



ENVISION **CONTRA COSTA 2040**

Environmental-Labor Coalition of Contra Costa County

June 22, 2021

Envision Contra Costa 2040



**General
Plan**



**Zoning
Code**



**Climate
Action Plan**

Environmental Impact Report

What is the General Plan?

- » “Constitution” for land use
 - Local jurisdiction’s highest land use planning document
 - The basis for a jurisdiction’s land use decisions
 - Establishes a vision and supporting goals, policies, and actions
 - Provides consistent direction for future development
 - Balances growth, conservation, and quality of life



Why is the General Plan Important?

The General Plan affects many aspects of our lives, including:

- » Housing opportunities available in our communities
- » Job opportunities available in our communities
- » Community services (police, fire, parks, etc.)
- » Roadway design and construction
- » Risks to people and property from natural and human-caused hazards
- » Resource conservation



Why Update the General Plan Now?

- » Existing General Plan is 30 years old and doesn't address many of the challenges communities currently face
- » AB 32 – Global Warming Solutions Act
- » SB 375 – Sustainable Communities Strategy/Plan Bay Area
- » SB 743 – Vehicle Miles Traveled
- » AB 379 – Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience
- » SB 1000 – Environmental Justice
- » New legislation related to housing
- » Consistency with other plans and initiatives (Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, Adapting to Rising Tides, Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Delta)

Components of the General Plan

» Required Elements

- Land Use
- Transportation
- Safety
- Noise
- Open Space
- Conservation
- Housing

» Optional Elements in Current General Plan

- Growth Management
- Public Facilities/Services

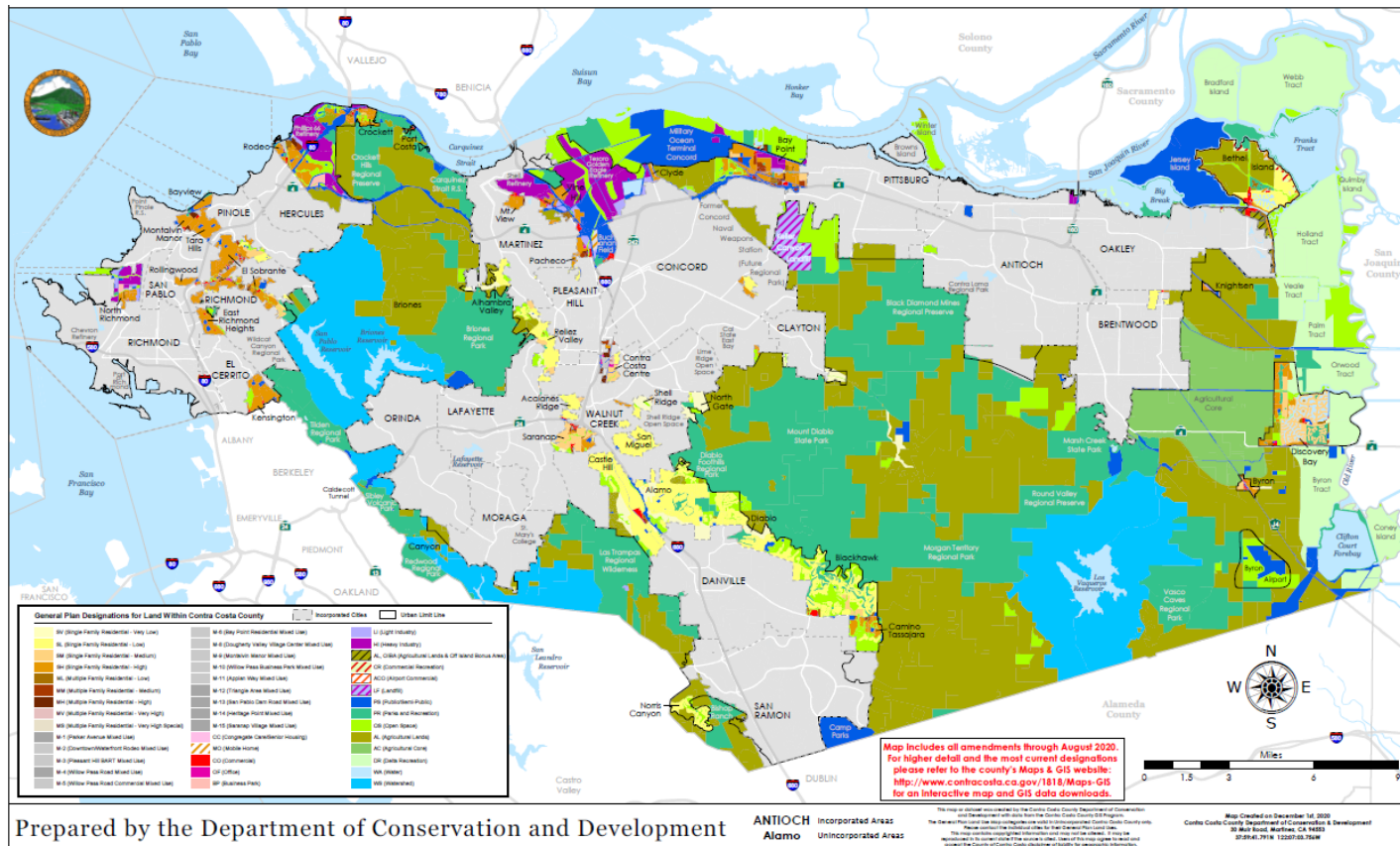
» New Element

- Stronger Communities

Land Use Map

» Land use designations specify development intensity

- Maximum residential density (housing units per acre)
- Maximum nonresidential floor area ratio (FAR)



Four Themes Throughout the New Plan

» Economic Development



» Environmental Justice



» Sustainability



» Community Health



What is the Zoning Code?

- » Zoning map and districts
- » Regulations that control physical development
 - Permitted uses
 - Permitting requirements
 - Specific site development standards – setbacks, parking, lighting, signage, fences, trash enclosures, etc.
- » **General Plan vs. Zoning Code**
 - Zoning Codes implement the General Plan with specific development regulations:
 - General Plan = “Residential”
 - Zoning Code = “Single-family; Multiple-family”

Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update

» What is the CAP?

- Sets greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets for the county
- Establishes a plan to reach those targets
- Implements the climate-related policy direction of the General Plan



» Why is the CAP being updated?

- State law has changed since the CAP was adopted (in 2015)
- New reduction strategies are available
- Evolving understanding of resilience and adaptation
- Opportunity to improve how the CAP is implemented
- More extensive support for greater equity
- CAP can better integrate with the new General Plan

Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

- » **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires disclosure of a project's potential impacts on the physical environment**
- » **EIR must:**
 - Disclose information about the effects the project could have on the physical environment
 - Identify measures to mitigate environmental impacts
 - Describe feasible alternatives to the proposed project
- » **Public review**
 - Initial 30-day scoping period – tell us what to analyze
 - Minimum 45-day review of Draft EIR – comment on the analysis

Opportunities for Public Involvement

- » Envisioncontracosta2040.org
- » Community Meetings
- » Focused Meetings
- » Sustainability Commission
- » County Planning Commission
- » Board of Supervisors



Online Participation

Envisioncontracosta2040.org/online-engagement

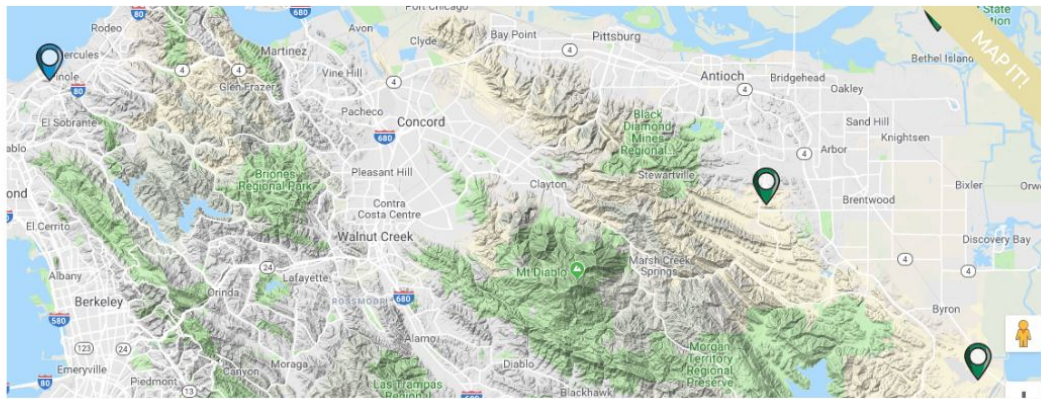


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Online Engagement

What are your ideas?



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What's Next?

» **Summer 2021**

- County Planning Commission review of Draft General Plan goals, policies, and actions

» **Fall/Winter 2021/2022**

- Prepare full drafts of General Plan, CAP, and EIR

» **Spring/Summer 2022**

- Public review of draft documents

» **Fall/Winter 2022/2023**

- Prepare and adopt final documents



Questions?

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