

MARIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PUBLIC SCOPING SESSION
ALTA WAY EXTENSION PROJECT
INITIAL STUDY
October 12, 2017

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCEDURAL INFORMATION

Purpose of the Scoping Session

The County is holding this public scoping session to facilitate maximum public participation in the preparation of an Initial Study for the Alta Way Extension Project. Though not required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or the Marin County Environmental Impact Review Guidelines, this scoping session is being held to provide early consultation with the public on the Initial Study being prepared for the project. This early consultation is typically called scoping.

The purpose of this public scoping session is to provide individuals, organizations and agencies an opportunity to raise concerns about the environmental effects of the proposed project. Comments will be recorded and considered by the County during preparation of the Initial Study. There are likely to be questions raised by speakers at the session, although in the interest of giving everyone a chance to speak, the majority of questions asked will be responded to through the Initial Study process rather than at this meeting. The purpose of the session is for the public to provide information to the County.

Comments must be limited to the scope of environmental effects to be studied, rather than commenting on the merits of the project at this time. CEQA defines environmental effects as direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to the natural and man-made environment affected by the project. Effects analyzed under CEQA must be related to a physical change in the environment. (CEQA Guidelines sections 15358 and 15360.)

Comment Procedure

At the public scoping session, members of the public will have the opportunity to submit written comments and/or to make oral comments during the session. Those wishing to speak should fill out a green testimony sign-in card.

In anticipation of a good turnout and limited time, and in order to allow everyone an equal opportunity to speak, each speaker will be limited to three minutes, more or less, depending upon the turnout. Signs will notify the speaker when remaining time is one minute and at the conclusion of the three minute period. Members of organizations are encouraged to select a spokesperson from the organization to speak on the group's behalf to avoid repetition of the same concerns.

Comment forms are available for those who wish to submit written comments on the scope of the Initial Study either to supplement or take the place of oral comments at the session. Comment forms may also be used to indicate agreement with specific speakers or organization environmental issues in lieu of orally repeating similar concerns. Please hand in any written comments that you have on the scope of the Initial Study to County staff at the scoping session, or mail to the attention of Jason Wong at 3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 304, San Rafael, CA 94903. Comments can also be submitted via email to envplanning@marincounty.org before the end of the comment period deadline at **5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2017.**