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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT

Notice is hereby given that an Initial Study of Environmental Impact and a Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact have been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and are available for public review for the following application:

General Plan Amendment No. 2021-01/Inyo County
2021 Housing Element Update

The General Plan Housing Element is required pursuant to California Government Code Section 65580 et seq., and works to provide housing for all of Inyo County's residents. The State is required to identify a Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) for the County and 205 units have been allocated for unincorporated Inyo County. The Update includes this requirement, new demographic information, and other revised regulations. Policy changes proposed include the following: allowing flexibility for locating residential care facilities; incorporating monitoring very low, low and moderate housing unit development; reasonable accommodation provisions to provide a means for persons with disabilities to request exceptions to zoning and building regulations; updating the code to include Low Barrier Navigation Centers, Transitional and Supportive Housing and Emergency Shelters to meet State requirements; update County code to meet new Density Bonus requirements; work on programs to encourage Accessory Dwelling Units, consider allowing for by right multifamily in the Central Business Zone, review Affirmatively Further Fair Housing analysis; evaluate ways to provide infrastructure in remote areas; and, remove any restrictive language regarding mobile homes.

The 30-day review period for this Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact begins on June 18 and expires on July 18, 2021. During this period the public may make comments on the Initial Study and Negative Declaration. Inyo County is not required to respond to any comments received after the close of the review period. Written comments and all questions should be addressed to the Inyo County Planning Department, P. O. Drawer L, Independence, CA 93526; or faxed to (760) 872-2712; or emailed to inyoplanning@inyocounty.us.

The Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled to hold a public hearing regarding the project on July 28, 2021. The Board of Supervisors is expected to hold a hearing subsequently in August, 2021. Please contact the Planning Department to verify hearing dates.

Copies of the Initial Study, Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact, and the draft updated Housing Element are available for review at the Inyo County Planning Department (168 N. Edwards Street, Independence) and on the Inyo County Planning Department's website: <https://www.inyocounty.us/services/planning-department/inyo-county-general-plan>