



ENVISION CONTRA COSTA 2040

Open House Series #1: Summary

Three open houses were held throughout Contra Costa County to hear from residents about issues that will be addressed through the Envision Contra Costa 2040 project. The same approach was used at each open house, which was to seek input on large-scale countywide issues, like mobility, housing, sustainability, and economic development. The open houses were held in the first two weeks of May 2019 at the following locations:

West County Open House

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 2nd, 2019
San Pablo Maple Hall Community Center
13831 San Pablo Avenue
San Pablo, CA 94806

East County Open House

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 7th, 2019
Knightsen Farm Bureau
3020 2nd Street
Knightsen, CA 94548

Central County Open House

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 9th, 2019
Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church
1801 Lacassie Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

The two-hour meetings were organized in an open house format to allow residents to participate at their own pace. At the sign-in table, attendees were provided with an informational handout about Envision Contra Costa 2040, a worksheet, and a comment card. The worksheet corresponded with six stations placed around the room with boards presenting key background information on the following topics: mobility, housing, environmental justice, community health, economic development, and safety and resiliency. Each station was staffed by a facilitator who recorded comments from the participants, answered questions, and sought feedback to gauge community perspective on these issues. The residents were also invited to provide feedback on “icebreaker” questions posted near the sign-in table.

Responses were gathered from the worksheets, station boards, and facilitator notes, and the combined input from all three open houses is summarized below. Detailed notes follow the summary.

The input received from the open houses will inform the development of goals, policies, actions, strategies, regulations, and development standards in the General Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Zoning Code Updates.

SUMMARY OF INPUT RECEIVED

Mobility

Many open house participants commented on the need for improved public transportation, including expanded BART routes, more frequent bus service, and better options for the last mile to a destination. Traffic, especially during peak commute hours, is a significant transportation challenge for county

residents, increasing driving times, impacting safety, and hindering accessibility. In addition, rural areas reported significant road maintenance and repair needs to provide an effective street network. Residents support pedestrian and bicycle connectivity, asking for extended protected bike lanes and safe walking paths and sidewalks to create complete streets, pedestrian bridges, and active transportation routes. Residents indicated that they generally use Uber or Lyft for trips to the airport or BART or in lieu of driving when going out for entertainment. Many participants felt that they would need additional incentives to drive less due to the lack of transit service for late-night or weekend work hours, expensive transit fares, inefficient transfers, and inadequate parking at BART stations. Overall, residents support enhancing equitable transit systems, promoting active transportation modes, and addressing traffic congestion and safety.

Housing

Open house participants reported that housing challenges generally stem from high rental costs, housing inequity, and strict permitting requirements that increase new construction costs. Residents felt that supportive housing for people with mental illnesses, accessible housing for disabled people and seniors, and low-income housing were in especially short supply. They recommended that the County promote accessory dwelling units (ADUs), tiny homes, smaller lot sizes, "age-in-place" housing, and multi-family housing to address these issues. Participants also indicated that the County should encourage rent control, fair housing law practices, and a balanced jobs to housing ratio. Residents also suggested that the County address homelessness by focusing on mental health services and supporting a variety of housing types, including transitional, supportive, and affordable mobile units.

Environmental Justice

The most prevalent environmental injustices reported at the open houses are the close proximity of refineries and other heavy industrial uses to homes, poor air quality along high traffic corridors, illegal dumping, and inaccessibility to jobs and amenities in disadvantaged neighborhoods. Residents asked the County to address the system's inherent biases towards disadvantaged communities by making public transit more accessible and user-friendly, encouraging green technologies, and supporting clean energy industries and jobs. They also recommended raising illegal dumping penalties and incentivizing infill development through zoning. Open house participants advocated for more outreach to and education for communities of color and low-income households to increase awareness and hear from these communities about how to address disproportionate health, safety, and welfare conditions.

Community Health

Residents indicated that the most pressing health issues in the county are its aging population, access to health care services, and insufficient infrastructure for active recreation or transportation. Residents in the western portion of the county are particularly concerned about accessibility to emergency services due to the close of their nearest hospital in 2015. In the eastern portion of the county, residents are concerned about exposure to pesticides, and some support regulations to require safer, more natural agriculture practices. Many participants throughout the county cited a need for recreation infrastructure with protected bike lanes, parklets and open spaces, and community centers. Most open house participants reported that they had relatively good access to grocery stores or farm stands selling fresh fruits and vegetables at affordable prices.

Economic Development

Residents at the open houses advocated for improvements to the county's economic vitality by supporting a wide variety of sectors while placing an emphasis on locating jobs near housing. They

recommended encouraging large corporations to use satellite office locations that would decrease commutes while strengthening the local economy. Open house participants want fewer chain restaurants and stores, a higher proportion of high-wage jobs, and tighter regulation of heavy manufacturing or high pollutant industries. They recommended that the County focus on attracting clean energy companies, historic tourism-oriented and hospitality businesses, light manufacturing corporations, and sustainable farm-to-table restaurants. Residents stated that greenfield development of remaining open spaces for new business should be avoided, and job training should be encouraged to improve employment opportunities. Opinions about encouraging tech companies to locate in Contra Costa County were mixed.

Safety and Resiliency

The community's greatest concerns related to climate change and hazards include poor air quality, toxic sites, weak infrastructure, sea level rise, drought, and high fire risk. Contra Costa residents generally feel there are inadequate fire protection and emergency services in the event of a major fire, earthquake, or other disaster. They cite need for vegetation management, home retrofits, and better evacuation planning to reduce vulnerability to these risks. While some unincorporated areas have effective workshops to train for disaster response, residents generally asked for more community emergency response team training to better prepare. To support sustainability, the open house participants recommended that the County focus resources on clean transportation with electric buses, augmented BART service, electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, and active transportation infrastructure.

DETAILED NOTES

Detailed notes from the open houses are provided below. Although the three open houses yielded some responses that are unique to a region, the countywide approach to the open houses did not break down responses by region. Responses with an asterisk indicate that another participant agreed with the original comment and seconded the statement.

Icebreaker Questions

1. In 2040, Contra Costa County is...
 - Growing grounded.
 - Business centers created in CCC that allow residents to work near where they live, and not be feeders to Oakland/SF. Decrease pollution etc.*
 - Under an additional 3 feet of water from sea level rise.
 - Inclusive and equitable.
 - Cannabis destination.
 - Sustainable.
 - Affordable.
 - Safe roadways.
 - Conserves wild areas and yet has plenty of well-planned housing.
 - In conflict with reeling in sprawl development and providing enough good jobs to bring our commuters home!
 - Promote trail access for hikers, and bicyclists and horse trailer parking for recreational equestrian riding.
 - Business growth in rural areas (Byron).
 - Equine veterinary hospital (large animal).
 - High density housing near rail in Byron to airport.

2. My favorite place in Contra Costa County is...
 - The Iron Horse Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail.
 - Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve.
 - Mt. Diablo.**
 - Walnut Creek.
 - Back section of the Lafayette Reservoir.
 - Knightsen.***
 - Delta waterways.
 - Round Valley, parks.
 - Agricultural core and protecting encroachment; enjoying bounty.
 - Small town living.
 - Los Vaqueros.
 - My home – quiet, peaceful living.

3. The biggest challenge facing Contra Costa County is...
 - Transportation/housing.****
 - Too many people... over stressing the environment and the infrastructure.
 - Transportation – we don't have functioning public transit – and rising housing costs.**
 - Transportation!!! – We need more public transit!
 - Restrictions for growth (Byron).
 - Better fire protection. Employees/firefighters. Infrastructure (fire hydrants).
 - Rural county areas should get mitigation from developers.
 - Bethel Island -- Byron connection.
 - Loss of ag land to sprawl development in West Brentwood.
 - Schools are usually a dollar short and years late. Developers build, overcrowd schools, THEN build schools.
 - Encroachment on unincorporated by cities (Oakley, Brentwood) impacts our quality of life in rural Knightsen.
 - Allowing commercial cannabis in our county.

Mobility

1. Do you use public transit? If not, what are some of the barriers to using transit that you experience?
 - No. Not enough BART options within county (i.e. 680 corridor between San Ramon and Martinez).
 - Takes too long from West County to Martinez.*
 - Too many transfers.
 - Last mile -- fund public on-demand transit!
 - Last mile.
 - The time it takes -- too long.
 - Not. Private car.
 - BART sometimes.

- With the fast building growth the county should build a road out. Why does the county okay growth without good road access and extend Delta Transit our way?
2. What are your most significant transportation challenges?
- Frequency of bus service. Traffic.
 - Traffic! Trying to get anywhere between 3:30 - 6:30.
 - Having to plan trips (Vasco, Highway 4) around specific traffic impact times, even within city limits.
 - If I had a relatively efficient transit option for commuting (El Cerrito to Martinez Highway 4 area).
 - Northern waterfront development is working on attracting new jobs. Housing is too far from the new jobs -- transportation links. Put more money into buses subsidized and less on freeways.
 - Senior population – mobility.
 - Emergency egress in Moraga.
 - Help. We need Bethel Island Road/Bethel Highway extension for our SAFETY!
 - Only one road out of Bethel Island and Sandmound. Any blockage of Cypress stops all traffic.
 - Access out from Bethel Island to Byron Highway. No emergency exit between Bethel Island Road and Knightsen Avenue or Sellers. During accidents E. Cypress can be closed for hours with no safe way to get in or out!
3. What kinds of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements are needed in your community?
- Connectivity.
 - Install protected bike lanes on all routes of regional significance. Have bike lane extend all the way to the limit line of every intersection.
 - Sandmound Boulevard is not wide enough for a bike lane.
 - The rural areas outside of Oakley, Brentwood proper does not have good roads for this. Oakley and Brentwood have great bike lanes.
 - Brentwood does a good job at this
 - An on-street protected bike lane between the Martinez Amtrak and the closest (N. Concord) BART Station.
 - Stop building freeways (if you build it, they will come). Build alternatives to the car.
 - Good sidewalks. Walking + biking paths. Complete streets!
 - Safer crosswalks!*
 - Pay for bike - ped bridges over major arterial streets with motorist money. Use designated bicycle money to build bridges over obstacles: canals, railroad tracks, freeways.
 - El Sobrante stroll -what would make this better and what would make it happen more often?
4. What kinds of trips do you make using alternative modes of transportation such as Uber and Lyft (commuting, errands, etc.)?
- Travel for entertainment (BART/Lyft) but concerns at safety on BART.
 - Trips to the airport.
 - Caution about Uber and Lyft because congestion.

- BART to Oakland, SF, and airports. Walk A LOT!
- Walk.
- None.

5. Would you drive less if you could? What would help you drive less?

- Public transportation.
- Transit does not run 24/7 and does not serve people who work nights.
- Expensive transit fares and having to transfer to different lines to get to work location.
- Ferry service from Richmond to Angel Island.
- Ferry services from Antioch/Delta stops to SF, Sausalito, and South Bay.
- Better promotion of Flixbus/long-distance bus service.
- Funding local buses so people can get where they need to go!
- BART does not provide adequate parking and this forces many to drive to work. BART needs more parking. Express buses to strategic locations, jobs, and amenities.
- Remove all references to LOS in all County planning and engineering documents and replace them with minimizing VMT.
- Not really. I do not like to wait for bus or rail.
- EV charging stations (free!).

6. General comments

- Equitable access to transit.
- Increase ferry service to SF.
- Fund and build an affordable, frequent, and reliable bus system.*
- Support active transportation modes.
- Provide bike/pedestrian connection from Round Valley Regional Preserve to MC Road (incorporate County M.C.T feasibility study alignment).
- Preserve rural character; safe equestrian travel on local roads (re-evaluate planned widenings).
- Consider traffic-calming measures.
- Slower traffic can increase agritourism.
- Improve traffic safety (e.g., traffic controls, CHP presence) on levee roads (e.g., Dutch Slough, Sandmound).
- VMT impact fee.
- Evaluate signal timing at Vasco/Camino Diablo to improve E/W throughput.
- About 50/50 in favor/against extending Byron Highway northbound to E. Cypress to improve circulation and safety.**
- Vasco - Byron Connector ("Airport Connector").*
- Speed/traffic control techniques (e.g. "pace cars") on Vasco Road.
- Stoplights at the end of Knightsen Avenue, Cypress Road; improve safety.
- We need improved road infrastructure to support any increase in housing density in Knightsen (with ADUs [accessory dwelling units], for instance).
- No road widening!
- Re-evaluate planned road widenings; determine if necessary (i.e., expanding rural roads from 2 to 4 lanes).

- Determine if planned shoulder widenings will include improved drainage; who maintains? County?*
- What are you going to do about Highway 4 planning in terms of CNWS residential development and Pittsburg development?
- How to prevent new development from creating more driving.
- Limit different types of development? Nothing beyond growth boundary!
- Connect mobility to climate change goals -- what do we need to do to reach our climate goals?
- Couple/target/match development and population to needs (jobs, health care, recreation) to reduce/minimize travel for basic needs.

Housing

1. Are there actions you feel the County should take to combat homelessness?
 - Basic income.
 - People over profits.
 - Address mental health issues.
 - More emergency shelters.
 - More mobile units that can help them at their camps.
 - Build affordable/transitional/supportive housing.
 - Financial incentives to build affordable housing.
 - How are we going to address unjust evictions? Or assist in lawful evictions?

2. How can the County help increase access to affordable housing?
 - Rent control.**
 - Just cause eviction. Relocation assistance. Right to counsel.
 - Rent stabilization. Funding.
 - Improve transportation to and from work/home.*
 - Need to address imbalance of people living in Tracy and Modesto and driving here to work. Can we work to incentive jobs outside of Bay Area counties?
 - Bring good jobs to more remote locations to decrease costs of living.
 - Good jobs are key to being able to afford housing or renting a home. By packing smaller sq. ft. homes together and keeping the price lowered by doing so may make it affordable, but undesirable.
 - Housing is a regional problem the companies creating the large number of jobs need to help build affordable housing.
 - Contra Costa needs to incorporate affordable housing within developments and not take money from developers to build separate affordable housing. This will allow lower income folds to not be identified by buildings that are separated and thus identified as "affordable."
 - Convert vacant commercial space into housing. large buildings that are vacant too.
 - Increase grants available/CDBG.
 - Fire protection - public transportation.

3. In your community, are there housing types that you feel are in especially short supply (housing for seniors and people with disabilities, entry-level housing, shelters for the homeless, etc.)?

- Supportive housing for people with mental illness.
 - ADA accessible.
 - Infill instead of sprawl. Smaller homes for aging population.
 - Aging-in-place housing.
 - Plenty of senior communities. More multi-unit housing close to stores and work.
 - Entry-level housing.
 - Cooperative housing and CLTS [community land trusts] (affordable homeownership). Deeply affordable rentals.
 - ADUs [accessory dwelling units] and tiny homes.
4. What are your hopes for addressing the housing crisis in Contra Costa County?
- Tiny houses.*
 - Financial incentive for housing owners (landlords) or mobile home park owners to encourage tiny housing.
 - ADUs [accessory dwelling units].***
 - When building new single-family housing, put 12' wide spaces next to the housing. Stub out electricity, water, and sewer: Park a motorhome or trailer there for an instant mother-in-law unit.
 - Farm-worker housing units.*
 - Zoning allowing smaller size housing and townhomes and duplexes.
 - Use public land for deeply affordable multifamily housing (>60% AMI [area median income]). Transfer available land to CLTs [community land trusts] for permanent affordability.
 - Community land trusts.
 - More housing around BART stations! Leverage our investment in BART, don't compromise it.
 - Local jobs so we don't have to spend our lives commuting!
 - Fining/taxing vacant homes.
5. What are your most significant housing-related challenges?
- High rent. Prop. B inequity.
 - Lack of affordable housing. Seismic retrofit. Protect housing from SLR [sea level rise] and slides. Displacement. Need relocation assistance infrastructure.
 - Lack of affordable and moderate income housing.
 - No services related with housing development. (water) Can't build on well water.
 - Stop requiring so much parking everywhere.
 - Need permit streamlining. Construction costs are too high. Need pre-fab. Build homes where there are jobs.
 - Less permits to build at existing housing.
 - Stop building more homes until we have fire protection and exit road access! Schools too!
6. Would you support construction of more housing in your community, even if it meant increasing density?
- No.
 - No! Schools should not be built until Fire Service and good exit roads are built.

7. General comments

- Prioritize affordable multi-family housing with easy access to stores, amenities, parks, jobs, etc.
- Encourage "age-in-place" housing/transitional housing for seniors.
- Farmworker housing units are needed.
- High density housing is needed between Byron and the airport.
- Connect trains (Union Pacific) to BART stations.

Environmental Justice

1. Do you feel like you have a voice in the County's decisions regarding land use? If not, what should be changed for your voice to be heard?
 - Hold meetings in churches. Need oversight community-driven local participation.
 - Community oversight commissions! Community oversight of NWEDI [Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative] and public land.
 - Outreach to communities of color and low income people. Land use should include cumulative impacts with votes.
 - More public meetings revealing future plans so citizens can have input.
 - The power plants and refineries are here -- what can we do? Not enough notice on how to give input.
2. Does the State's map of disadvantaged communities correctly capture the disadvantaged communities in Contra Costa County? If not, what should be changed?
 - Not changed but added to and updated to consider cumulative impacts better.
3. How can industry and neighborhoods co-exist?
 - Can't. Move to outskirts clean up environment.
 - Hire from the near neighborhoods. Have large space from each other.
 - Clean industry with good paying jobs. Linkage fees. Community oversight commission. CBAs [community benefits agreements].
 - Clean energy.
 - Only if there are better roads for transport of material.
4. How can the County help to correct environmental injustices in your community?
 - Work on lifestyle. Giving underprivileged population a sense of power, self-determination, alternatives making good choices.
 - Educate low-income areas: health care, habitats, increase awareness.
 - Better warning systems at industrial facilities. Need technology for all.
 - Discourage dirty industries and encourage clean jobs/sectors.
 - Raise penalties for polluting, trashing roads, etc. and enforce it.
5. What types of environmental injustices are most prevalent in your community and in Contra Costa County as a whole?
 - Refineries and dirty industries are located in our communities -- makes us sick!

- Proximity to toxic uses.
- Air quality. Traffic. Transportation largest polluting source. Location of highest pollution in poorest neighborhood.
- Noise pollution, road noise, loud motorcycles, leaf blowers leaving trash on the side of roads. Littering in general, by creeks, waterways.
- Access to good jobs, transportation, amenities, and safety.
- We must realize that we are part of the environment, not separate from it.

6. General comments

- More infill instead of sprawl.
- Increase accessory dwelling units.
- High density housing from Byron past airport.
- Public transit more accessible, user-friendly.
- Public transportation is lousy -- need better.
- Make bus more environmentally friendly -- Re-use by-products; do bus. In different, less polluting ways.
- Move on fr. automobiles -- consider hovercraft.
- Need more electric vehicle chargers.
- Consider using shunpike.
- Give Union Pacific money.
- Preserve agricultural heritage.
- Use garbage, don't put it in landfill.
- Consider materials in your home.
- Poor people don't have political power, hence large pollution sources.
- With the focus of development along the northern waterfront how do you make sure you don't further concentrate hazards/environmental risks on the populations that are already identified as at risk on the environmental health maps and correlate to DAC [disadvantaged communities] communities.
- The NWEDI [Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative] is a good opportunity to bring in clean industries to reverse the trend of contamination in environmental justice communities. We need a community oversight committee. Community concerned about displacement with cost of living.
- Role of industry, important to economy.
- Bring jobs to where people live.
- Bring housing to where jobs are.
- Use libraries to educate on environmental justice issues, opportunities.
- No 5G!
- Prioritize people over profits.*
- Visit at Rubicon (civil engineering).
- Disproportionate health impacts.*
- Look systematically.
- Safety, health, welfare of seniors.
- Fees and regulations -- potential for increases.

Community Health

1. Do you have convenient access to a grocery store that sells fresh fruit and vegetables? How could access be improved?
 - No, but farm stands are nearby.
 - Yes, food access to farmers markets (East County).
 - Support local farm stands/seasonally.
 - Access to groceries in Oakley.
 - Shuttle service to farm stands/or other shopping and services.
 - Affordable farmers market -- especially in food deserts!
 - It is a long drive but manageable a store east of Brentwood Boulevard, Main Street would help.
 - E. Cypress corridor needs 1 grocery store. We do have wonderful, seasonal farm stands.
2. Do you have convenient access to hospitals and clinics? How could access be improved?
 - Yes.
 - No, hospitals closed in West County.
 - No! Have had to take bus to the hospital. Must be close and easy to get to.
 - Public transportation El Sobrante to Kaiser - Richmond and Pinole.
 - We have Kaiser and John Muir but they are all in the western section of Antioch.
3. Does your community have the infrastructure and facilities necessary for active recreation (parks, open spaces, bike lanes, etc.)? If not, what is needed?
 - No. Moraga needs a (SR) community center.
 - Need community center in Knightsen.
 - Good access to delta. Need protected bike lanes.
 - Country roads conducive to biking.
 - Need more bike lanes.
 - No room for bikes on Hoffman Road.
 - Where can we marry parklets within walking distance and amenities. Orchard good.
 - Need water source (drinking).
 - Improve sewer system.
 - Bulb out in Downtown WC are a nice concept but eating or visiting big cards with exhaust is not healthy.
4. Should the County have a role in encouraging healthy lifestyles? If so, what should it be?
 - Stay out of our business.
 - Active transportation modes. Access to fresh food. Access to open space. GHG [greenhouse gas] mitigation/limit toxic industrial uses.
 - Advertise trails and other activities.
 - Protect open space, encourage outdoor discovery. Make our open space and parks attractive to everyone. Promote them.
 - Education for low income, seniors.
 - Expand services (water/sewer).

5. What do you think are the most pressing health concerns in your community?
 - Aging population.***
 - Want to know census info of age/Knightsen.
 - Availability of sugar-filled foods and lack of walkable/bikeable infrastructure is the basis of our health problem.
 - Work too many hours to recreate.
 - Need safer/natural/organic pesticides in ag areas.
 - Allergies.

6. Would you benefit from convenient access to a community garden?
 - No.
 - People have personal gardens. Close to Mn. Garden in Shadelands.
 - We have farm stands opened from May – September.
 - Yes for higher density areas (organic) (sustainable).
 - Would be good for higher density neighborhood.

7. General comments
 - County definitely has a role in promoting/encouraging health.
 - Local services for seniors due to limited mobility.
 - Consider seniors' specific issues regarding access.
 - Prenatal care.
 - Include mental/emotional/spiritual health should be included.
 - Encourage hospitals. Make sure existing hospitals are funded.
 - Hospital desert. Lack of access local.
 - Water oriented activity/access. Ferry to Angel Island.
 - Housing near jobs.
 - Asthma caused by land uses.
 - Trees being removed.
 - Encourage community organizations that create cultures of health. Rich city rides, Sea scouts, urban tilth.
 - Lack of food access.

Economic Development

1. Are there particular areas in your community that need economic revitalization?
 - East County! Use NWEDI [Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative] to develop good jobs for local people, esp. POC [people of color] and youth.
 - Antioch -- agricultural places with shacks and little ag.
 - Parchester, RumRill, and Brookside.
 - Infill and preservation of historic sites.
 - Gathering places.
 - Refinery, row 4 refineries in the county. Doing a good job in Shadelands. Excited about trial plan on Lincoln Avenue.

2. As the County attempts to revitalize older industrial areas, what types of businesses should the County aim to attract? Are there types that should be discouraged?
 - Roofing companies, services for homes such as solar too. Alternative energy companies. Recycling companies. Desalinization plants. Discourage heavy manufacturing and anything that's a heavy pollutant.
 - Clean energy jobs entrepreneurial jobs with support and access to shared office space/light industrial/food. No fossil fuel or toxic chemicals.
 - Manufacturing.
 - Tech. Not schools.
 - Cannabis growing and sales.
 - Sustainable industries, tourism (historical).
 - Community-owned enterprises.
 - Artists, artisans, entrepreneurs.
 - Lofts, housing.
 - Discourage low wage jobs in service sector and high-wealth tech jobs that won't offer jobs to existing communities.

3. Do the businesses in your community provide the services necessary to meet your daily needs? If not, what's missing?
 - Yes.
 - Social hospitality. Attract tourism to Delta and farms.
 - Social recreation. Business for 13-25 and 65+!
 - Grocery stores, hospitality.*
 - Workforce development -- funded by large enterprises!**
 - Libraries are providing many new services -- remain open to new uses. County health services in dispersed sites.
 - I'm a member of Kaiser. Some specialized care sends us to Antioch or in the future to the new Dublin hospital. How will we get this care as we age and have trouble getting there?
 - PG&E upgraded service.
 - Impact fees and linkage fees.
 - Community benefits from large enterprises (e.g. North Richmond).

4. Within your community, is there an adequate range of employment opportunities? If not, what employment opportunities are missing?
 - No. Hospitality org is low. Very little tech.
 - No. Satellite offices of large corporations. Light manufacturing; farm to table restaurants. Wineries. Industrial agricultural hydroponic farms/farming. Solar recreation.
 - 88% of workers in Brentwood commute out of Brentwood. Higher income jobs without our city is very important.
 - Attract satellite offices of peninsula companies. Better use of Cal State East Bay College.
 - More outreach/communication needed with training organizations like Richmond BUILD about existing options.
 - Apprenticeships; job training -- including for youth, formerly incarcerated; good wage union jobs/jobs with growth opportunities.

- "Farm to fork" sustainability. Less chain restaurants and stores. More mom and pop.
- Cooperatives; loans for low-income people and POC [people of color] to open local businesses.
- Provide shuttle services to u-pick farms or other county amenities.
- Solar farms in outlying areas.

5. General comments

- In a 2040 plan, need to plan for the workforce and companies we want to have in a generation's time -- tech/coding skills, etc. in areas that may not have them now.
- Develop "clean" industrial jobs.
- Sustainable - equitable - one county. Satellite workplaces closer to their employees. Reasonable incentives to reduce congestions and improve quality of life.
- Put the jobs where the houses are. Put the houses where the jobs are. Remove the stress from the transportation network.**
- Improve jobs-housing balance in East County.
- Rehiring for existing jobs in communities like East County and West County: are we matching workforce with needed skills? (both over- and under-training)
- More grocery stores and hospitality (not in Knightsen, though). At Bethel Island.
- Almost NO hospitality right now -- tourism is not developed. Fishing, boating, historic areas of the Delta -- farms, wineries, etc. (need more).
- Downtown Byron needs retail and restaurants.
- High density housing from Byron to urban SJC [San Joaquin County] line, both sides of tracks.
- Allow solar farms on Class 3 soil.
- This is zoned for ag. But taxed as if city/urban.
- Preserve Brentwood urban limit line.
- No more 5-acres ranchettes. Wastes the land.
- Avoid greenfield development. Save our open space, ranches, and ag areas and put jobs near homes.
- \$ per capita vs. household data?
- Are we tied into the ABAG Horizons effort?

Safety and Resiliency

1. Is your community adequately served by emergency services such as fire protection, law enforcement, and ambulances?
 - Yes, generally, but if a major disaster they would be inadequate.
 - Yes, but in Moraga out fate is not totally under our control (shelter in place?).
 - I'm concerned that we are unprepared to provide need medical attention without a hospital.
 - No! Emergency services will be inadequate in a major earthquake. Better to help people prepare prior.
 - No, need fire, medical, ambulances, pretty well.
 - No, on fire protection we need to do more to fund ECCFPD [East Contra Costa Fire Protection District]. Depending on amount of increase would support funding measures.
 - No, need more funding for fire and emergency. Reopen our fire stations!
 - No! Terrible emergency.

- No to fire protection and ambulances.
2. Is your community prepared to deal with the impacts of a natural disaster, such as an earthquake or fire? If not, what could be improved?
- Yes, MUF, CERT [Community Emergency Response Team], MPD [Moraga Police Department], is taking good steps.
 - Yes, Brentwood runs workshops on disaster response and coordination. However, need more fire and emergency services to cover territory.
 - Unfortunately workshops on how to protect and manage after natural disasters should be available and advertised because we need more emergency stations/personnel out here.
 - No flood insurance (too expensive). No hydrants. No emergency services.
 - No!! Need increased assistance money for blott and brace program. Fixing my house is \$50K - \$80K. Tax credits? Direct assistance? Afterwards will cost more.
 - No! On B.I. no hydrants. Emergency access (esp. since new elementary school opening in July). Concerned about people on oxygen.
 - Fire/medical/police overtaxed and spread out. Community emergency response team training for natural disasters.
 - No -- earthquake. Need a high neighborhood group and more city info/resources - Orinda. Also, fire/wildlife -- no -- not prepared.
 - No -- too few fire protection and emergency evacuation access.
 - Don't spend any County money on any infrastructure currently below 10 feet of elevation. Let the sea reclaim its own.
3. What are the most important actions the County should take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?
- Great increase electric public transit! Vehicles are 47% of countywide emissions!
 - Public transportation! BART was years later to Antioch - to Brentwood?
 - Provide alternatives to the automobile. Bike lanes on all public streets. More last mile transport to BART in East County and more BART stations in East County.
 - More EV [electric vehicle] charging stations. Volkswagen settlement grants for EV and infrastructure.
 - Electric vehicles will become the norm, electricity will be needed conveniently for vehicles.
 - Widen roads for quicker overall travel times. Bring commuters closer to home with good jobs!
 - Job development locally to reduce commutes and improve quality of life.
 - Encourage industry and commercial upgrades.
4. What are the most important things the County should do to protect against climate change and disasters?
- Regional hazard approach needed.
 - Encourage home owners of older homes to retrofit for earthquakes. Education and preparation and know your neighbors.
 - Vegetation management to reduce fire danger.
 - Gas emissions on our main routes, Vasco, and Highway 4.

- Improve transportation and public transit: BART and buses to get more cars off road. Promote more solar with incentives.
 - Vote in good government people! (No Republicans.)
 - Thinking about financial gain instead of living sustainably.
5. What is your greatest concern about how climate change might impact your community?
- Air quality! Sea level rise, and loss of species, native wild animals, etc. Habitat loss.
 - Losing water. Losing ag land and parkland.
 - Meeting water needs; fixing crumbling infrastructure from natural erosion.
 - Fire higher temps increased disease.
 - Get rid of refineries -- building climate resilient infrastructure. Clean toxic sites (make feds do it).
6. General comments
- What is the County's emergency alert system in the case of fire/earthquake/refinery explosion? Arnd are these alert systems coordinated -- mixed, cell phone alerts, email, land lines, etc.?
 - Promote personal cell use alerts with a program called Everbridge (Nixle) -- can connect with local police alerts, accidents, missing persons, etc.
 - Where are the major evacuation centers and routes to them and how are they publicized? Yes, focus on center because everyone will not be able to leave.
 - Many places have only ONE escape route and the county makes promises but does nothing.
 - Need more evacuation routes (especially schools).
 - Escape routes?
 - Better use of waterways for ferries and emergency escape; fire boats.
 - Better use of train tracks in emergencies.
 - How do people with mobility issue receive support in a catastrophic emergency?
 - What is the plan for earthquake or other major disaster? Or big wildfire?
 - Building too fast without regard for service levels.
 - Pace development to reduce road use impacts and gas emissions.*