



Community Plan Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a community plan?

A community plan sets forth goals, objectives, policies, and programs to address specific issues related to a particular community. Community Plans are considered part of the Marin Countywide Plan and must be consistent with it.

2. What is the relationship of the community plan to the countywide plan

The Countywide Plan provides the overall policy framework and direction for the unincorporated areas of Marin County. Community plans provide more specific direction and refine issues that are unique to that specific community.

3. Why are the community plans being updated?

The Marin Countywide Plan was recently updated in 2007. Many of the community plans date from the early 1970's (Black Point and Muir Beach) while others were prepared and adopted in the mid 1980's and 90s. Even the most recent community plan is almost ten years old (Indian Valley, 2003). The Countywide Plan recognizes that existing community plans may need to be updated, both to bring them into consistency with the policies and programs of the Countywide Plan as well as to refine implementation of specific Countywide Plan policies or programs at a more local level.

In addition to ensuring consistency with the Countywide Plan, work on community plans may be needed for other reasons.

- Community plans may contain outdated information (such as population and land use statistics) or include land use recommendations (such as rezonings and infrastructure improvements) that have been implemented and are no longer relevant.
- Community plans commonly contain policies that have been duplicated or superseded by similar policies or guidelines in more recently adopted documents, such as the Marin Countywide Plan or the Marin County Single Family Residential Design Guidelines.
- New planning issues may have arisen in a community plan area that did not exist at the time the community plan was adopted.

4. What Community Plans are being updated?

The first phase includes an update of the Black Point Community Plan and a new community plan for Santa Venetia.

5. What is the update process?

Work for Black Point and Santa Venetia was initiated in early 2013; the entire update process is anticipated to take approximately 18 months with final approval by the Board of Supervisors in summer 2014. For more specific information on the timeline and schedules for each community, please visit the Community Plans website at http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/Main/comdev/advance/CP_new.cfm.

Information on the Black Point update can found here: www.marincounty.org/BlackPoint
Information on the Santa Venetia Community Plan can be found here: www.marincounty.org/SantaVenetia

Public participation is an important component of the community plan process. Advisory committees for each community, comprised of community representatives, have been formed and are meeting regularly. In addition, several public community meetings are planned throughout the process, which will be followed by hearings with the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, so there are many opportunities for you to get involved and tell us what you think.

6. Why should you get involved?

The community plan is a blueprint that shapes present and future development in the community. It contains policies specific to the community that carry out the community's goals. Development projects in your neighborhood are reviewed against and must be consistent with the policies in the plan.

Being part of the planning and update process is a great way to learn more about your community and contribute your ideas to help shape its future.

7. How to get involved:

Join our email list to be notified of meetings and events by signing up here: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAMARIN/subscriber/new?topic_id=CAMARIN_189

Let us know your thoughts on the community plan through OpenMarin: <http://www.marincounty.org/openmarin>

8. Other sources of information:

Marin Countywide Plan: www.future-marin.org

Existing Community Plans: <http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/Main/comdev/advance/CP.cfm>

9. Contact information:

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