

Lake County 2050 Round 1 Local Area Plan (LAP) Workshop Series Lakeport Workshop Summary

In-Person Workshop
Monday, April 22, 2024

Workshop Series Overview

In April 2024, Lake County hosted the first round of community workshops kicking off the Local Area Plan (LAP) updates as part of Lake County 2050, the comprehensive update to Lake County's General Plan. The County hosted in-person workshops in each of the eight LAP areas. Each workshop was held as part of a meeting of the established advisory body for the LAP area.

Lakeport Workshop Introduction

The Lakeport Round 1 LAP Workshop, hosted by the Scotts Valley Community Advisory Council and the County, with support from AmeriCorps, was held on April 22, 2024, from 5:30PM to 7:30PM in-person at the County Board Chambers in Lakeport and as a hybrid virtual meeting via Zoom.

The workshop introduced community members to the project and gathered initial input to inform the updates to the Lakeport LAP.

The County's Community Development Director, Mireya Turner, opened the meeting by thanking attendees, Scotts Valley Community Advisory Council members, and project staff, and emphasizing the importance of community involvement in the Lake County 2050 project. County staff then presented an overview of the General Plan Update process, which includes updates to all eight LAPs and preparation of the General Plan EIR. The presentation included information about State requirements for the General Plan, the organization of the General Plan with countywide elements and LAP topics, the project timeline, and ongoing opportunities to participate. Following the presentation, the project team held a question-and-answer session before considering the discussion questions.

For the meeting slides, a recording of the meeting, and more information about the project, visit <https://lakecounty2050.org/past-meetings-materials/>.

Small Group Discussion

Following the presentation, project staff answered questions from participants and then introduced the four discussion questions, which participants broke into small groups to discuss while project staff facilitated and recorded answers.

Small Group Discussion Summary

Working in small groups of 3 to 4 participants, each with a staff facilitator and note-taker, workshop participants discussed four questions about the future of the Lakeport area. Participants were encouraged

to collaborate and discuss their perspectives and emerging ideas in response to each question while notetakers recorded responses on large flip-chart paper.

The four questions are presented below, each followed by a bulleted list of ideas community members shared in their responses.

What do you like most about the Lakeport area? What would you like to see supported, preserved, or enhanced as part of this planning effort?

- Land Use and Community Character
 - Preserve the rural, low-density residential character and dark skies.
 - Preserve small-scale agriculture, such as pear farms. Keep the area farmer friendly.
 - Preserve the area's natural beauty, viewsheds, and cleanliness.
 - Preserve the small-town feel.
 - Preserve and support the spirit of the people, including the music and art communities.
- Economy
 - There is capacity for commercial and housing growth. Capitalize on the area's opportunities for sustainable growth and economic development.
 - Support tourism, entertainment opportunities, and attractions.
 - Support local commerce, like Jimmy's Deli.
- Environment and Environmental Health
 - Maintain the clean air.
 - Preserve the lake itself, as well as surrounding wetlands and creeks.
 - Support wildlife, including swans.
- Parks and Recreation
 - Preserve access to nature, trails, open space, and the lake. Improve safe access to bodies of water like Blue Lakes and Clear Lake.
 - Preserve access to hunting and fishing opportunities.
 - Enhance recreational activities like biking and hiking by activating more accessible spaces.
- Transportation
 - Support the ability for residents to have short commutes.

What are the challenges facing the Lakeport area? What would you like to see changed to make it a better place to live and work?

- Land Use and Community Character
 - The area is a food desert. Increase access to grocery stores, farmers markets, and sustainable, local food. Promote community gardens.
 - Limit light pollution and promote dark skies.
 - Increase setbacks.
 - Reduce fees for building permits.
- Housing
 - Increase the amount of housing in the area.
 - Increase access to affordable housing (e.g., vouchers) and promote entry-level housing and housing for working professionals.
 - Expand infrastructure to support housing development.

- Address issues related to absent owners and vacant homes.
- Regulate short-term rentals like Airbnbs.
- Promote access to affordable homeowners' insurance.
- Economy
 - Address the issue of generational poverty.
 - Increase employment opportunities and encourage living-wage jobs (e.g., union jobs).
 - Improve access to four-year colleges, industry professionals, and retainable jobs with unions (i.e., something other than community colleges-trade school industries).
 - Combine workforce development with climate adaptation (e.g., opportunities related to biochar, 3D printing, and rammed earth construction techniques).
 - Keep out stores like Trader Joes, Target, and Home Goods.
 - Increase the number of restaurants in the area.
- Agriculture
 - Promote local food processing.
 - Promote food agriculture through a preferred tax.
 - Maintain equal rules and restrictions for cannabis and wineries.
- Environment and Environmental Health
 - Improve the declining health of Clear Lake.
 - Address the ongoing problem of persistent drought.
 - Require agricultural uses to have water resource conservation requirements.
- Parks and Recreation
 - Increase access to multi-use recreation areas, such as on Bureau of Land Management land.
 - There is a lack of recreational activities in the area. Address the following needs: more youth activities, dog park, pool, and gym.
 - Construct a community center that can offer youth programs.
- Safety
 - Increase disaster prevention and awareness.
 - Increase controlled burning and brush clearing efforts.
 - Install community firebreak systems that are maintained on an ongoing basis.
 - Find opportunities to construct new fire stations.
 - Require reflective address signs.
- Transportation
 - Reduce speeding through communities.
 - Increase safety on roadways, including by installing safe bike lanes and curbs and improving walkability.
- Infrastructure and Public Services
 - The area is a health care desert. Increase access to healthcare.
 - Increase access to childcare.
 - Address deferred maintenance of public infrastructure.
 - Address the lack of wi-fi and cell services throughout the county.

- Offer safe and resilient affordable power.
- 1. Expand operations at the airport to provide commercial service.

Do you think changes are needed to the planned land uses shown in the General Plan land use map? If so, what changes are needed?

- Preserve parcels designated for agriculture.
- Increase residential areas north of the city (Lakeside).
- Consider C1 zoning at the H.S. light – Highway 175 light.
- Increase mixed-use designations and provide more flexible zoning throughout the area.
- Rezone and redesignate North Lakeport to correspond to existing topography.
- Establish a community growth boundary for Scotts Valley.

Do you think changes are needed to the Local Area Plan boundary? If so, what changes are needed?

- Anything with a Lakeport address/zip code should be in the Lakeport LAP boundary.
- Any areas with municipal services serving Lakeport residents should be within the Lakeport LAP boundary.
- Lampson Field should be within the Lakeport LAP boundary (see image).
- Move the north Lakeport LAP boundary up to Scotts Valley and the Nice Lucerne cutoff area.