



**CITY OF NOVATO**  
CALIFORNIA

**NOVATO GENERAL PLAN 2035**

**UPDATED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
TELECONFERENCE HEARING ONLY**

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE #2016122043**

**On February 28, 2020, the City of Novato published and mailed public notice of an upcoming hearing before the Novato Planning Commission and Notice of Availability regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report prepared for General Plan 2035 and its accompanying zoning actions. The format and participation procedures for the Planning Commission hearing have changed. Please read the following information carefully.**

Effective March 17, 2020, at 12:01 a.m., Marin County residents are required to shelter at home. City Council and other commission/committee meetings may continue.

Pursuant to the provisions of California Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, issued on March 17, 2020, the Planning Commission's meeting will be held by teleconference only.

The Novato Planning Commission will conduct a teleconference hearing to receive public testimony and provide comments on the adequacy of a draft environmental impact report (DEIR) prepared for General Plan 2035 and its accompanying zoning actions. The Planning Commission will provide direction to staff regarding preparation of a final EIR.

**The teleconference hearing will be conducted on Monday, April 13, 2020, at 7:00 PM**

Public Participation/Comment Instructions

Members of the public may participate and provide comments to the Planning Commission as follows:

- Written public comments may be submitted by email to [smarshall@novato.org](mailto:smarshall@novato.org). Written public comments received more than 2 hours prior to the start of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting.
- Spoken public comments will be accepted through the teleconference meeting only. To address the Planning Commission, please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Join via Webex Link:

<https://novato.webex.com/novato/j.php?MTID=m7243b9b1ed6d26ed7fa0415b5bd665c5>

2. Join via [www.Webex.com](http://www.Webex.com)  
Meeting Number (access code): 965 037 010  
Password Number: K7PpKcZqZ34

Should the links above not work, please go to [www.novato.org/agendas](http://www.novato.org/agendas) to find updated link information.

- a. You will be asked to enter an email address and name. We request that you identify yourself by name as this will be visible online and will be used to notify you when it is your turn to speak.
  - b. When the Chair calls for public comment on the item on which you wish to speak, “raise hand.” To “raise your hand,” click on the participant’s icon (looks like a human figure) and a list of all the participants pops up on the right hand side. When you see your name, right click your name, and a hand appears. Select the hand to change the color to blue, so that you can be seen as raising your hand.
  - c. The host will activate and unmute speakers in turn. Speakers will be notified that it is now their turn to speak.
  - d. When called, please limit your remarks to the time limit allotted. The speakers will be muted again when time is up.
- Listen only participation may be accessed by calling toll number (415) 655-0002 and entering access code 965 037 010#. **Please note you will not be able to provide public comment during the meeting using this number – this is a “listen only” participation method.**

## Summary Project Description

General Plan 2035 is a comprehensive update of Novato’s 1996 General Plan, and establishes policies and programs addressing the community’s vision of the city through 2035. General Plan 2035 applies citywide and covers land use, housing, transportation, public facilities, community character, public safety, open space, air quality, climate change, sustainability, noise, parks and recreation, economic vitality, and governance. General Plan 2035 is accompanied by other proposed actions, including, but not limited to, increasing the floor area ratio and maximum height available to biotechnology/life sciences campuses in the Hamilton and Ignacio Industrial Parks and implementing ordinances addressing lighting, bee keeping, parking lot landscaping, tree replacement, wetland protection, solar facilities, and community gardens.

General Plan 2035 can be downloaded at: [www.novato.org/generalplan](http://www.novato.org/generalplan)

## California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The DEIR, prepared pursuant to the requirements of CEQA, evaluates the potentially significant environmental impacts of implementing General Plan 2035 and four alternative project scenarios, as well as the biotechnology/life sciences campus modifications and implementing ordinances referenced above. The DEIR identifies potentially significant impacts in the CEQA impact categories of air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology, noise, transportation/traffic, and tribal cultural resources. The majority of potentially significant impacts can be mitigated to a less than significant level. However, there are significant and unavoidable impacts in the CEQA impact category of transportation/traffic. The DEIR can be downloaded at: [www.novato.org/generalplan](http://www.novato.org/generalplan)

## **CEQA Comment Period**

**As noted in the prior Notice of Availability published for the DEIR on February 28, 2020, the public comment period for the DEIR ends on April 13, 2020.**

Comments may be submitted, in writing, or by e-mail by **5:00 p.m. on April 13, 2020**, addressed and mailed to:

Steve Marshall, Planning Manager  
City of Novato – Planning Division  
922 Machin Avenue  
Novato, CA 94945

Comments can be submitted by email to: [smarshall@novato.org](mailto:smarshall@novato.org)

## **Cortese Sites**

Novato hosts properties listed on hazardous waste sites lists compiled pursuant to California Government Code Section 65962.5. Please refer to Table 4.7-1 of the DEIR for a description of these sites.

## **Information for Public Review**

For information regarding the project, please contact Steve Marshall, Planning Manager at (415) 899-8942 or [smarshall@novato.org](mailto:smarshall@novato.org).

The Novato Community Development Department is currently closed to the public due to the stay at home order issued by the Marin County Health Officer on March 17, 2020. Project information may be accessed at: <http://www.novato.org/generalplan>

If anyone wishes to challenge this project in court, they may be limited to raising only those issues they or anyone else raised at or prior to the hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Community Development Department on, or prior to, the hearing date.

Date: April 2, 2020