



# What are programs and policies for the Housing Element?

The County is in the process of updating the **Housing and Safety Elements** of the Countywide Plan (the County’s General Plan). The Countywide Plan serves as the guiding vision for the future of unincorporated Marin. The Housing Element addresses housing needs and barriers for the 2023-2031 period.

In addition to identifying potential housing sites for development, the Housing Element also includes a section on **goals, programs and policies that establish an action plan** for the development and preservation of housing and affordable housing. This section must include **meaningful actions** that affirmatively further fair housing and address historical patterns of housing segregation.

Goal	
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>Statement that describes a <b>desired future condition</b> or “end” state. Goals are meant to be aspirational and are change and outcome oriented, based on a combination of needs and constraints.</p> <p>→ <b>Examples from previous Marin County Housing Element:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Use Land Efficiently</li> <li>○ Meet Housing Needs through a Variety of Housing Choices</li> <li>○ Ensure Leadership and Institutional Capacity</li> </ul> </div> </div>	
Policy	Program
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>Clear statement that guides a specific course of action for <b>decision makers to achieve a desired goal</b>. Policies may refer to existing programs or call for the establishment of new ones.</p> <p>→ <b>Examples from previous Marin County Housing Element:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Development Certainty</li> <li>○ Design Sustainability and Flexibility</li> <li>○ Incentives for Affordable Housing</li> <li>○ Protect Existing Housing</li> <li>○ Research Monitoring and Evaluation</li> <li>○ Funding</li> </ul> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>An implementation program is an action, procedure, program or technique that <b>carries out goals and policies</b>.</p> <p>→ <b>Examples from previous Marin County Housing Element:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consider Adjustments to Second Unit Development Standards</li> <li>○ Promote and ensure equal housing opportunity</li> <li>○ Encourage land acquisition and land banking</li> <li>○ Promote countywide collaborative on housing</li> <li>○ Assist with local funding for affordable housing</li> </ul> </div> </div>

Visit [www.MarinCounty.org/HousingSafetyElements](http://www.MarinCounty.org/HousingSafetyElements) for more information.