Community Workshop on the Housing Element

April 8, 2014

Summary of Large Group Debrief

Question 1: What are your top three takeaways?	Question 2: What was it like listening to everyone's perspectives?	Question 3: What did you discover about placing the homes?
 Number of homes and the locations Better understanding of density, in terms of how many homes can be placed on specific locations 	 We would like to have better communication between the County and Marin City community about the Housing Element. Engaging conversation, learned about perspectives, histories, and talked about possibilities 	 Focused on housing in Marin City rather than other areas, since that is the community we are most familiar with. There is a housing need that needs to be addressed, and community needs to get involved. The County Supervisor needs to hear from the community and be involved. Affordable housing should be spread out equitably throughout the County rather than concentrated in focused areas.
 Finding perspectives, trying to find healthy balance between existing neighborhoods and potential changes that new homes could bring. Difficult to reach consensus about any potential sites. Would be more productive to have focused on particular area rather than the entire County. 	 Difficult to begin conversation, but were able to eventually come to mutual understanding. Focusing on issues we had control over helped us reach consensus and progress through the exercise. 	 Needed more clarity about what the specific housing numbers for each site mean and where they come from. Unclear why those limits were there.
 Wanted to know what the facts were. Found out Marinwood is the only existing application of all the sites presented, which provided assumptions to work with. Realized this process is complex and takes time to work through. We don't want to continue to segregate housing by income. Economy and zoning are also extremely important when talking about future housing. Need more/improved communication. Housing that is developed as affordable 	 Each group member brought a unique viewpoint to the conversation. Discussed what the County's responsibility is regarding the Housing Element, and what the difference is between the Housing Element and the PDA. 	 Existing application at Marinwood provided guidance/starting point for placing homes. Tried to consider multiple factors that affect housing. Student housing in Indian Valley was discussed as an important consideration.

should remain affordable – should be protected.		
 More information was needed to make better informed decisions. Need more community-specific engagement in the form of community meetings focused on specific sites. We need a process that more effectively incorporates the public's recommendations into the decisions that are made about housing. 	No trouble sharing perspectives and listening to one another.	N/A – no feedback on this question