

Sustainability Policy + Regulatory Update

COMMUNITY MEETING #4: AGRICULTURE, RESOURCES, PUBLIC FACILITIES AND PARKS

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT + INFRASTRUCTURE DEPT

APRIL 12, 2022



Meeting Format



- Meeting is being recorded
- 35-minute presentation followed by Q+A
- Participants are muted during presentation
- How to participate from the computer:
- Virtual meeting link: <https://tinyurl.com/4c2jn377>
- How to participate from the phone:
 - Dial (916) 318-9542, Conference ID 869 684 460#



Agenda



01 Overview

02 Agriculture

03 Resource Conservation

04 Public Facilities and Parks

05 Environmental Justice

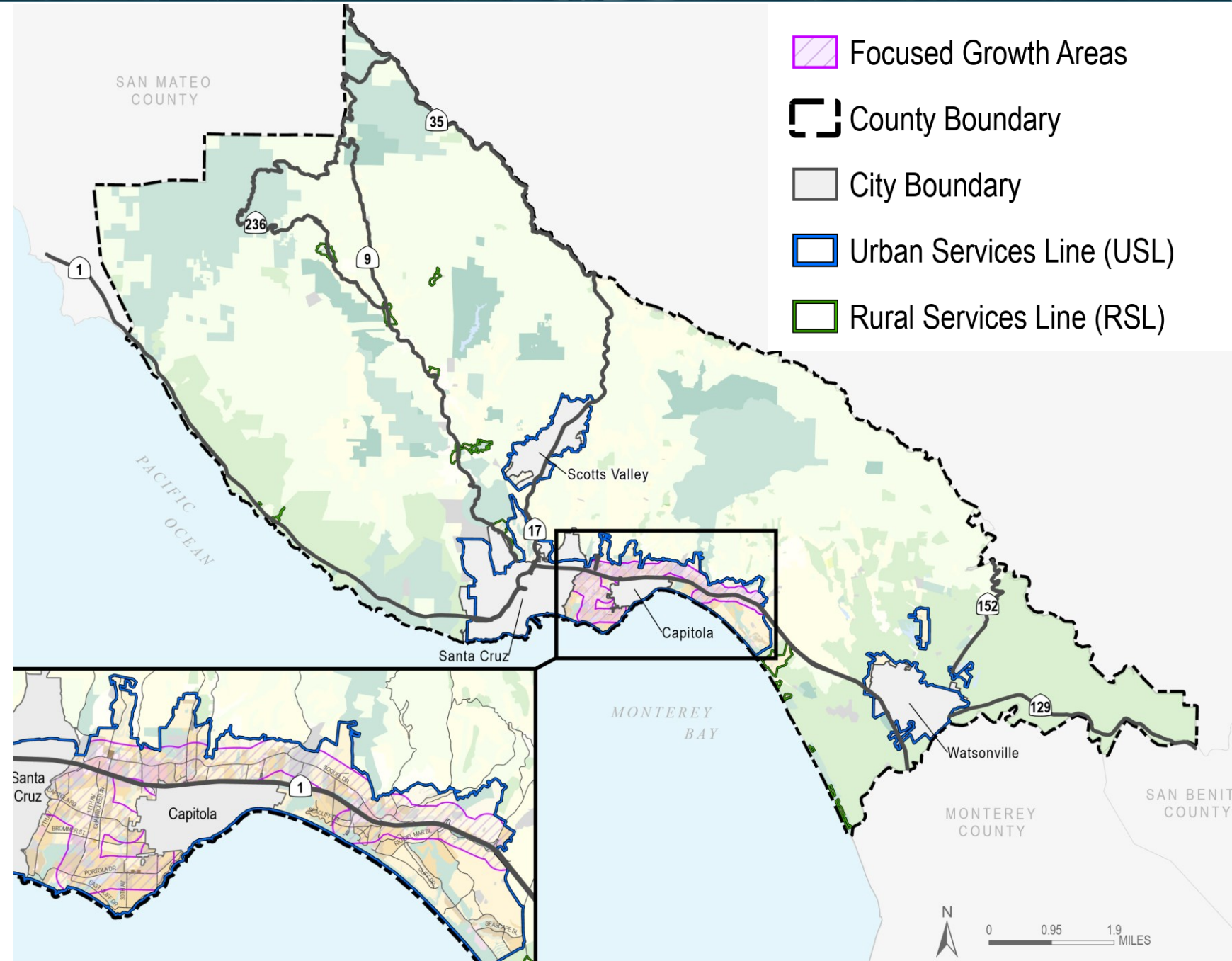
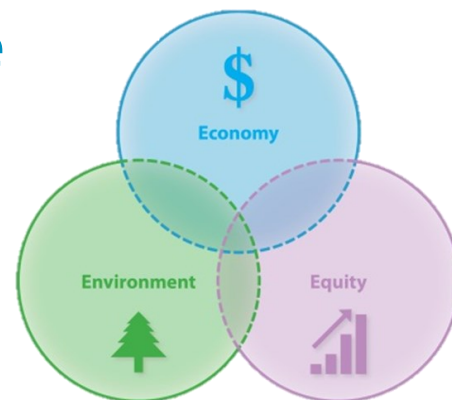
06 Project Schedule and Q + A

01 Overview



Sustainability Framework

- Existing General Plan/LCP
 - Adopted in 1994
 - Focus on preserving natural and agricultural resources
- Sustainability Update
 - Consistent with state policies
 - Maintains environmental protections
 - Supports Agriculture



01 Overview: Policy and Code Updates

- General Plan/LCP Amendments (Partial Chapter Updates)
 - Ch 5: Agriculture, Natural Resources + Conservation
 - Ch 7: Parks, Recreation + Public Facilities
- County Code Amendments
 - 13.10 (Zoning) – Agricultural, Parks, and Public Facilities Districts
 - 13.10.631-.644– Agricultural Uses
 - 16.50 (Agricultural Land Preservation) – PF uses
- County Design Guidelines (New)



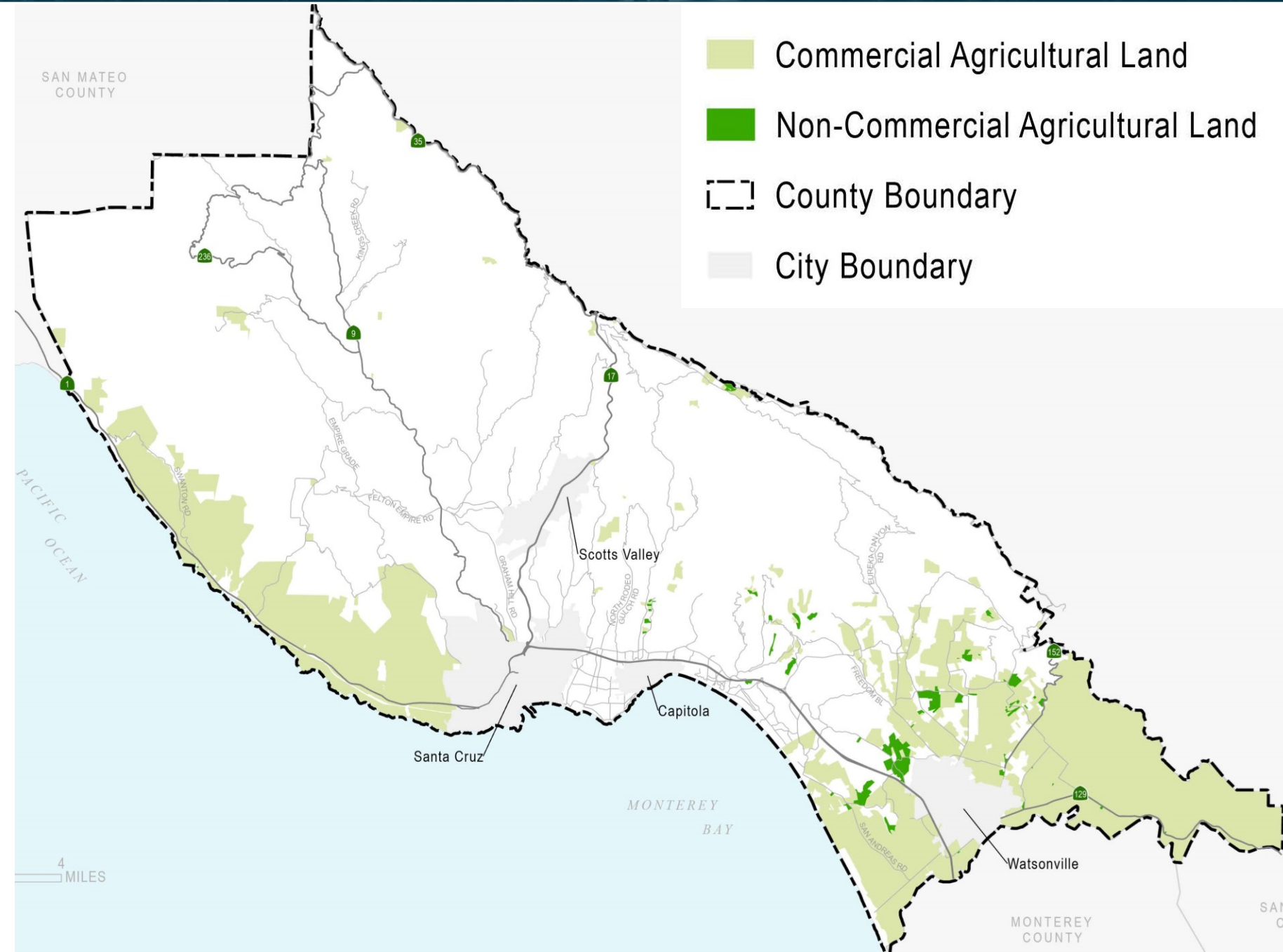
Website:
sccoplanning.com/sustainabilityupdate
"Project Documents" tab



02 Agriculture: Overview



- Agriculture Sustains our Community
 - Economy, sustenance, open space
- CA and A zone districts
- Policies protect farmland
- Evolving needs of local agriculture
- Local wineries and breweries



02 Agriculture: Supporting Commercial Farming



- Agriculture Support uses on CA land
- Review by BOS, APAC, Farm Bureau
 - Storage of ag equipment
 - Agricultural Service Establishments
 - Ag Research and Development
 - Agricultural Tourism
- Streamlined reviews for some ag uses
- Water district extensions for public health
- Limited Essential Public Facility uses





Standards to protect agricultural land (CA)

- Siting and Design
 - Avoid farmland
 - Cluster development
 - New - Minimize development area
- For large development areas
 - Redesign project
 - Analysis of alternative sites
 - Agricultural easement (new)
- Buffers and development standards retained



- Meetings with winery and brewery owners, community, BOS
- Updated standards support on-site marketing (SCCC 13.10.637)
- CA, A, RA, and RR parcels
- Standards to protect residential parcels
 - Limited Hours of operation
 - Limited Hours for events and tastings
 - Comply with noise standards
- Standards to protect CA land
 - Ancillary to agriculture
 - Site to protect ag resource soils



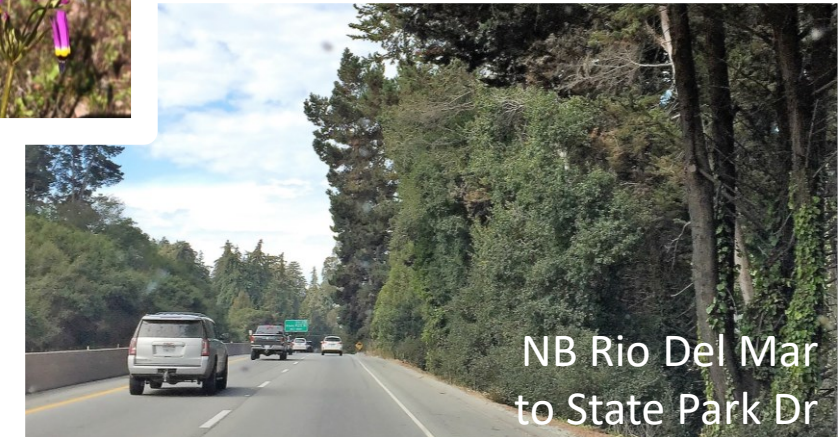
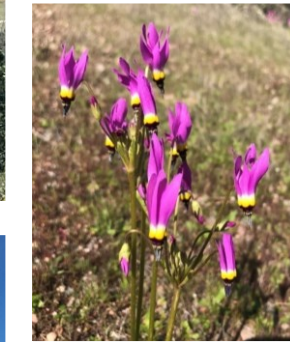
03 Resource Conservation: Water



Protecting Water Resources and Water Quality

- Water Districts and Agencies
 - Responsible for water supply - SGMA
- County protects and conserves water resources
 - Protect groundwater
 - Control pollutants and runoff
 - Support groundwater recharge
 - Require water conservation
- New policies and Design Guidelines
 - Support low-impact design
 - Focused growth in urban areas

- Maintain protections for Biotic, Timber, and Mineral Resources
- Open Space (Rural and Urban)
 - New Inventory
 - Identify policies protecting open space
 - Maintain limits on density and subdivisions in rural areas
- Visual Resources:
 - Refine Hwy 1 scenic corridor
 - Protect unmapped visual resources



03 Resource Conservation: Cultural Resources



- Native American cultural resources
 - Tribal Cultural resources
 - Tribal consultations
- Archaeological Sites
 - Best practices
- Historic Resources
- Environmental review required
- No changes to County Code



Hihn Apple Packing shed in Aptos



St. Peters Wee Kirk Church in Ben Lomond, on the National Register

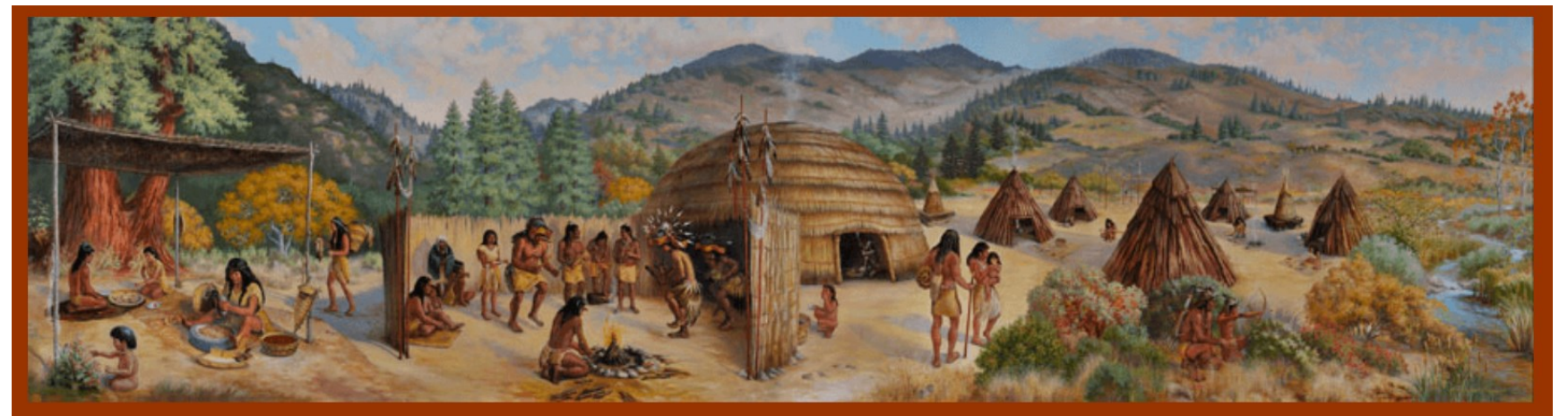


Image credit: Amah Mutsun Tribal Band <http://amahmutsun.org/culture>

04 Public Facilities and Parks



Overview of changes to GP Chapter 7: Parks, Recreation + Public Facilities Element (PPF)

- Consistent with state laws and local plans
- Reflects current industry practices
- Streamlines and simplifies language
- Consolidates and reorganizes existing policies



04 Public Facilities and Parks



Policy Changes: Public Facilities

- Public Facility/Institutional (P) Land Use Designation moved to Chapter 7
- Changes to Development Standards
 - Consistent with commercial zone district
- New Medical Mixed-Use Standards

04 Public Facilities and Parks



- Consolidate Public Service Policies
 - Schools + Care Facilities
 - Fire + Police Protection
 - Sanitation Facilities
- Consistent with current laws and practices
 - Water Supply + Conservation
 - Flood control, drainage, stormwater
 - Wastewater Reclamation + Energy Conservation
 - Integrated Waste Management
 - Telecommunications + Broadband

03 Public Facilities and Parks



Policy Updates: Parks & Recreation

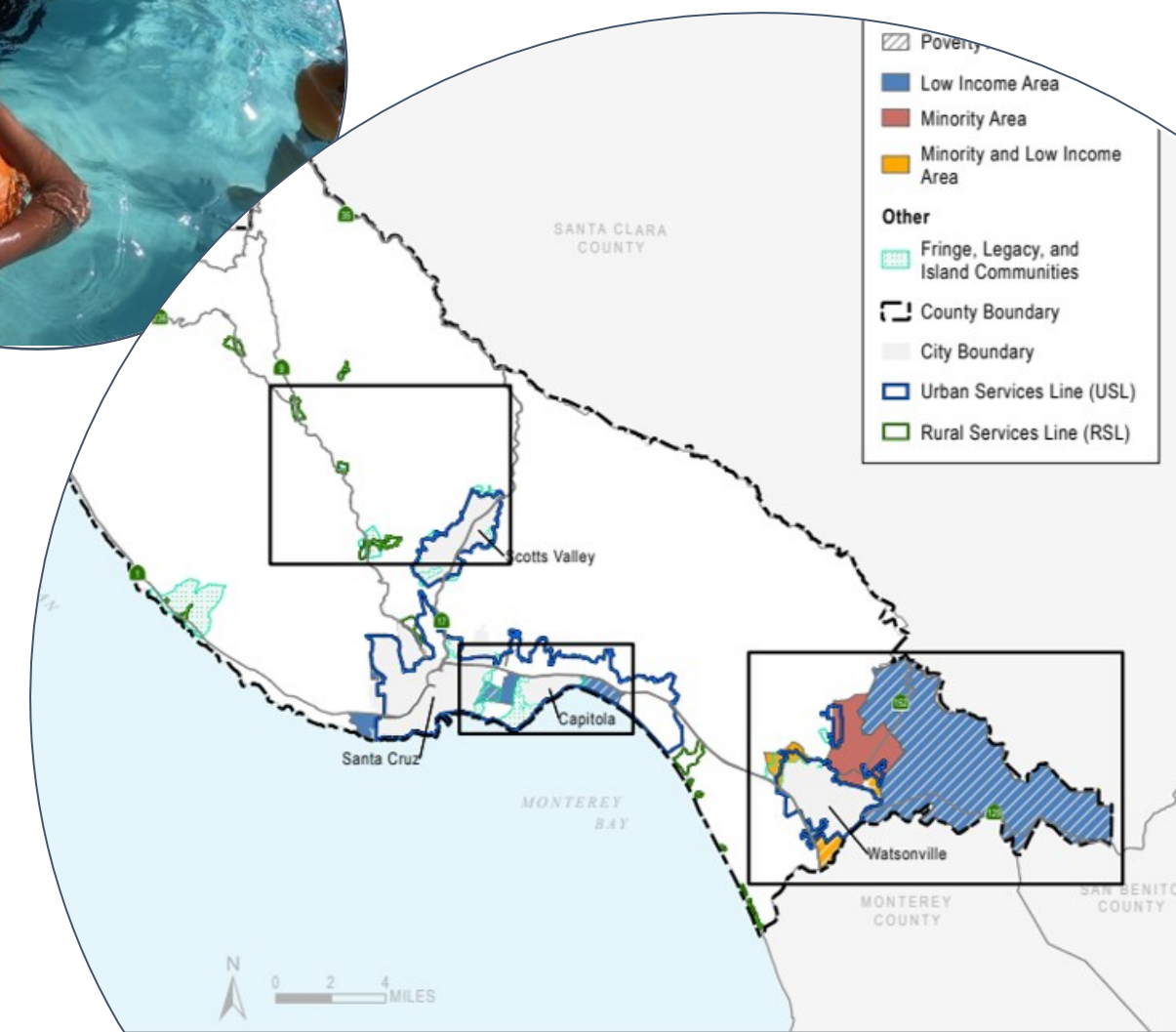
- Development limitations established for O-R
- Consistency with County Parks Strategic Plan
 - **New Goal 2.0 – Opportunities for all**
- Coastal Access Moved to Chapter 3
 - **Objective 2.6 – Coastal Recreation remains**
- Trail + Recreation Corridors



05 Environmental Justice

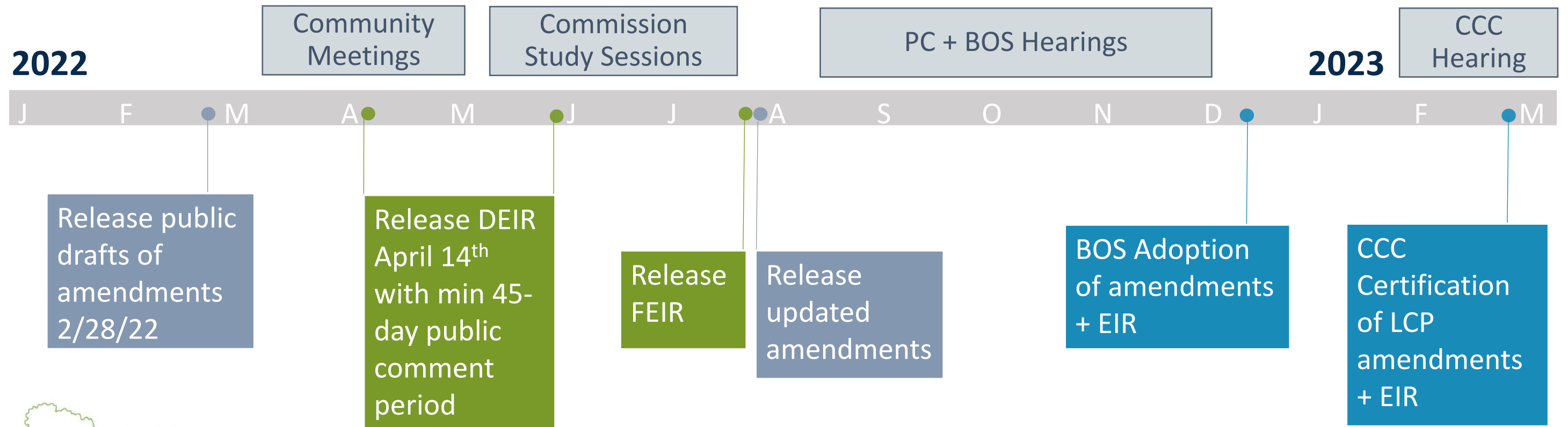


- Farmworker housing
- Reduce hazards of pesticides
- Telecommunications + Broadband
- Provision of public amenities, infrastructure
- Workforce Housing
- Expanding access to recreation/open space, particularly in South County



06

Schedule + Public Input



EIR: Environmental Impact Report - DEIR: Draft EIR - FEIR: Final EIR
 PC: Planning Commission - BOS: Board of Supervisors - CCC: California Coastal Commission

06

Schedule + Public Input



Community Meeting	Date	Time
Meeting #1a: Introduction and Overview (hybrid virtual/in person)	Wednesday March 16	6:30-8:00 pm
Meeting # 1b: Introduction and Overview (virtual)	Monday March 21	6:30-8:00 pm
Meeting #2: Built Environment and Community Design (virtual)	Monday March 28	6:30-8:00 pm
Meeting #3: Transportation (virtual)	Tuesday April 5	6:30-8:00 pm
Meeting #4: Agriculture, Resources, Public Facilities (virtual)	Tuesday April 12	6:30-8:00 pm
Meeting #5: Code Modernization and Map Amendments (virtual)	Wednesday April 20	6:30-8:00 pm
Meeting #6: Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (virtual)	Monday May 9	6:00-7:30 pm

Q + A



- Website: <https://www.sccoplanning.com/sustainabilityupdate>
- Written public comment options
 - <https://www.sccoplanning.com/sustainabilityupdate> "Get Involved"
 - Take the project survey!
 - Submit comments on project documents
 - Submit comments on EIR: Email CEQA-NEPA@santacruzcounty.us
- Hard copy documents: 701 Ocean Street 4th Floor; Capitola Library
- Project Email: SustainabilityUpdate@santacruzcounty.us

