

**MARIPOSA COUNTY**  
**(Draft) NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

**(Pursuant to California Administrative Code, Section 15070)**

**APPLICANT/APPLICATION:**     *General Plan Amendment No. 2019-017; Mariposa County Draft 2019-2024 Housing Element*

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**       The County’s Housing Element is designed to encourage housing development adequate to meet the needs of all its residents. The Housing Element is one of the County’s seven State mandated elements in the General Plan.

The Mariposa County Draft 2019-2024 Housing Element, which updates the adopted 2014-2019 Housing Element, provides solutions in the form of adopted objectives and programs to local housing challenges. When implemented, the Housing Element provides measures increasing opportunities for housing affordable to first time homebuyers, improved quality rentals for those who are not ready to be homeowners and solutions for seasonal employee housing and the changing housing needs of seniors.

The update identifies the County’s role and responsibility in attaining the State housing goals and regional housing needs.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The project applies countywide

No significant effect is based on the following findings:

1. The Housing Element identifies the need for housing to meet the needs of all economic segments of the community and housing needs of special populations in Mariposa County. The Housing Element contains policies and programs to meet the housing goals of the state, and verifies the current General Plan and Zoning designations of property for residential development. It does not propose new land use designations, add land to the existing inventory of land suitable for residential development or propose new residential development projects. Without specific data identifying the type and location of new residential development, it is not possible to determine how the development of future housing units will potentially impact biological and cultural resource issues. Individual impacts from residential development would be evaluated at the time the actual development occurs. Projects will be subject to all standards and policies in the General Plan and state and federal policies and standards. *The project will have a less than significant impact.*
2. Individual impacts from residential development would be evaluated at the time the actual development occurs, which is the appropriate level of review for both specific and cumulative impacts. *The project will have a less than significant impact.*
3. Future development of residential uses will be in accordance with the applicable county standards, guidelines and regulations of the General Plan and zoning, as well as state and federal standards and the requirements mandated during the environmental review of individual projects. These standards, guidelines and regulations will provide the county with a basis to conduct an adequate level of review at the specific project level. This review will include notification to affected and interested agencies, and provide the opportunity to comment and make recommendations on specific residential projects. This project does not have the potential to cause substantial adverse effect on human beings, either directly or indirectly. *The project will have a less than significant impact.*

Based upon the environmental review conducted within this Initial Study, and the anticipated level of impact as a result of the project, a negative declaration will be adopted for the project.

No significant effect is based on additional conditions as follows:

NA

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Initial Study was prepared by Alvaro Arias, Deputy Director, and is on file at Mariposa County Planning Department, 5100 Bullion Street, Mariposa, California 95338

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Sarah Williams, Director  
Mariposa Planning

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Date

