Community Workshop on the Housing Element

April 26, 2014

Summary of Large Group Debrief

What are your top three takeaways?	What did you discover about placing the homes?
 Planners should take holistic approach and consider what towns and cities are doing. Public should know more about how affordable housing is financed. Be proportional in how the housing is distributed. 	 Frustrating process due to the time constraints. More information is needed about the specific sites and communities to make decisions.
 Relieved that quota has been reduced to 185 homes. Surprised at the sites that are being considered. People with different viewpoints came to consensus, appreciated being heard. Process for getting second units approved should be streamlined and the fees should be greatly reduced. Second units could meet 25% to 50% of the RHNA numbers 	 Our group used compromise and focused on logic. Places with overlap were discussed and agreed upon. We Agreed!!
 People have legitimate concerns about where housing is placed. Need to consider impacts and constraints (environmental, geological, public services, schools, and infrastructure). Object to the fundamentals of this exercise; why should we be limited to this list of sites? 	N/A — no feedback regarding this question
 Concerned about sea level rise, toxics, financial feasibility, and more related to the specific sites being considered. Want small infill projects, housing over retail, repurposing retail, in-law units. Involve other jurisdictions in the planning process. 	 High energy discussion. Everyone felt heard. Some agreement and some disagreement among group members. Hard to get an answer to our specific questions.
 Don't build socio-economic islands; infill development is preferred. Planners should consult with local communities Avoid land toxicity and other environmental issues. Marin doesn't want to be like San Jose. 	 We have a common interest; we are Marin. Want to preserve Marin County It was good process and discussion!

What are your top three takeaways?	What did you discover about placing the homes?
 Disagreed with the sites that were chosen for this exercise. Should have also considered second units, equity sharing, Habitat for Humanity, etc. No housing development should be more than 20% affordable. Don't build near transit because that means building near highway pollution. Non-profit rental developments are "BS"; they wind up making a profit at the expense of the taxpayers. 	 Fascinating discussion, everyone was involved. People felt heard. We all recorded and agreed upon sites.