submitted via e-mail to kmumper@cityofsusanville.org or via

U.S. mail to Kelly Mumper, City Planner, at the above Susanville mailing address by 5:00 p.m. **on January 8, 2023.**

BACKGROUND

This Initial Study relies on State CEQA Guidelines §§ 15064 and 15064.4 in its determination of the significance of environmental effects. According to §15064, the finding as to whether a project may have one or more significant effects shall be based on substantial evidence in the record, and that controversy alone, without substantial evidence of a significant effect, does not trigger the need for an EIR. The Circulation Element has resulted in a draft negative declaration.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

General Plan Update (Project). The project area consists of the entire city of Susanville. Susanville is in the northeastern portion of California, located in Lassen County. Known for its proximity to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, Susanville offers a mix of high desert landscapes and alpine environments. The city is located at the head of Honey Lake Valley and sits at an elevation of about 4,186 feet. With the Susan River running

through it, Susanville provides a mix of river valleys, pine forests, and mountainous terrain.

According to the 2000 Census, Lassen County has a total area of 4,720 square miles, of which Susanville occupies a small but significant portion. Susanville is the only incorporated city in Lassen County. The city's nearby communities include Johnstonville, Milford, and Janesville.

Lassen County is bordered by the following counties: Plumas County on the south, Shasta County on the west, Modoc County on the north, and the state of Nevada on the east. The largest city in Lassen County is Susanville itself. Major highways running through Susanville include U.S. Route 395 and State Route 36. Lassen County is home to parts of the Lassen National Forest (1,700 square miles) and the Lassen Volcanic National Park (106 square miles), offering a wide variety of recreational opportunities. The county also contains multiple state parks and wildlife areas.