



GLENN COUNTY GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

Newsletter 3

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GLENN COUNTY GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

The Public Draft General Plan and EIR are now available for review!

The County has just released the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR for public review and comment. The public is encouraged to review these documents and provide written comments and feedback to the County. The County will host a public workshop on February 16th to help explain these important documents to the community, and to solicit community feedback.

What is a General Plan?

A general plan is designed to serve as a community's "constitution" or "blueprint" for future decisions concerning land use, infrastructure, public services, and resource conservation. All specific plans, subdivisions, public works projects, and zoning decisions made by the County must be consistent with the General Plan. The General Plan provides guidance on reaching a future envisioned over a 20-year time horizon, through 2040.

What is an EIR?

An Environmental Impact Report, or EIR, is a document that meets the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The EIR provides an analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the Draft General Plan, and provides the public, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors with a tool to use during review and consideration of the Draft General Plan.

Project Website:

To access the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR, learn more about the process, or to contact the project team, please visit the General Plan Update Website at: www.glenncounty.generalplan.org.

Notice of Public Workshop

A public workshop will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 5:00pm at 225 N. Tehama Street.

All members of the community are invited and encouraged to attend. The workshop will provide an overview of the General Plan and the associated EIR, and will provide an opportunity for members of the community to learn more, ask questions, and submit feedback and direction to the County's project team.

How to Submit Comments and Feedback?

Members of the public are encouraged to read and review the Draft General Plan, and to submit written comments to the County regarding the Draft General Plan.

The public comment period will run from January 31, 2023 to March 17, 2023.

Comments should be submitted to:

Mardy Thomas, Director
Glenn County Dept. of Planning & Community
Development Services
225 N. Tehama St.
Willows, CA 95988
mthomas@countyofglenn.net

WHAT IS A GENERAL PLAN AND WHAT DOES IT ADDRESS?

The state of California requires every city and county in California to adopt a General Plan, which is the local government's long-term blueprint "for the physical development of the county and any land outside its boundaries that bears relation to its planning." General Plans are divided into elements based on specific topics. There are seven mandatory elements: land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, safety, and noise. State law allows local governments to organize and format their general plans however they desire, as long as the required topics or elements are addressed. Counties can also choose to include additional elements, such as economic development and agricultural resources. The Glenn County General Plan is expected to address the following topics:



Land Use and Community Character

Establishes land use patterns and densities, and ensures that there are opportunities for growth to meet future needs, while protecting the County's lands and resources in such a way that the County's lifestyle is protected.



Circulation

Guides decisions for how people of all ages and abilities can safely and efficiently get around the community— including by car, bike, walking, and transit. It will also consider new transportation technology and trends.



Noise

Provides measures to manage the effect of sound in the community, protecting the health and welfare of the community by promoting development and activities that are compatible with noise level criteria.



Safety

Addresses natural and man-made safety hazards such as fires, flooding, seismic safety and geologic hazards, hazardous materials, aircraft, noise, and emergency operations and preparedness.



Conservation and Open Space

Provides measures to protect and improve the County's natural, historic, cultural, and biological resources. Addresses the topic of local and regional parks, recreation and open space, including trails and scenic vistas.



Economic Development

Provides tools and strategies to foster a strong and sound local economy, including goals and policies related to business retention and attraction, job creation, and Glenn County's role in the regional economy.



Agricultural Resources

Addresses the County's agricultural economy and seeks ways to foster economic development while protecting agricultural lands and reducing land use conflicts.



Community Services and Facilities

Gives direction on community infrastructure and facilities and services including water supply, wastewater, flood control, waste and recycling, storm drainage and water quality, and public facilities.