



Santa Cruz County Community Development & Infrastructure Department

Santa Cruz County
6th Cycle Housing Element Update:
Fish and Wildlife Advisory
Commission Meeting
April 6, 2023

Santa Cruz County General Plan

- *Vision*
- Built Environment Element
- Access + Mobility Element
- **Housing Element**
- Agriculture, Natural Resources + Conservation Element
- Parks, Recreation + Public Facilities Element
- Public Safety Element
- Noise Element

Our current housing crisis...

- 2,500 people in the County are experiencing homelessness.
- Renters need to earn \$48.08/hr – 3.2x the state minimum wage – to afford the average monthly rent of \$2,500.
- Rents in the County increased by 15% between 2020 and 2021.
- Almost 60% of renters in Santa Cruz County spend more than 30% of their income on housing.
- Only 16% of county residents can afford a median-priced home of \$1.2 million.

Goals for the Housing Element Update

1. Ensure land is available to accommodate an increased range of housing choices for all income levels
2. Assist in the development of housing for moderate and below-moderate households
3. Remove governmental constraints
4. Preserve existing housing units and expand affordability within the existing housing stock
5. Promote equal opportunity and production of special needs housing units
6. Place future very-low and low-income housing in areas with "high resources"



Housing Element Update Requirements



- Update Housing Inventory
- Update 5th Cycle Data & Policies
- Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)
- Assessment of Fair Housing
- Accommodate Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) [move up?]
- Robust Public Involvement
- CEQA Review
- HCD Review Prior to Adoption

Santa Cruz County RHNA Allocation

Income Level (% AMI)	5 th Cycle RHNA	6 th Cycle RHNA	Percent Increase
<i>Very Low (50%)</i>	317	1,492	471%
<i>Low (80%)</i>	207	976	471%
<i>Moderate (120%)</i>	240	586	244%
<i>Above Moderate</i>	550	1,580	287%
<i>Total RHNA</i>	<i>1,314</i>	<i>4,634</i>	<i>353%</i>

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

- Assessment of Fair Housing Practices
- Replace segregated living patterns
- Provide housing opportunities in “high resource” opportunity areas
- Policies and programs to remedy impoverished conditions



Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

- Provide housing for all residents without exacerbating environmental impacts
- Focus on infill housing in urban areas
- Develop housing along transportation corridors to reduce commutes
- Provide housing during disasters
- Recognize the connection between high(er) density, urban, all electric housing as a critical mitigation action



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- Community Panel and Stakeholder Groups
- Meetings with County Commissions
- Community Public Meetings:
 - Monday, May 15, 5:30 to 7 pm
Aptos Village Park*
 - Wednesday, May 31st, 5:30 to 7 pm
Virtual*
 - Wednesday, June 28, 5:30 to 7 pm
Watsonville Civic Plaza*
- Website



INTERACTIVE WEBSITE:

www.sccoplanning.com/2023HousingElement



2023 Housing Element

6th Cycle Housing Element Update



What is the
Housing Element?



Get Involved



Environmental
Review

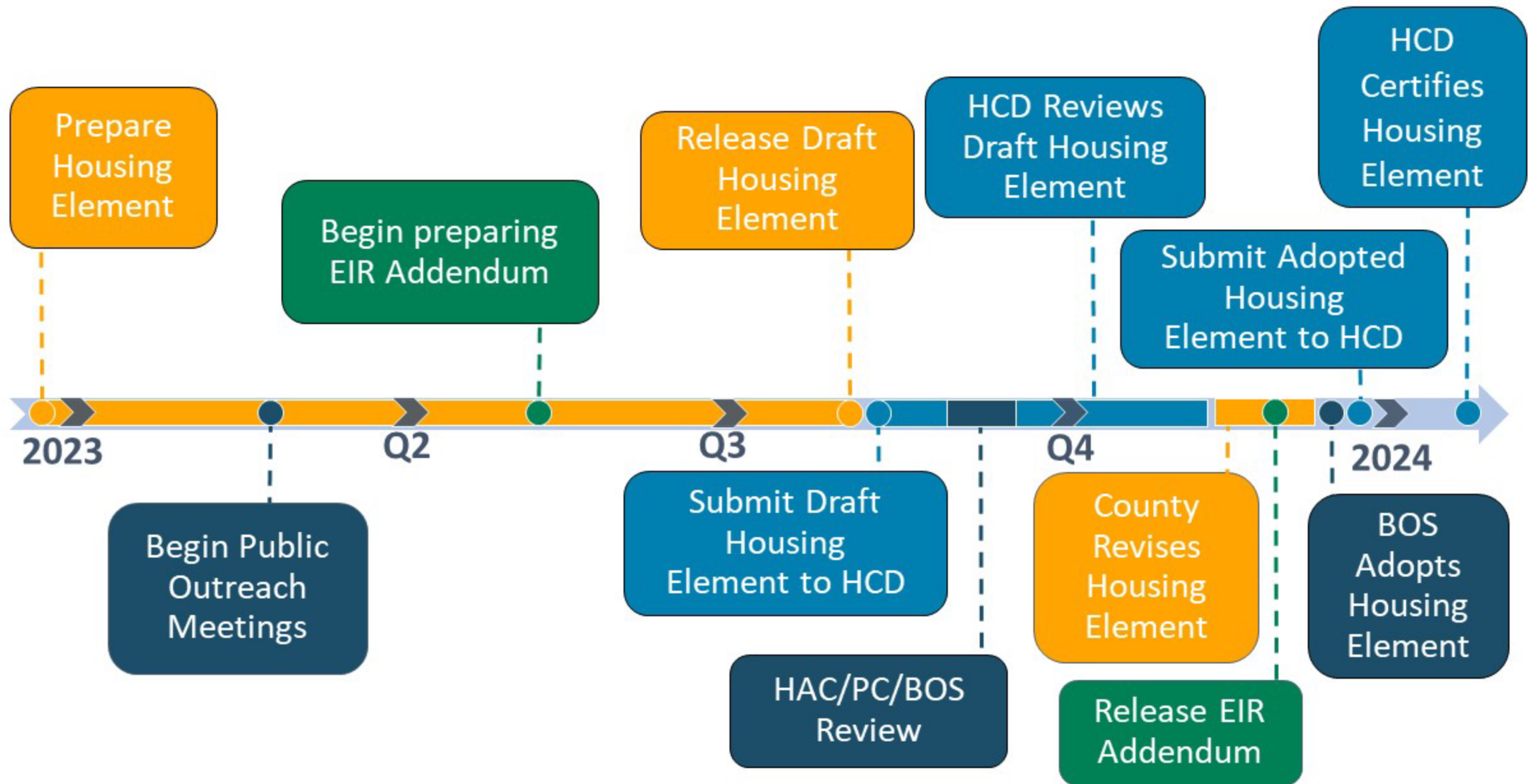


Project
Documents



Contact Us

[Get Involved in the Housing Element Update!](#)



Questions and Comments?

Thank you!

