



Department of Conservation and Development
County Planning Commission
Wednesday, August 28, 2024 – 6:30 P.M.

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item 1.a

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| Project Title: | Envision Contra Costa |
| County File Number: | GP18-0001 |
| Applicant/Owner: | N/A |
| Project Location: | Countywide |
| California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Status: | Environmental Impact Report |
| Project Planner: | Will Nelson, Principal Planner, (925) 655-2898 |
| Staff Recommendation: | Accept public comments and consider recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding the final drafts of the Contra Costa County 2045 General Plan and Contra Costa County Climate Action and Adaptation Plan 2024 Update. |

I. ENVISION CONTRA COSTA BACKGROUND

Envision Contra Costa is the County's program to update its General Plan, Zoning Code, and Climate Action Plan (CAP). These planning documents were adopted in 1991, 1947, and 2015, respectively. Piecemeal amendments to the General Plan and Zoning Code have been adopted over the years, but they have never been comprehensively updated. The CAP, while adopted much more recently, has become dated because of changes in State law, continued growth in our understanding of climate change, and technological advancements that have provided new tools for addressing the challenge. The Board of Supervisors in December 2017 directed the Department of Conservation and Development (DCD) to comprehensively update all three documents.

Substantive work on *Envision Contra Costa* began in September 2018. Public outreach began in February 2019 and has continued throughout the entire process. Staff from DCD and the County's *Envision Contra Costa* consultant, PlaceWorks, have since conducted or attended over 150 public and quasi-public meetings whereat community members, advocates, stakeholders, and public officials had an opportunity to provide comments. Numerous letters and emails have also been received. The public's robust participation has greatly influenced the process.

II. DISCUSSION OF RECOMMENDED EDITS TO DRAFT GENERAL PLAN AND DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN

On October 17, 2023, DCD published the Draft Contra Costa County 2045 General Plan and Draft Contra Costa County Climate Action Plan 2024 Update (the latter has since been renamed the Contra Costa County Climate Action and Adaptation Plan 2024 Update, or

CAAP). The six-month public comment period ended on April 22, 2024. Extensive public outreach was conducted, as described in the attached memorandum (Attachment A). DCD received 81 comment letters and emails and 63 comments through an online commenting platform, Konveio, that was linked to both documents. Since April, staff from DCD and other County departments such as Public Works and Health Services have been working with PlaceWorks to review the public comments and prepare edits to the Draft General Plan and Draft CAAP.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide the Planning Commission and public with an opportunity to review and comment on DCD's recommended edits to the Draft General Plan and Draft CAAP. The recommended edits are presented in detail in Attachment A and its own attachments (Attachments A.1, A.2, and A.3). Staff notes that within Attachment A are links to additional materials, such as a compilation of the public comments themselves and versions of the Draft General Plan and Draft CAAP with the online Konveio comments embedded. Regarding the General Plan maps (Attachment A.2), only the revised versions are provided. To identify changes, one must compare the Attachment A.2 maps to those in the published Draft General Plan found at envisioncontracosta2040.org/documents/. Most changes to the maps are refinements in response to public comments or were initiated by staff to clarify content. Staff notes that the Land Use Map (Figure LU-1) has been revised to correct various anomalies and inconsistencies, reflect significant changes in ownership or use (such as East Bay Regional Park District land acquisitions), and ensure further support for the policy goals set in the Draft General Plan.

III. NEXT STEPS

A meeting with the Board of Supervisors is anticipated for September 10. At that meeting, the Board will be presented with Planning Commission and staff recommended edits to the Draft General Plan and Draft CAAP. Staff anticipates receiving final direction from the Board at that meeting and returning to the Planning Commission and Board in early Fall with final drafts of the General Plan and CAAP for adoption.

IV. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Memorandum Describing Recommended General Plan Edits
 - Attachment 1: Revised General Plan Glossary
 - Attachment 2: Revised General Plan Maps
 - Attachment 3: Public Review Draft #2 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan 2024 Update
- B. General Plan Fiscal Analysis
- C. Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Cost Analysis
- D. PowerPoint Presentation