

NEWS RELEASE

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More Questions Answered About Housing Plans

May 3 event is the third of five community gatherings to share input

San Rafael, CA – The Marin County <u>Community Development Agency</u> (CDA) is sharing answers to <u>frequently asked questions</u> and more <u>background on land-use legislation</u> as it prepares for its final three community workshops about the 2014 <u>Housing Element Update</u> to the Countywide Plan. The County's housing element is a plan to meet housing needs at all income levels in unincorporated areas of Marin.

Two community workshops have already been held in Marin City and San Rafael to share information and gather input. The next workshops will be: 2 p.m. May 3 at the Al Boro/Pickleweed Community Center in San Rafael; 6 p.m. May 6 at the Mill Valley Community Center; and 10 a.m. May 10 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Strawberry.

After an overview of the housing element, workshop participants will work together in a practical exercise to discuss future housing for areas of unincorporated Marin (not just locations near the workshop location). Residents may attend any or all workshops.

The next housing element update is required to plan for significantly fewer homes than the previous update. The 2014-2023 plan, with a minimum of 185 homes to plan for, will replace the current housing element. The 2007-2014 update was <u>certified</u> by the California State Department of Housing and Community Development in December 2013.

A draft housing element will be presented to the Marin County Planning Commission in the summer, and Board of Supervisors hearings are set for winter 2014-15. The public is encouraged to share perspectives and input before and during the hearings.

Can't make it to one of the workshops? Consider visiting our online forum called <u>Open Marin</u> to take a survey about housing, or sign up for email notices on our website at <u>www.marincounty.org/housingelement</u>.

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