



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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PRESS RELEASE

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COUNTY SEEKS FEEDBACK ON SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

The County of Santa Cruz is seeking public feedback for the Santa Cruz County Sustainability Policy and Regulatory Update (“Sustainability Update”), which makes several changes to the County General Plan and County Code and will serve as a blueprint for future land use and transportation priorities within unincorporated areas of the county.

The Sustainability Update incorporates changes in state law, new initiatives driven by prior public engagement, and priorities of the Board of Supervisors, including the previously prepared Sustainable Santa Cruz County Plan. The County will hold a series of upcoming community meetings to gather feedback on the Sustainability Update, and has launched a new website at www.sccoplanning.com/SustainabilityUpdate.

The Sustainability Update covers a variety of topic areas, including housing, transportation, agriculture and resource conservation, sustainable communities, code modernization, commercial development, community services and environmental justice. Consistent with County priorities under the Vision Santa Cruz County strategic plan, the Sustainability Update is being conducted through an equity lens.

The Sustainability Update recognizes that effective land use and transportation planning are necessary to create sustainable urban communities, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and provide additional housing options for all county residents, while protecting our natural resources and agricultural areas. The project also includes proposed countywide design guidelines and limited parcel rezoning to key opportunity sites and to correct zoning inconsistencies, where appropriate.

Project overviews and topic-specific community meetings will begin the week of March 14, with further review by the Santa Cruz County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors later this year. For a list of meetings or to learn more about this project, go to the Sustainability Update website at www.sccoplanning.com/SustainabilityUpdate or visit <https://www.facebook.com/countyofsantacruz/events> (no account needed).