



NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING BUTTE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN 2040 UPDATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that BUTTE COUNTY as Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has prepared a Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Scoping Meeting for the following project: Butte County General Plan 2040 Update (ADP20-0005)

This meeting will be open to the public. This meeting will also be held via an online format for those who wish to participate remotely.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., in the Butte County Human Resources Training Room (East), located at 3 County Center Drive, Oroville, CA 95965. The County is requesting comments and guidance on the scope and content of the EIR from interested public agencies, organizations, and individuals.

Use the following information to remotely view and participate in the Scoping meeting online:

Link: <https://bcdds.net/DSScoping>
Event (Meeting) Number: 2551 327 2045
Event Password: Scoping
Participants may also call in: 1-408-418-9388

Project Location and Setting: Butte County is located in California's Central Valley. It covers approximately 1,073,000 acres. It is bordered by Tehama, Plumas, Yuba, Sutter, and Glenn counties. The General Plan 2040 Update is for the unincorporated portion of Butte County.

Project Background and Overview: The General Plan establishes the community's long-term vision for the future, including where people in Butte County will live, work, shop, learn, and recreate. It serves as guidance for all zoning and land use decisions within the unincorporated county. It will shape future housing, support job growth, foster healthy and resilient neighborhoods, protect and manage natural resources and agricultural lands, ensure community safety, and promote social and economic equity.

Project Objective: The goals of this project are to support Camp Fire and North Complex Fire recovery, address current and future needs of Butte County, comply with State regulations, and engage community members as key decision makers for adaptation, community resilience, public safety, and environmental justice.

Project Description: The proposed project is a targeted update to the current General Plan and will include major updates to the following elements: Health & Safety, Housing (which includes Noise); Land Use, including the incorporation of the Upper Ridge Community Plan; Circulation and Water Resources. A new element, Environmental Justice is being added. Other General Plan elements including Economic Development, Agriculture, Conservation & Open Space, Public Facilities, and Area & Neighborhood Plans, will be revised to ensure overall consistency.

Environmental Review: The General Plan Update EIR will determine whether implementation of the proposed project may result in environmental impacts that require mitigation measures to offset potential impacts. The General Plan Update itself will incorporate implementation provisions (goals, policies, and actions) that focus on reducing environmental impacts to reduce the need for separate EIR mitigation measures, improve the efficiency of implementation, and increase the likelihood that development within the study area will be environmentally sustainable.

Probable Environmental Effects/EIR Scope: The EIR for the proposed project will address the range of impacts that could result from adoption and implementation of the General Plan Update.

A copy of the Notice of Preparation is available for review at the office of the Butte County Department of Development Services, 7 County Center Drive, Oroville, CA 95965; Butte County Public Libraries located at 1108 Sherman Avenue, Chico, CA, 95926 and 1820 Mitchell Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966; or online at:

<http://www.buttecounty.net/dds/generalplanupdate>

For more information regarding the proposed project and scoping meeting, please refer to the following detailed project description or contact Mark Michelena, Butte County Senior Planner, at (530) 552.3683 or mmichelena@buttecounty.net.

Comments on the Notice of Preparation should be sent at the earliest possible date but received no later than November 7, 2022, to Mark Michelena, Butte County Senior Planner, to the email above.