



CITY OF BLUE LAKE

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Description: The City is required by State law to periodically update its Housing Element, a mandatory component of the City's General Plan. The proposed update to the Housing Element constitutes the sixth such update and covers the 6th Cycle planning period from December 31, 2018, to August 31, 2027. As the proposed update would supersede the existing adopted Housing Element (Fourth Cycle), the update is considered a General Plan Amendment. The Housing Element is the City's main housing policy and planning document that identifies housing needs and constraints, sets forth goals, policies and programs that address these needs and constraints in accordance with State housing law, and plans for projected housing needs for all income levels (very low, low, moderate, and above moderate) over an eight-year planning period that coincides with a Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). The RHNA process defines each local jurisdiction's share of the region's projected housing needs, by income category, for the planning period. As generally required by Government Code Section 65584.09, because the City did not have a certified Housing Element in the 5th cycle, the 2014-2019 RHNA was required to be carried over into the 6th cycle Update (the proposed project), which covers the 2019-2027 planning period. Therefore, the City must plan for both its 5th and 6th cycle RHNA in the 6th cycle Housing Element Update. The City's RHNA for the 6th cycle planning period is 34 units (11 Very Low, 5 Low, 7 moderate, and 11 above moderate). The update identifies the potential for development of up to 89 new housing units at full buildout of the City's existing vacant lot inventory. The programs in the Housing Element Update propose amendments to the City's Zoning Code for the purpose of achieving compliance with State housing law.

Project Location: The entire jurisdictional limits of the City of Blue Lake.

Project Impacts: This Initial Study was completed in accordance with the current California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. This Initial Study was undertaken for the purpose of deciding whether the project may have a significant effect on the environment. On the basis of the Initial Study, the Lead Agency's staff has concluded that the Housing Element Update will not have a significant effect on the environment and has therefore prepared a Draft Negative Declaration.

Review Period: The review period set by the Blue Lake Planning Department for review of the attached Negative Declaration is 30 days.

Starting Date: September 26, 2024

Ending Date: October 27, 2024

Public Hearing: A public hearing is planned for the Blue Lake Planning Commission meeting on November 18th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Skinner Store Building behind Blue Lake City Hall. Additional notice will be provided 10 days in advance of any scheduled public hearing per Government Code Section 65091.

Document Availability: The Negative Declaration (ND) and related reference documents are available for review at the City Clerk's office, 111 Greenwood Avenue, Blue Lake, CA, weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to Noon, and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (707) 668-5655. The ND may also be found at the following link on the City's website: <https://bluelake.ca.gov/2024/09/23/initial-study-for-blue-lake-2019-2027/>

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