



CITY OF DORRIS
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP CITY OF DORRIS GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

The City Council of the City of Dorris will host a public workshop on **Monday, March 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.** at the City of Dorris Council Chambers, 307 S. Main Street, Dorris, California to discuss the preparation of a General Plan update.

What is a General Plan?

State law requires that each city and county in California adopt and maintain a general plan. General plans help shape and improve the quality of life for residents and businesses and serve as a community's blueprint, or constitution, for development. General plans establish policies covering a wide range of topics of community importance in eight required "elements." These elements are land use, housing, conservation, open space, noise, safety, circulation, and environmental justice. However, general plans, are more than policy documents. They reflect the vision, values, and priorities of a community. They define what is unique and special about the community that should be preserved, and they identify strategic ways to improve the quality of life for the community.

Because general plans impact so many members of a community – residents, visitors, business owners, and more – the process of updating Dorris' General Plan is a unique opportunity to come together as a community to develop a shared vision for the future.

Why is the City of Dorris updating its General Plan?

Generally, cities and counties update their general plans every 10 to 20 years. Aside from Dorris' Housing Element, which was recently updated, the General Plan was last updated in August 2007. Because it has been several years since the last update, the City is updating its General Plan to ensure that it continues to represent the community's vision for itself and provide the guidance necessary to accomplish this vision. Further, general plan law has continued to evolve since 2007, and an update is needed to address State requirements. In particular, the General Plan will be updated to incorporate environmental justice concerns and to better plan for hazards potentially affecting the community.

In addition to the need to expand the General Plan to incorporate or better address issues of community importance, an update of the General Plan has the potential to produce several community benefits, including: preserving and enhancing quality of life; guiding economic growth; providing direction for future development; clarifying the decision-making processes of the City; promoting positive change for public health and sustainability; protecting open spaces and natural resources; and mitigating risks.

Who should get involved in the General Plan Update?

The City's goal is to foster strong public participation throughout the General Plan update process, and the City would like to hear from the entire community. To ensure the General Plan reflects the voices and spirit of Dorris, the City will host a series of community engagement activities that include a community survey, workshops/study sessions, and public hearings. The best way to learn about activities and events is by getting involved. The first workshop will be held on March 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council chambers located at 307 S. Main Street, Dorris, California. Please tell your friends and neighbors. The City wants to hear from everyone!

JOANNA WYNANT, DORRIS CITY ADMINISTRATOR