

ENVISION **CONTRA COSTA**

**County Planning Commission Meeting on
Draft General Plan and Climate Action and Adaptation Plan**

August 28, 2024

Envision Contra Costa



**General
Plan**



**Climate
Action and
Adaptation
Plan**



**Zoning
Ordinance**

Environmental Impact Report

General Plan Themes



Environmental Justice



Community Health



Economic Development



Sustainability

General Plan Elements

Stronger Communities

Land Use

Transportation

Housing

Conservation, Open Space, and Working Lands

Public Facilities and Services

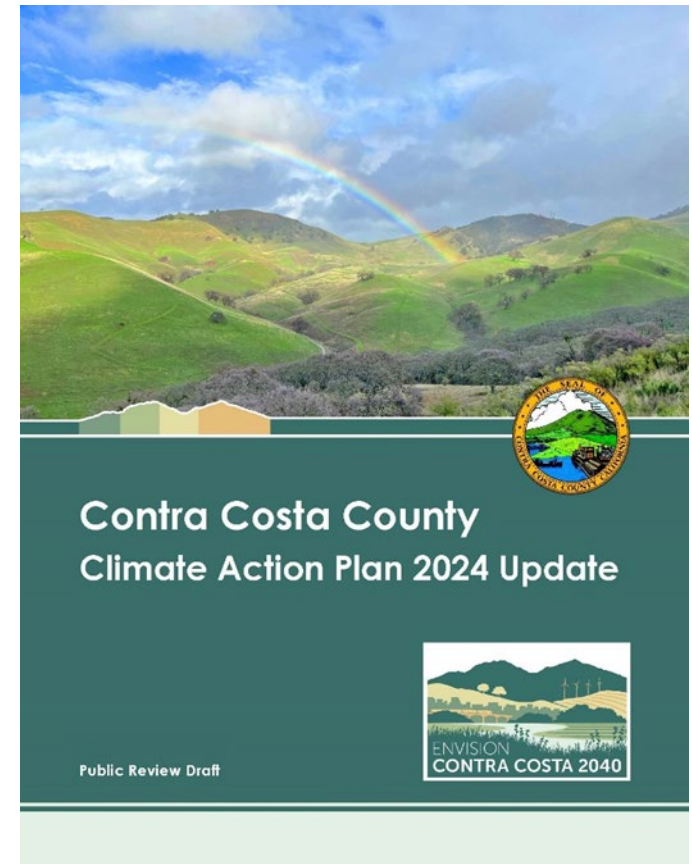
Health and Safety

Growth Management



Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP)

- » The County's strategic plan to address climate change
 - Reduce GHG emissions through 2045 and beyond
 - Improve climate resilience and adaptation
 - Promote equity on climate issues
 - Demonstrate County leadership
- » Implements some aspects of the General Plan



CAAP Strategies

Clean and Efficient Built Environment

No Waste Contra Costa

Reduce Water Use & Increase Drought Resilience

Clean Transportation Network

Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure

Climate Equity

Leadership

Implementation



General Plan & CAAP Relationship

- » General Plan creates a high-level framework for the CAAP
- » CAAP helps mitigate future development allowed by GP
- » Land use aspects of the CAAP's strategies are grounded in the GP and repeated in the CAAP
 - CAP includes cross-references to General Plan policies and actions
- » CAAP addresses County operations in more detail



Public Review Process

- » Publish Draft General Plan and CAAP October 2023
- » Publish Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Feb. 2024
- » Public comment period: Oct. 17, 2023 – Apr. 22, 2024
- » Digital and in-person activities:
 - 2 webinars
 - 5 district open houses
 - 2 meetings of the Board of Supervisors or Board subcommittee
 - 13 Municipal Advisory Council meetings
 - 4 County committees and commissions meetings
 - 12 community group meetings
 - Verbal and written comments (email and online comment platform)
- » **Over 300 attendees at events with attendee counts**



Public Review Process

» Promotion materials and channels:

- Over 14 eblasts to 1,277 mailing list subscribers
- 12 social media posts with almost 6,000 views
- Video series with over 1,300 views and almost 200,000 views of related social media posts about videos
- Nextdoor posts about video series (almost 600,000 followers): viewed by 181,364 users
- Twitter/X posts about video series (over 23,000 followers): viewed by 10,160 users
- Flyers and Supervisor newsletters
- 2-page user guide on draft documents and comment process
- 12-page detailed booklet on draft documents
- Spanish language presentation



Public Review Process: Written Comments

- » Comments received via online document platform Konveio and via email
- » 39 comments from 19 individuals submitted through Konveio on the Draft General Plan
- » 24 comments from 14 individuals submitted through Konveio on the Draft CAAP
- » 84 comment letters and emails from individuals, public agencies, and NGOs on the Draft General Plan and CAAP

Public Review Process: Video Series



**ENVISION
CONTRA COSTA**

General Plan


Communications & Media


5 videos 348 views Last updated on Mar 18, 2024


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Contra Costa County is developing its plan for the future. Learn from leaders, and students about what that future might envision.

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General Plan: Economic Development
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- 

General Plan: Community Health
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General Plan: Sustainability
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- 

General Plan: When I Grow Up
Communications & Media • 53 views • 4 months ago
- 

General Plan: Environmental Justice
Communications & Media • 511 views • 4 months ago

Overview of Proposed Changes to the General Plan

- » Refinements would largely retain the published draft with improvements
- » Refinements based on:
 - Public comments
 - New information available since publishing draft documents
 - Content clarifications
- » **Consistency with Climate Action and Adaptation Plan**
 - Considered comments on both documents
 - Updated name
 - Suspension of all-electric reach code

Overview of Proposed Changes to the General Plan

» Stronger Communities Element

- Community Profiles refinements
- New action to nominate the Rodeo Refinery and surrounding industrial areas as a Priority Production Area

» Land Use Element

- Refinements to the land use map
- New action to quantify the acreage designated for urban land uses at least every five years to maintain consistency with 65/35 standard of 2006 Measure L (Urban Limit Line measure)
- New background text and policy about maintaining Priority Development Areas

Overview of Proposed Changes to the General Plan

» Transportation Element

- New action related to bikeway and sidewalk installation, striping, and related infrastructure considerations for the Active Transportation Plan and Capital Road Improvement and Preservation Program

» Conservation, Open Space, and Working Lands Element

- Finetuning of policy language related to trees, wetlands, creeks, streams, and other important ecological resources
- New policy related to wildlife-friendly lighting
- New action related to wildlife crossings in future road projects



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Overview of Proposed Changes to the General Plan

» Health and Safety Element

- New policy to encourage industrial modernization projects that support State energy and climate goals and improve safety and air quality
- Clarifications to Policy HS-P7.1, calling for denial of entitlements for projects creating additional units in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and to discourage them in High Fire Hazard Severity Zones
- Revision to Policy HS-P9.9, calling for denial of entitlements for construction of new large-scale facilities that treat, store or dispose hazardous waste from off-site sources and negatively impact Impacted Communities

Overview of Proposed Changes to the CAAP

- » **New name: Climate Action and Adaptation Plan**
- » **Changes based on suspension of all-electric reach code in February 2024**
 - Built Environment Strategies BE-1 and BE-2 now anticipate a code that requires high energy efficiency performance, either all-electric OR mixed fuel
 - Based on Board of Supervisors direction on June 4, 2024
 - Changes to strategy language and GHG reduction projections



Overview of Proposed Changes to the CAAP

- » **Revisions to GHG reduction projections for zero-emission vehicles and related equipment**
 - Consistency with State projections as modeled in 2022 Scoping Plan
 - Reflected in assumptions in Appendix B
- » **Revisions to strategies to ensure CAAP implementation supports State and regional modeling and projections**
 - Zero-NOx water- and space-heaters
 - Increasing EV-charging infrastructure
 - Complete streets
 - Micromobility for low-income residents
 - Reduced transit fare for some residents



Overview of Proposed Changes to the CAAP

- » **Additional text to clarify or correct information**
 - Explanation of why stationary sources of emissions have been excluded from CAAP
 - New definitions to the glossary and additional clarifying text to explain data tables, technical terms, and methods
 - Clarifying language about carbon sequestration

- » **New Appendix D to discuss progress in implementing strategies in 2015 Climate Action Plan**

Implementation

- » **General Plan Action Program: Track implementation through 2045**
 - Contains all actions, organized by Element
 - Identifies County departments and partner agencies responsible
 - Proposes a timeframe for completion
 - Estimates a cost range for implementation
- » **CAAP Action Items will also be tracked, reported**
- » **Prepared following confirmation of changes to the General Plan at September BOS meeting**
- » **Will be presented at adoption hearings in fall 2024**

Environmental Impact Report

- » **Comment period: February 3 to April 8, 2024**
- » **14 comment letters from agencies and organizations**
 - State agencies
 - Cities
 - Public utility and service districts
 - Environmental, community, industry, and trade organizations and associations
- » **Verbal comments received at Zoning Administrator comment hearing on March 18, 2024**
- » **Some comments relate to the General Plan and CAAP**

General Plan Fiscal Impact Analysis

- » New annual revenues minus new annual service expenditures for new development at current levels of service
- » Development assumptions consistent with EIR
- » Estimated 2045 revenue of \$54M vs. 2045 expenditures of \$51M
- » Slight projected net annual fiscal surplus of \$2.7M

CAAP Cost Analysis

- » Analysis focuses on financial implications of the CAAP for County budget
- » Many actions will require significant resources for full implementation; however, the financial implications for the County are limited because listed actions are already being undertaken or required, can be self-funded, or will be undertaken only when new external funding can be secured
- » Doing nothing or reacting in an emergency will be more expensive

Next Steps

» General Plan and Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

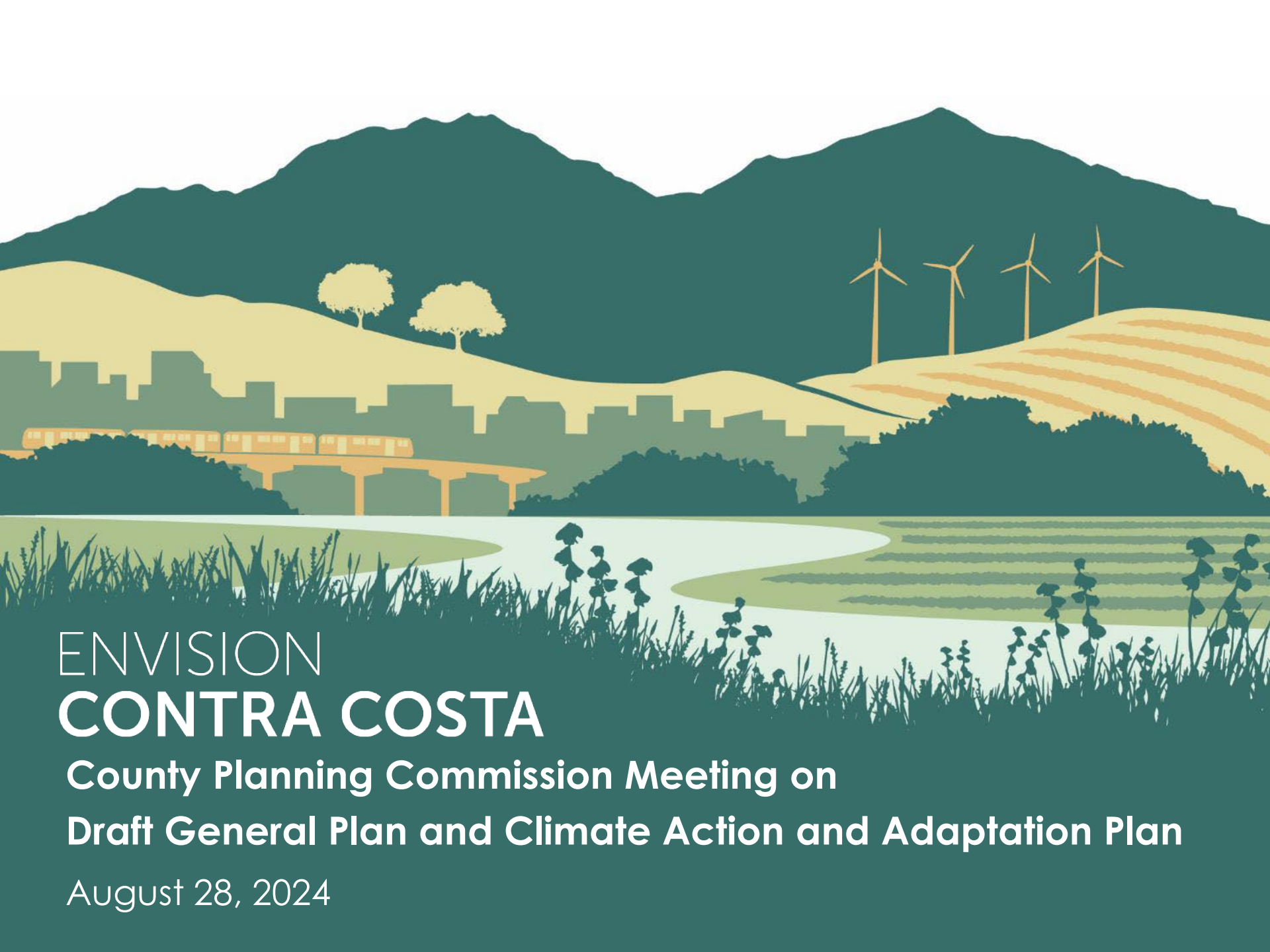
- September 10, 2024: Board of Supervisors meeting to consider staff-recommended changes to draft documents
- Fall 2024: County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors adoption hearings

» Environmental Impact Report

- Publish Final EIR responding to comments on the Draft EIR
- Certify EIR at fall 2024 adoption hearings

Recommendation

- » Accept public comment and consider recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding the preparation of the Final General Plan and Climate Action and Adaptation Plan



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