October 15, 2014

Mr. Brian C. Crawford, Director
Community Development Agency
County of Marin
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

Dear Mr. Crawford:

RE: Marin County’s 5th Cycle (2015-2023) Draft Housing Element

Thank you for submitting the County of Marin’s draft housing element update which was received for review on September 2, 2014. In addition, revisions were received on October 3, 9 and 13, 2014. Pursuant to Government Code (GC) Section 65585(b), the Department is reporting the results of its review. Our review was facilitated by various communications with Ms. Leelee Thomas, Principal Planner and Ms. Alisa Stevenson, Senior Planner. In addition, the Department considered comments from Dave Coury pursuant to GC Section 65585(c).

The Department conducted a streamlined review of the draft housing element based on the County meeting eligibility criteria detailed in the Department’s Housing Element Update Guidance. The County also utilized ABAG pre-approved housing element data.

The draft housing element with revisions meets the statutory requirements of State housing element law. The draft housing element with revisions will comply with State housing element law (GC, Article 10.6) when they are adopted and submitted to the Department, in accordance with GC Section 65585(g).

To remain on an eight year planning cycle, pursuant to Senate Bill 375 (Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008) Marin County must adopt its housing element within 120 calendar days from the statutory due date of January 31, 2015 for ABAG localities. If adopted after this date, GC Section 65588(e)(4) requires the housing element be revised every four years until adopting at least two consecutive revisions by the statutory deadline. For more information on housing element adoption requirements, please visit our website at: http://www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/hrc/plan/he/he_review_adoptionsteps110812.pdf.
Public participation in the development, adoption and implementation of the housing element is essential to effective housing planning. Throughout the housing element process, the County must continue to engage the community, including organizations that represent lower-income and special needs households, by making information regularly available and considering and incorporating comments where appropriate.

The Department appreciates the cooperation and diligence provided by Ms. Thomas and Ms. Stevenson, in preparation of the housing element and looks forward to receiving Marin County's adopted housing element. If you have any questions or need additional technical assistance, please contact Paul McDougall, of our staff, at (916) 263-7420.

Sincerely,

Glen A. Campora
Assistant Deputy Director