



Scoping Meeting

Environmental Impact Report Process

January 28, 2008



General Plan Project Status

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

General Plan Update began in Winter 2007, and is scheduled to conclude in 2009. Monthly meetings of the Steering Committee will be held through August of this year—additional meetings may be held if needed.



General Plan Planning Area

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE



The Planning Area expands on the area included in the current General Plan, and now includes new areas to the north, east, south, and west.



General Plan Update Steering Committee

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Five representatives
- Monthly forum for public participation in the General Plan process
- Guidance to staff on key policy issues related to the General Plan Elements
- Review draft General Plan Elements
- Advisory role to City Council
- For General Plan information go to:
<http://maderageneralplan.com>



General Plan Dates & Information

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Next Steering Committee meetings:
January 28 (Parks, Trails & Open Space)
February 25 (Sustainability)
March 31 (Land Use)
April 28 (Circulation)
May 26 (Housing)
June 30 (Conservation)
July 28 (Health & Safety)
August 25 (Community Character/Design)



CEQA Process for an EIR

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Notice of Preparation (NOP)/Initial Study (IS)
- Scoping Meeting
- EIR Process
 - Draft EIR
 - Final EIR
- MMRP- Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program
- Notice of Determination (NOD)



What CEQA Does

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

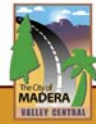
- Considers the ***environmental effects*** of a wide variety of public and private projects.
- Provides ***public disclosure*** of the environmental effects of a proposed decision.
- Allows for ***public and agency input*** in the environmental review of a project.



What CEQA Does *Not* Do

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- **Does not** recommend whether a project should be approved or denied.
- **Does not** require project denial because of adverse effects to the environment – permits overrides of adverse effects.
- **Does not** address economic or social concerns that do not involve a physical impact on the environment. (If economic or social concerns lead to *physical change*, they can be addressed)



Initial Study (IS)

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

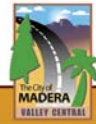
- Identifies impacts that will be less than significant and will not be discussed in the EIR.
- General description of topics intended to be addressed in the EIR.
- Brief discussion of potential environment impacts associated with the project.



Notice of Preparation (NOP)

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Public notice to let agencies, residents and other interested parties know that Madera will be preparing an EIR for the General Plan Update.
- Welcome comments regarding the scope of the EIR and mitigation measures that should be considered.



NOP/IS Comment Period

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- The NOP/IS is being circulated for 54 days to the public and agencies, starting December 27, 2007.
- The comment period ends on **February 19, 2008**.
- Comments can be provided in writing, by email, or verbally at this scoping meeting.



Scoping Meetings

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Scoping meetings are a forum to raise potential environmental issues that should be examined in the EIR.
- CEQA requires a lead agency to hold at least one scoping meeting for significant projects.
- Madera is holding two scoping meetings today – one for public agencies and one for the public.



What is an EIR?

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

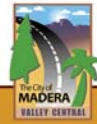
- An EIR is an informational document used to inform agency decision makers and the public regarding:
 - The significant environmental effects of a project;
 - Methods of mitigating the significant effects; and
 - Alternatives to the project to avoid significant effects.



General Plan EIR

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Prepared in tandem with the General Plan.
- “Program” document which examines impacts at a general level of detail.
- Future development and City-sponsored projects will be required to prepare subsequent detailed analyses at the time those projects are proposed.



Environmental Analysis

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Analyze buildout of General Plan land use map against baseline (current physical) conditions.
- Analysis will take into account changes to General Plan policies.
- “What if” approach



Mitigation Measures

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Some impacts may not be fully mitigated through General Plan policies.
- Mitigation measures determined to be necessary will be programmatic and written as policies or implementation measures that can be incorporated into the General Plan update.



Alternatives

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Alternatives may include policies, implementation measures, or land uses that are different from the draft General Plan.
 - “No Project” Alternative will address continuation of the existing General Plan.
 - Alternatives must be reasonable and designed to avoid or substantially reduce significant impacts.



Draft EIR Review

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Circulated for a 45-day public review period to allow the public and interested agencies to provide written comments.
- City will hold a public meeting to receive comments on the Draft EIR.



Final EIR

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- List of persons, groups and public agencies that commented on the Draft EIR
- Comments received from agencies & public
- Responses to comments regarding the environmental analysis in the Draft EIR
- Any revisions to the Draft EIR (Errata)



Comments on the scope of the EIR and environmental issues areas



Environmental Issues Addressed in the EIR

- Aesthetic & Visual Resources
- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases
- Cultural (Archaeological, Historical & Paleontological) Resources
- Geology and Soil Resources
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials



Environmental Issues Addressed in the EIR

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Hydrology & Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Recreation
- Population/Housing/Employment
- Public Services, Facilities & Utilities
- Transportation/Circulation



Environmental Issues Not Addressed in the EIR

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Mineral Resources



NOP/IS Comments

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

Identify any significant environmental issues and items that should be addressed in the EIR.



How to Comment on the NOP/IS and the Scope of the EIR

MADERA GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

- Hand in your comments at the scoping meeting.
- Mail your comments to:

Dave Randall
City of Madera
205 West Fourth Street
Madera, CA 93637
- E-mail comments to: info@maderageneralplan.com

***The comment period ends on
February 19, 2008***

