

Lake County General Plan and Local Area Plans Update Environmental Impact Report

Public Scoping Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2024





Public Scoping Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Purpose of Scoping Meeting
3. Project Overview
4. CEQA Overview
5. EIR Scoping Session
6. Next Steps



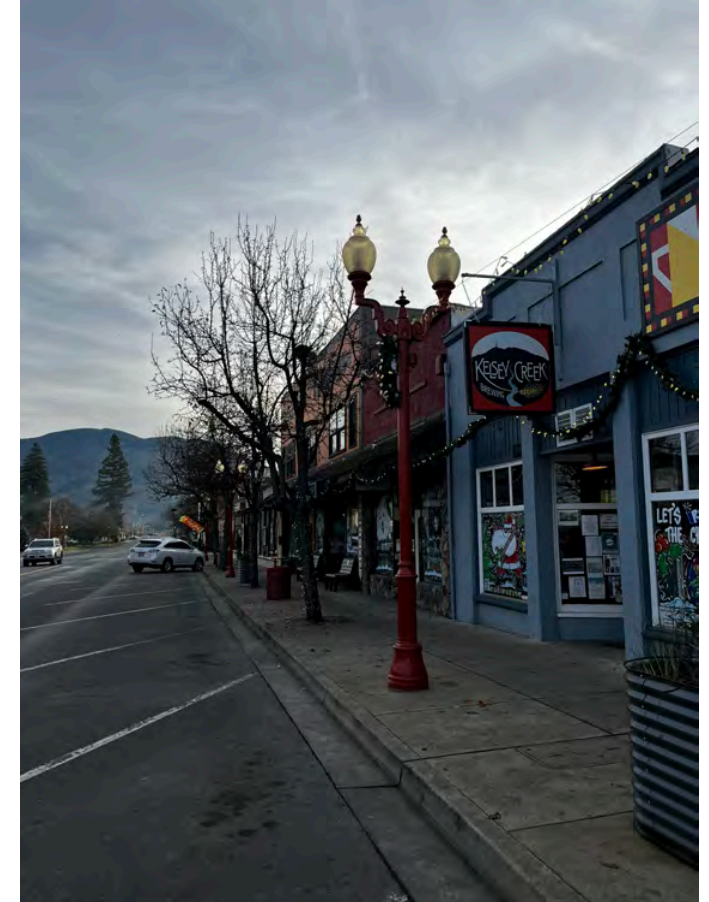
Welcome and Introductions

Lake County

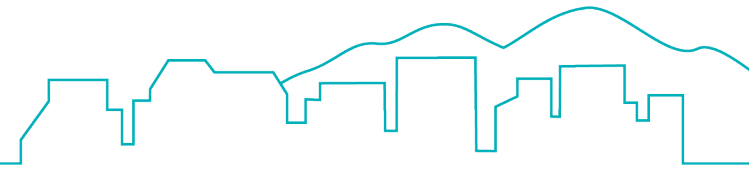
- Mireya G. Turner, Director
- Shannon Walker-Smith, Deputy Administrator
- Michelle Irace, Principal Planner
- Laura Hall, Senior Planner

PlaceWorks – Project Consultant

- Tanya Sundberg, Associate Principal
- Jacqueline Protsman Rohr, Senior Associate



Purpose of Scoping Meeting



Receive comments from members of the public, organizations and interested public agencies on issues the Environmental Impact Report should address.

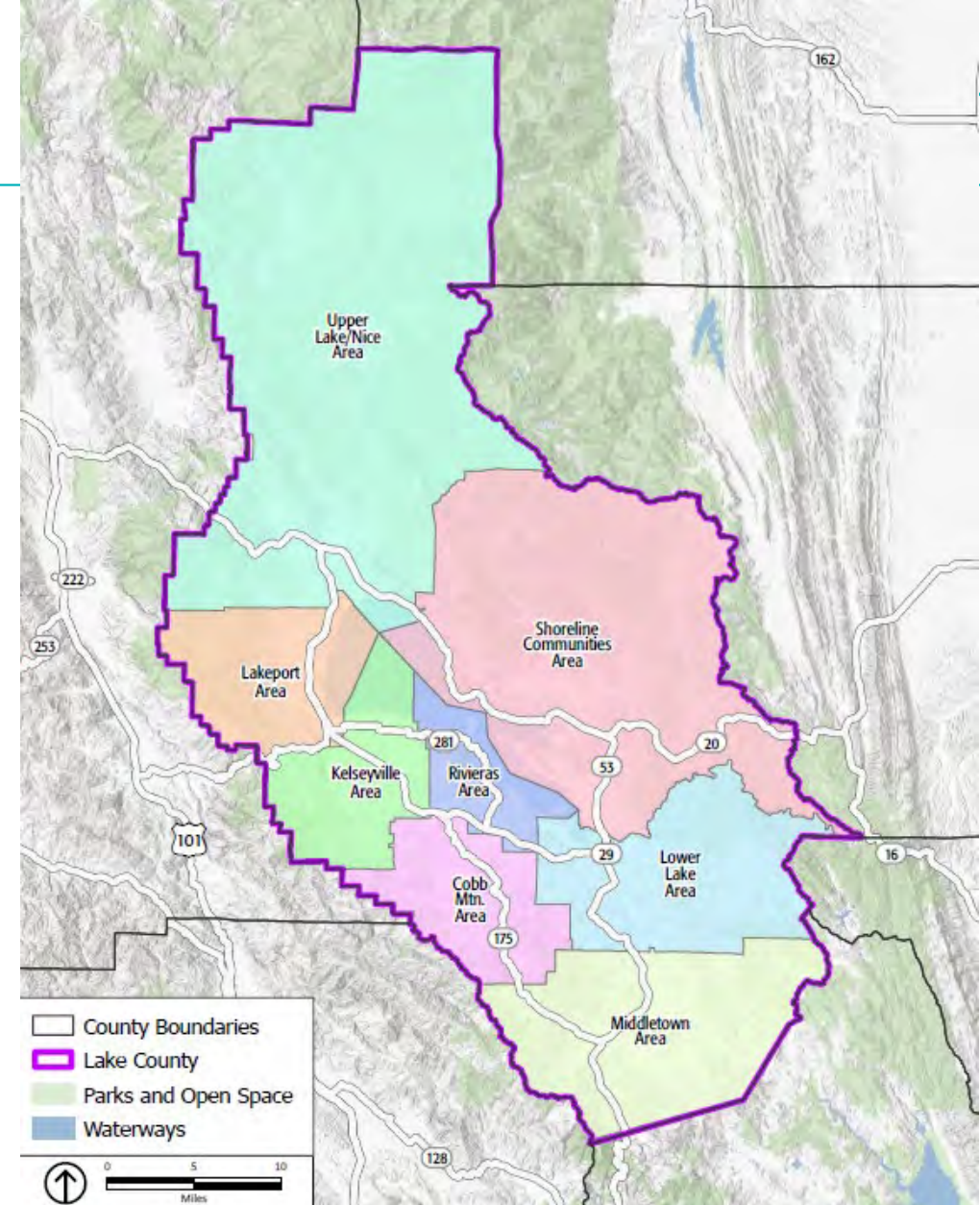




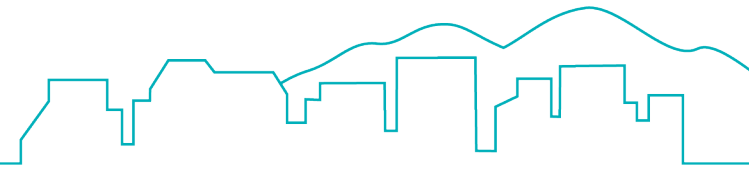
PROJECT OVERVIEW

Proposed Project

- Is a comprehensive update to the General Plan and eight Local Area Plans
- Local Area Plans cover the following areas:
 1. Cobb Mountain
 2. Kelseyville
 3. Lakeport
 4. Lower Lake
 5. Middletown
 6. Rivas
 7. Shoreline Communities
 8. Upper Lake-Nice



What is a General Plan?



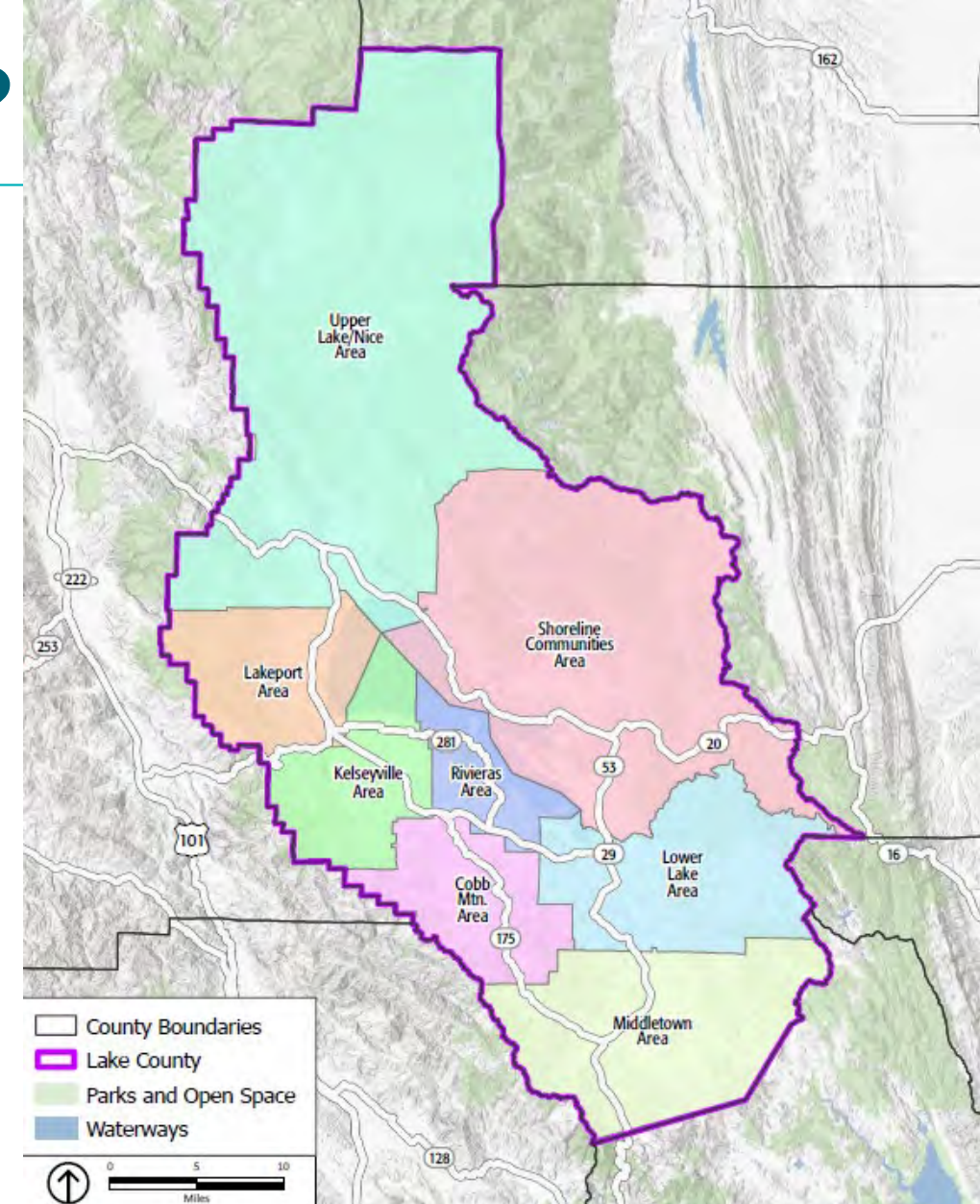
- Mandated by State law to guide land use and development, typically over a 20-year horizon
- Is the constitution for growth and development
 - Establishes community vision and supporting goals, policies, and actions
 - Provides consistent direction for future development
 - Balances growth, conservation, and quality of life
 - Documents baseline environmental conditions
- State law requires eight elements: land use, circulation, housing¹, open space, noise, safety, conservation, and environmental justice
- Content of General Plan must be internally consistent and all other County plans, must be vertically consistent with the General Plan

¹Though a required element, the Housing Element will be updated separately, at a later date, and is not a part of the proposed project.

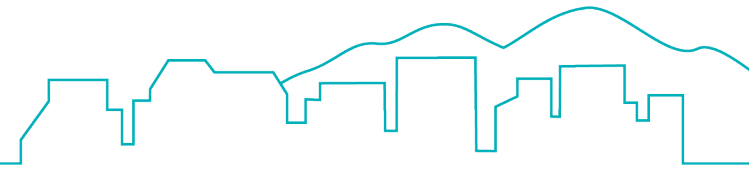


What is a Local Area Plan?

- Long-range plans that provide more detailed policy and design guidance for the area than the General Plan
- Reflects the characteristics found in the local planning area
- Mutually complementary and consistent with the General Plan
- Local Area Plan policies supplement General Plan policies, yet more precisely
- Includes a zoning map which corresponds to the land use designations of the Local Area Plan



Proposed Plan Organization



State-mandated elements are presented in two ways.

Countywide level:

- Health and Safety,
- Noise,
- Geothermal,
- Agricultural Resources, and
- Water Resources

Local Area Plan level:

- Land Use,
- Circulation,
- Open Space,
- Conservation,
- Environmental Justice, and
- Public Facilities





CEQA OVERVIEW

CEQA Overview

- The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is the State's primary environmental protection law
- CEQA requires that public agencies disclose environmental impacts of projects that have a *physical effect* on the environment



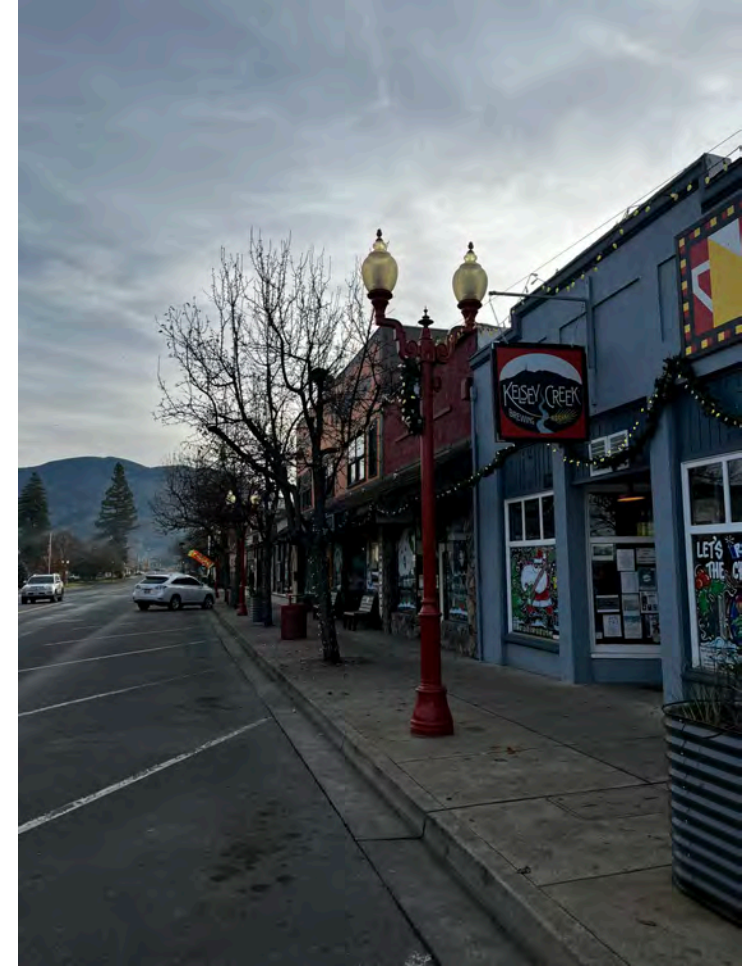
What is an EIR?

- An information document
 - Discloses information about the effects a proposed project could have on the environment
 - Identifies mitigation measures
 - Describes feasible alternative to the proposed project
- Must be certified prior to project approval



Program-Level EIR

- Program-level environmental review documents are appropriate when a project consists of a series of actions related to the issuance of rules, regulations, and other planning criteria (CEQA Guidelines Section 15168)
- A Program EIR does not evaluate the impacts of specific, individual developments that may be proposed and approved in the future



The EIR Process

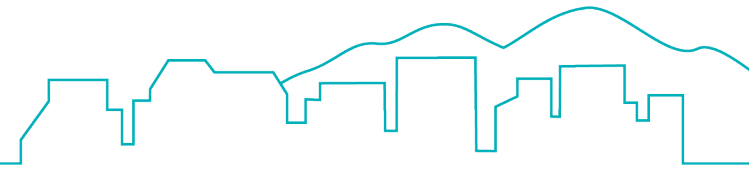
This chart describes the EIR process mandated by State law.

★ = Current Phase

■ = Opportunities for Public Input



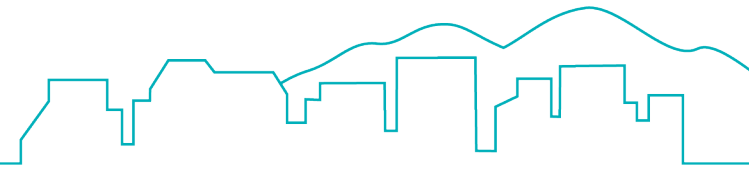
Environmental Issues to be Analyzed



- Aesthetics
- Agriculture/Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services, Parks, and Recreation
- Transportation
- Utilities and System Services
- Wildfire



Addressing Environmental Impacts



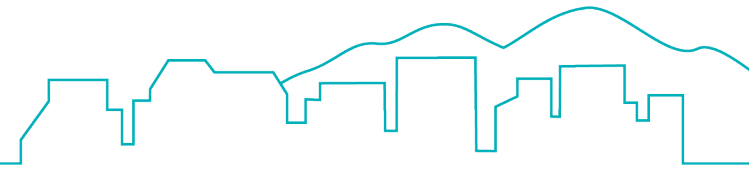
- Where significant environmental impacts are identified, CEQA requires that the impacts be:
 - Avoided
 - Minimized
 - Rectified
 - Reduced or eliminated, and/or
 - Compensated
- CEQA permits the General Plan to incorporate mitigation measures as goals, policies, and actions that are designed to protect, preserve, and/or enhance environmental resources





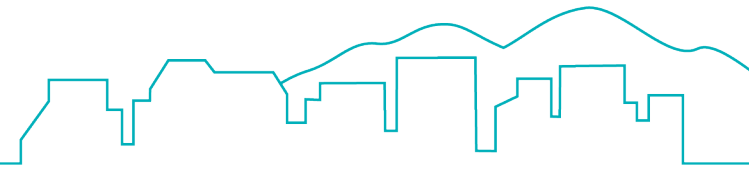
EIR SCOPING SESSION

Scoping Comments



- Receive public comments on:
 - Technical issues to address in the EIR
 - Appropriate range of alternatives to evaluate in the EIR
- Comments should focus on:
 - Potential impacts to the environment caused by the proposed project
- Consider statements such as:
 - I think the EIR should evaluate [insert topic].
 - I would like for the EIR to include an evaluation of [insert topic].

Submit Scoping Comments



Comments due 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 7, 2024, by:

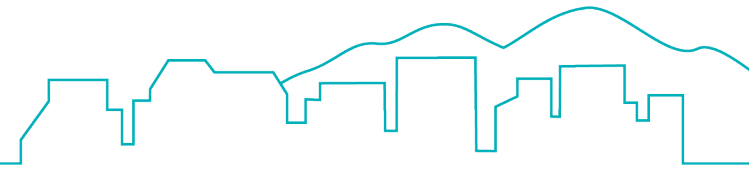
- Speaking at today's meeting
- Mail:
Community Development Department
Attention: Mireya G. Turner, Director
255 North Forbes Street
Lakeport, CA 95453
- E-Mail:
LakeCounty2050@lakecountyca.gov
Subject line: "General Plan and Local Area Plans Update Project EIR"





NEXT STEPS

Next Steps



EIR Schedule

- Accept Scoping Comments: January 9 to February 7, 2024
- Establish the Baseline and Existing Conditions
- Evaluate Potential Impacts
- Publish Draft EIR
- Draft EIR 45-Day Public Comment Period
- Publish Final EIR with Response to Comments
- Consider EIR Certification and Project Approval





Thank you for attending!

For more information on the General Plan and Local Area Plans Update
please contact:

Mireya G. Turner, Director

LakeCounty2050@lakecountyca.gov

