



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: February 11, 2013

Date: February 4, 2013
 To: Board of Supervisors
 From: Kevin Hamblin, Director of Planning and Building
 Subject: Continued Board Review of the Planning Commission Approved Draft General Plan, in particular, Chapter 7, the Circulation Element and introducing Chapter 13, the Noise Element

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Open the public hearing and receive a staff report.
2. Receive public comments.
3. Close public comments.
4. Continue deliberation on Chapter 7 (Circulation).
5. Begin deliberation and straw voting on Chapter 13 (Noise Element).
6. Continue the public hearing to February 25, 2013.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

The cost of preparing this staff report was borne by the General Fund through the Planning and Building Department – Advance Planning Division’s FY 2012-2013 budget and the General Plan user fees.

Prepared by _____
 Martha Spencer, Supervising Planner

CAO Approval _____

REVIEW:	Auditor _____	County Counsel _____	Personnel _____	Risk Manager _____	Other _____
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TYPE OF ITEM:
 Consent
 Departmental
 Public Hearing
 Other _____

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. H-2, D-1, C-1, L-1, C-1, C-1, L-3, C-1, C-1, C-1, C-1, C-1, C-1, C-1, C-1 and C-1, C-1, C-1, C-1

Meeting of: June 12th, 18th & 25th; July 10th, 16th, 23rd & 24th; August 13th; September 10th & 17th; October 1st & 15th; November 5th & 8th; December 3rd & 17th, 2012; and January 14 and 28th, 2013

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

Upon motion of Supervisor
 Seconded by Supervisor

- Ayes
- Nays
- Abstain
- Absent

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: _____

By: _____

Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

DISCUSSION:

At the January 28, 2013 meeting, the Board continued their review of the Circulation Element (Chapter 7) of the Planning Commission Approved Draft General Plan, including policy recommendations from the GPU Ad Hoc Working Group. The Board provided straw votes on the remainder of the Circulation Element with the exception of C-Px5 (the County-Wide Transportation Plan) and the corresponding Implementation Measure. The Board requested that staff return with modified language for C-Px5 utilizing the Ad Hoc Working Group's recommended wording and blend this language with C-IM1. These proposed changes are discussed in greater detail below.

Staff then recommended returning to review and deliberation on Chapter 5, the Infrastructure & Services Element. The Board had previously provided straw votes on the proposed policies for this Chapter (stopping their review at IS-S1); however, during the November 8th meeting, the Board suspended straw voting until the newly organized GPU Ad Hoc Working Group could provide recommendations on the Draft Plan (in particular, the Circulation Element).

The Ad Hoc Working Group recently informed the Board that they intend to provide input on the Infrastructure & Services Element by the end of February. The group has also agreed they will not review the Public Guide or the Noise Element. They are currently researching whether or not there are components of the Governance, Air Quality, Economic Development, Energy and Safety Elements that they might review. The group has determined that they intend to review (after Infrastructure) the Introduction, Conservation & Open Space, Land Use and Water Resources Elements; however, they have not yet determined an order of review.

Because of this input from the Ad Hoc Working Group your Board proposed to "move" the Noise Element (Chapter 13) and begin deliberation during today's Board meeting. There were only three items from this Element that were placed on the Board's original Key Issues "short list" for discussion. These included:

Chapter 13, Noise

- N-G2. Incompatible Land Uses (added as a part of the priority ranking process)
- N-P2. Guide to Land Use Planning (added as a part of the priority ranking process)
- N-IM7x. Noise Control Ordinance (Item added at the June 25, 2012 Board meeting; DEIR modification)

Staff has included as Attachment A the Supplemental Report #1 for the Noise Element. As a reminder, your Board requested these reports be provided prior to the deliberation and straw voting for a Chapter/section, and would include an overview of the Draft Plan as it relates to:

- Legal basis or requirements for the chapter/section (i.e., optional Element?)
- Key planning issues:
 - How/where addressed in the 1984 Framework Plan
 - How/where addressed in the Draft Plan
 - Reason for the change (public comments, state law, Planning Commission recommendation, staff recommendation)
 - Notable items from the Planning Commission discussions
 - Unintended/intended consequences
- Board's options

Staff has also included as Attachment B the recommended policies in the Planning Commission Approved Draft Plan in a chart format. As a reminder, staff previously provided the Board with a copy of the Plan Alternative Charts including the Planning Commission votes and discussion.

These materials are also available to the public on the Department's website at www.planupdate.org.

Outstanding Issues

1. C-PX5. County-Wide Transportation Plan

The GPU Ad Hoc Working Group recommended a new policy calling for the adoption of a County-Wide Transportation Plan. Staff supported this concept but was concerned that the draft policy was written more as an implementation measure than a policy. Staff provided alternative wording and recommended that C-IM1 be re-written to include reference to the County-Wide Transportation Plan. Staff proposed to return with this alternative wording for Board review.

The Draft Plan currently reads:

There is no C-PX5.

C-IM1.Circulation Standards. Review and update roadway, pedestrian, and bicycling facility standards in the Humboldt County Roadway Design Standards Manual, Title III— Land Use and Development Division 2 Subdivision Regulations, and other appropriate ordinances.

The GPU Ad Hoc Working Group proposed the following language for inclusion of C-Px5:

C-PX5. County-Wide Transportation Plan. The County shall adopt a clear plan for development and improvement of multi-modal transportation infrastructure consistent with land use plans, intended community character and community priorities in unincorporated Humboldt County. The CWT Plan shall be reviewed and updated as needed.

The Ad Hoc Working Group did not submit comments on C-IM1.

Staff recommended revisions for the January 28th meeting for C-Px5:

A recommended policy version is "The County shall adopt and maintain a clear plan for development and improvement of multi-modal transportation infrastructure consistent with land use plans, intended community character and community priorities ~~in unincorporated Humboldt County. The CWT Plan shall be reviewed and updated as needed.~~"

What is proposed by the ad hoc group makes a good implementation measure, and should be added.

Staff recommends the following changes:

C-PX5. County-Wide Transportation Plan. The County shall ~~adopt~~ maintain a clear plan for development and improvement of multi-modal transportation infrastructure consistent with land use plans, intended community character and community priorities ~~in unincorporated Humboldt County. The CWT Plan shall be reviewed and updated as needed.~~

C-IM1. Circulation Standards County-Wide Transportation Plan. The County shall adopt a clear plan for development and improvement of multi-modal transportation infrastructure consistent with land use plans, intended community character and community priorities in unincorporated Humboldt County. The plan will include a review and update of roadway, pedestrian, and bicycling facility standards in the Humboldt County Roadway Design Standards Manual, Title III—Land Use and Development Division 2 Subdivision Regulations, and other appropriate ordinances. The plan shall be reviewed and updated as needed.

Continued Review of the Draft Plan:

Following deliberation of the Noise Element, your Board chose to return to the review and deliberation on the remainder of the Infrastructure Element. Staff prepared a summary of the previous straw voting by the Board on the Infrastructure Element (including the past Board reports and attachments as background information). These materials were attached to the January 28th Board report as Attachment B, posted on the Department's website and distributed to the GPU Ad Hoc Working Group for review. Staff recommends continuing the deliberation of the Infrastructure Element to the February 25th Board meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Awarded grants, General Plan user fees, and the General Fund contribution to the Advanced Planning Division has paid for the costs of the General Plan Update Program to date.

This project fits into the County's Strategic Framework in several ways.

- The project is consistent with the Mission Statement; the General Plan Update will serve the needs and concerns of the community, and enhance their quality of life. It provides a framework for strategically pursuing a broad range of services provided by the County and other agencies, and guiding new development toward the goals presented in the Plan.
- The General Plan Update supports the self reliance of the community by clarifying County policy and regulations in a broad number of subject areas, and presenting them in a format that is easy to understand and available on the internet.
- The General Plan Update will safeguard the public trust by establishing clear County policy and regulations guiding new development.
- The proposed implementation measures of the General Plan Update ensure its sustainability over time.
- The General Plan Update increases the transparency, accessibility, and accountability of the services provided by the County by establishing clear roles and procedures, using language that is easy to understand and available on the internet. The General Plan Update promotes interjurisdictional and regional cooperation.
- The General Plan Update is intended to be "an effective voice for our community in areas outside traditional mandates". The General Plan Update includes provisions for public involvement that extend far beyond the requirements of state law. Public involvement encouraged by the General Plan Update will include discussions of natural resource and the County's economic future. The General Plan Update also intends to engage new partners through its implementation measures.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The General Plan Update program has been a multi-year project. Multiple agencies have been involved in the review and preparation of the Planning Commission approved Draft General Plan. The County has been in communication with the Planning Commissioners, County Counsel and the County Administrator's office on the transmittal of these draft documents.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Board's discretion.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A Supplemental Report #1, Chapter 13 – Noise Element

Attachment B Planning Commission recommended policies for the Noise Element

Attachment A
Supplemental Report #1
Chapter 13 – Noise Element

Supplemental Report #1
Chapter 13 – Noise Element

1) Legal basis or requirements

The Noise Element is a required Element of the General Plan and identifies the County's approach to managing noise levels to minimize the exposure of community residents to excessive noise. The analysis follows the guidelines specified by the California Department of Health Services Office of Noise Control.

2) Key planning issues

There are three (3) Key Planning Issues addressed by the Noise Element discussed below: (1) Inventory of Noise Sources and Constructive Notice; (2) Noise Compatibility, and (3) Nuisance Abatement.

Key Planning Issue #1 - Inventory of Noise Sources and Constructive Notice

General Plan guidelines require an inventory of noise sources to be considered during planning processes. Should significant noise sources and surrounding properties also be identified by noise impact combining zones?

A) How/where addressed in the 1984 Framework Plan

Section 3420 of the Framework Plan generally describes noise characteristics and sources, and includes an inventory of prominent sources of noise within communities in Humboldt County (Figure 3-3). The Framework Plan relies on Figure 3-3, noise contour diagrams for highways, and noise information submitted with applications for development in combination with the noise compatibility matrix (see Figure 3-2) to determine project-specific requirements to ensure consistency between new development and the General Plan.

The 2002 McKinleyville Community Plan took a more comprehensive approach, and uses a N-Noise impact Combining Zone to identify areas with excessive noise levels. Noise buffering construction techniques are required to be used on homes and hotels and motels in these areas to limit noise levels to acceptable levels (45 dB CNEL-Ldn) in all habitable rooms.

B) How/where addressed in the Planning Commission Draft Plan

Like the Framework Plan, the Draft Noise Element describes noise characteristics and sources. The most significant sources are specifically listed in Table 13-A. And similar to the McKinleyville Community Plan, the Draft Noise Element includes the use of noise impact combining zones to identify areas where noise mitigation is required (**N-S2, Noise Impact Combining Zones** and **N-IM1, Noise Impact Combining Zone**). The Draft Noise Element takes it a step further requiring recorded notice and acknowledgement for new development in areas subject to excessive noise levels.

C) Reason for the changes

Both the Framework General Plan and the Draft Plan provide an inventory of significant noise sources in table form. The Draft Plan uses noise impact combining zones similar to the McKinleyville Community Plan to identify areas subject to excessive noise levels countywide. Using zoning overlays to establish noise levels and prescriptive construction standards for reducing noise hazards to acceptable levels provides a more consistent application of noise

standards, which can lead to efficiencies in the permit process for new development compared to the existing approach in the Framework Plan.

D) Notable items from the Planning Commission discussions, and E) Consequences - intended / unintended

There was some concern expressed by the Planning Commission on the level of involvement the Draft General Plan Update should have in addressing community concerns. At the meeting on October 20, 2011 the Commission was advised if they want to be sensitive to noise issues, they should support Alternative A/B policies, but if they think neighborhoods can adjust to mixed uses and increased noise, they may want to support the Alternative C policies. The Planning Commission recommendations expressed an interest to be more sensitive to community concerns, and less protective of the right of individual property owners to generate excessive noise levels.

Key Planning Issue #2 - Noise Compatibility

What standards should be used to avoid noise conflicts among various land use designations? Are the maximum noise levels appropriate? Should the County regulate short-term noise levels?

A) How/where addressed in the 1984 Framework Plan

Noise limits were not described by a Noise Impact Combining Zone, and do not limit short-term noise levels. A minimal amount of attention is given in the Framework Plan to steps that should be taken to avoid conflicts. Instead, noise conflicts among various land uses are avoided by segregating the different land uses from each other; residential uses are physically separated from commercial and industrial uses on the land use maps.

B) How/where addressed in the Planning Commission Draft Plan

The Element includes approaches to avoid noise conflicts through zoning overlays (**N-S2. Noise Impact Combining Zones**), Acceptable exterior average noise levels for residential areas are specified in **N-S6. Noise Standards for Habitable Rooms**. Acceptable exterior average noise levels for residential areas are specified in **N-S7 Noise Reduction Requirements for Exterior Areas in Residential Zones**. Acceptable short-term noise levels are defined by zone for day and night time (**N-S8. Short-term Noise Performance Standards (Lmax)**).

The Draft Noise Element also identifies project level review and compliance measures in **N-P1. Minimize Noise from Stationary and Mobile Sources**, **N-P2. Guide to Land Use Planning**, **N-S3. Environmental Review Process**, **N-S4. Noise Study Requirements**, and **N-S5. Uniform Building Code**.

C) Reason for the changes

The noise compatibility standards from the Framework Plan are still the current accepted standards for land use planning; they are found in Figure 13-D. The more comprehensive approach taken in the 2002 McKinleyville Community Plan maps areas with excessive noise levels has led to more consistency and predictability of County standards in review of development projects, and forms the basis of the Planning Commission's recommendations.

Also, over the years since the Framework Plan was approved, the County has followed many other jurisdictions in the state by blending together the uses allowed in commercial zoning districts; multifamily uses are now allowed above commercial buildings. Given the uses are no longer buffered from each other geographically, the Planning Commission recommends noise standards be applied to ensure compatibility between different land uses.

D) Notable items from the Planning Commission discussions

The Planning Commission revised the wording of Standard **N-S7. Noise Reduction Requirements for Exterior Areas in Residential Zones** to only apply to new single family residential subdivisions. The Planning Commission was considerable discussion leading to the revised wording of Standard **N-S8 Short-term Noise Performance Standards (Lmax)**.

E) Consequences - intended / unintended

The intent of these policies is to provide clear noise compatibility standards for zones and procedures for evaluating noise impacts. The Draft Noise Element implements safeguards for avoiding noise conflicts, recognizing recent changes in the land use maps encourage more of a mixture of residential uses in commercial areas. Since noise standards will be applied more consistently, noise studies may be required more often, which could unintentionally increase the cost of securing permits for projects in areas with excessive noise levels, and for projects which generate excessive noise levels.

Key Planning Issue #3 - Nuisance Abatement

Abatement issues include resolving noise complaints and reducing noise along Highway 101 and 299. Should nuisance be judged on sound levels alone or should allowances be made for mitigating factors?

A) How/where addressed in the 1984 Framework Plan

A general reference is made on the need for code enforcement and interagency attention to noise reduction, "A local interagency program should be developed for the general public in the nature, extent, and solutions to noise problems in Humboldt County." (§3291(5)(E))

B) How/where addressed in the Planning Commission Draft Plan

The Element approaches noise complaints with precise allowable noise levels and a compliance program (**N-IM3. Compliance Program**), which requires the County to "investigate complaints of excessive noise and control noise sources consistent with the standards established by the Plan." Highway noise reduction is included as an implementation measure (**N-IM4. Noise from U.S. Highway 101 (U.S. 101) and State Highway 299**), which requests CalTrans to implement noise reduction measures on these highways in areas with concentrated residential development.

C) Reason for the changes

Considerable concern was expressed throughout the General Plan Update process and during the development of the McKinleyville Community Plan regarding nuisance type noises such as blowers and coolers associated with commercial development, gunfire, loud music, cars and power equipment. The proposed noise ordinance discussed would include provisions to address these issues.

D) Notable items from the Planning Commission discussions

The Planning Commission unanimously added an additional implementation measure to prepare and consider a noise control ordinance to regulate noise sources in order to protect persons from existing or future excessive levels of noise, N-IM7x, Noise Control Ordinance.

E) Consequences - intended / unintended

A noise control ordinance could reduce noise relate nuisances in urban and rural areas. Enforcing a new noise ordinance may unintentionally increase costs for the County.

3) What are the Board's options?

The Noise Element is a required Element of the General Plan, so the Board does not have the option to eliminate it. Additionally, the new Element recommended by the Commission addresses the concerns expressed by the public during development and review of the General Plan Update that the current Framework Plan is vague and does not include specific standards needed to protect the community from excessive noise levels.

Where the Planning Commission recommended Alternative A policies, standards and implementation measures, both Alternative B and Alternative C present options for consideration that are less protective of the community's exposure to excessive levels of noise, and more protective of individuals generating loud noises.

Attachment B

**Planning Commission recommended policies
for the Noise Element**

Chapter 13 Noise Element (Approved PC Draft Plan)

Chapter 13. Noise Element	Board Position
13.4 Goals	
N-G1. Excessive Noise. A quiet and healthful environment with limited disagreeable noise.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-G2. Incompatible Land Uses. Land uses arranged and managed to reduce annoyance and complaints and minimize the exposure of community residents to excessive noise.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-G2. Incompatible Land Uses. Land uses arranged to reduce annoyance and complaints and minimize the exposure of community residents to excessive noise.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
13.4 Policies	
N-P1. Minimize Noise from Stationary and Mobile Sources. Minimize stationary noise sources and noise emanating from temporary activities by applying appropriate standards for average and short-term noise levels during permit review and subsequent monitoring.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-P1. Minimize Noise from Stationary and Mobile Sources. Minimize stationary noise sources and noise emanating from temporary activities by applying appropriate standards for average noise levels during permit review and subsequent monitoring.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-P2. Guide to Land Use Planning. Evaluate current noise levels and mitigate projected noise levels when making community planning and zoning decisions to minimize the exposure of community residents to nuisance noise levels. Minimize vehicular noise exposure by planning land uses compatible with transportation corridors and applying noise attenuation designs and construction standards. Avoid zoning patterns that permit people to “move to the nuisance” unless mitigated through project conditions or recorded notice.	
DELIBERATIONS:	

Chapter 13. Noise Element	Board Position
<p>N-P2. Guide to Land Use Planning. Evaluate current noise levels and mitigate projected noise levels when making community planning and zoning decisions to minimize the exposure of community residents to nuisance noise levels. Minimize vehicular noise exposure by planning land uses compatible with transportation corridors and applying noise attenuation designs and construction standards.</p>	
<p>DELIBERATIONS:</p>	
<p>N-P3. Noise from U.S. 101 and 299. The County shall support efforts to reduce noise levels on Highway 101 and 299 along sections in proximity to concentrated residential development through prioritized roadway surface maintenance, use of noise-reducing surface treatments, traffic safe tree or shrub plantings or, in cases of significant noise exposure; use of lower speed limits and construction of sound walls.</p>	
<p>DELIBERATIONS:</p>	
<p>N-P4. Protection from Excessive Noise. <u>Protect persons from existing or future excessive levels of noise which interfere with sleep, communication, relaxation, health or legally permitted use of property.</u> Added by the Planning Commission</p>	
<p>DELIBERATIONS:</p>	
<p>13.5 Standards</p>	
<p>N-S1. Land Use/Noise Compatibility Matrix. The Land Use/Noise Compatibility Standards(Table 13-D) shall be used as a guide to ensure compatibility of land uses. Development may occur in areas identified as “normally unacceptable” if mitigation measures can reduce indoor noise levels to “Maximum Interior Noise Levels” and outdoor noise levels to the maximum “Normally Acceptable” value for the given Land Use Category.</p>	
<p>DELIBERATIONS:</p>	
<p>N- Sx. Modification or Waiver of Noise Insulation Requirements Standards. Where full mitigation in accordance with the policies and standards of this Noise Element is not feasible, the Planning Commission may modify or waive such policies or standards to enable reasonable use of the property, provided that noise levels are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible.</p>	
<p>DELIBERATIONS:</p>	
<p>N-S2. Noise Impact Combining Zones. The 20-year projected noise contours in the Map Book Appendix and the most current Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans shall be used to identify noise impact combining zone areas to indicate where special sound insulation measures may apply.</p>	

Chapter 13. Noise Element	Board Position
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-S3. Environmental Review Process. For noise sensitive locations where noise contours do not exist, the environmental review process required by the California Environmental Quality Act shall be utilized to generate the required analysis and determine the appropriate mitigation per Plan and state standards. Future noise levels shall be predicted for a period of at least 10 years from the time of permit application.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-S4. Noise Study Requirements. When a discretionary project has the potential to generate noise levels in excess of Plan standards, a noise study together with acceptable plans to assure compliance with the standards shall be required. The noise study shall measure or model as appropriate, CNEL and Maximum Noise Level (Lmax) levels at property lines and if feasible, receptor locations. Noise studies shall be prepared by qualified individuals using calibrated equipment under currently accepted professional standards and include an analysis of the characteristics of the project in relation to noise levels, all feasible mitigations and projected noise impacts. <i>The Noise Guidebook</i> published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, or its equivalent, shall be used to guide analysis and mitigation recommendations.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-S5. Uniform Building Code. Use the Uniform Building Code as adopted for California (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Appendix Chapter 12) for determining required noise separation requirements for buildings.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-S6. Noise Standards for Habitable Rooms. Noise reduction shall be required as necessary to achieve a maximum of 45 CNEL (Community Noise Equivalent Level) interior noise levels in all habitable rooms per California building standards.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-S7. Noise Reduction Requirements for Exterior Areas in Residential Zones. On a Newly created single family residential lots of 5,000 square feet or more, <u>shall contain</u> a usable outdoor-living area at least 200 square feet in size per dwelling unit that meets the 60 CNEL (Community Noise Equivalent Level) standard. shall be maintained somewhere on the property.	
DELIBERATIONS:	

Chapter 13. Noise Element

**Board
Position**

N-S98 Short-term Noise Performance Standards (Lmax). The following noise standards, unless otherwise specifically indicated, shall apply to all property within their assigned noise zones and such standards shall constitute the maximum permissible noise level within the respective zones.

SHORT-TERM NOISE STANDARDS (Lmax)

<u>Zoning Designation</u>	Day (maximum) 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. <u>dBA</u>	Night (maximum) 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. <u>dBA</u>
CG , MG, MC, AE, TPZ, TC, CS, AG	80	70
CN, MB, ML, RRA, CG, CR	75	65
RM	65	60
RS, R1, R2, RA	65	60

Protocol for measuring exceedences:

1. Calibrate and establish reference for sound meter:

Decibel measurement made shall be based on a reference sound pressure of 0.0002 microbars as measured with a sound level meter using the "A" weighted network.

2. Determine ambient background noise levels:

Ambient noise without the noise source in operation shall be observed at 15 second intervals for a period of 15 minutes. The lowest reading is interpreted as the ambient noise level of that sampling point. If this reading is above the standard set for the noise zone, steps must be taken to determine the source or sources of the intruding high-level noise followed by appropriate control action before continuing the survey. If the reading is equal to or below the standard, the survey can proceed.

3. Measure for exceedences:

With the noise source in operation, record the instantaneous response at 15 second intervals for a 15 minute period. Or, for a noise source of less than 15 minutes, record the instantaneous response at 15 second intervals for the time the noise source is in operation. The lowest response level recorded while the noise source is in operation is interpreted as the intruding noise level. Compare the intruding noise levels with the standard. If the noise level generated from the noise source exceeds the standard, the noise source is generating noise levels in excess of the allowable standards set for the noise zone.

DELIBERATIONS:

N- S10. Modification or Waiver of Noise Insulation Requirements standards. Where full mitigation in accordance with the policies and standards of this Noise Element is not feasible, the Planning Commission may modify or waive such policies or standards to enable reasonable use of the property, provided that noise levels are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible.

Chapter 13. Noise Element	Board Position
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-S11. Industrial Performance Standards. Add the Industrial Performance Standards currently contained in the County Coastal Zoning Code to the Inland Zoning Code as well.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-S12. Helicopter Logging. For timber operations conducted under a Timber Harvest Plan, request that Cal Fire restrict helicopter logging to the hours from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. on weekdays only, with no helicopter logging permitted at any time on weekends, within 1,000 feet of a residence. Additionally, request Cal Fire to require special advance notice to any and all neighbors within a half-mile radius of any helicopter logging, stating the specific days that the logging will occur.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
13.6 Implementation Measures	
N-IM1 Noise Impact Combining Zone. Utilize Noise Impact Combining Zone designations to identify areas where noise impact mitigations are required.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-IM2 Periodic Review of Combining Zones. Periodically identify and evaluate potential noise problem areas for mitigation or as candidates for noise impact combining zones, particularly during Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan updates.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-IM3 Compliance Program. The County shall investigate complaints of excessive noise and control noise sources consistent with the standards established by the Plan. Nuisance determinations shall be based on noise levels, duration and number of noise events.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-IM4 Noise from U.S. Highway 101 (U.S. 101) and State Highway 299. Working through its representation on Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG), the County shall work with other affected jurisdictions and request California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to consider implementing noise reduction measures on U.S. 101 and State Highway 299 along sections in proximity to concentrated residential development.	

Chapter 13. Noise Element	Board Position
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-IM5 Adoption of Performance Standards. Adopt Industrial Performance Standards Countywide.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-IM6 Noise Ordinance. Adopt a noise ordinance based on current zoning districts, tailored to community noise standards that address construction noise and other non-transportation noise sources.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-IM7 Exterior Noise Reduction Standards. Adopt standards specifying appropriate measures to reduce exterior noise levels in noise impact areas. Standards shall consider the portion of a lot where noise level reduction measures would apply, acceptable sound wall designs, and standards for achieving noise level reductions through effective site planning techniques.	
DELIBERATIONS:	
N-IM7x Noise Control Ordinance. Prepare and consider a noise control ordinance to regulate noise sources in order to protect persons from existing or future excessive levels of noise which interfere with sleep, communication, relaxation, health or legally permitted use of property. The ordinance shall define excessive levels of noise and may exempt or modify noise requirements for agricultural uses, construction activities, school functions, property maintenance, waste collection and other sources. The ordinance shall include responsibilities and procedures for enforcement, abatement and variances. Added by the Planning Commission	

Figure 3-2 (Noise Compatibility Matrix From Existing General Plan)

CLEARLY ACCEPTABLE		NORMALLY ACCEPTABLE			NORMALLY UNACCEPTABLE			CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE			
		LAND USE INTERPRETATION FOR Ldn VALUE									
LAND USE CATEGORY	Maximum interior exposure, Ldn*	55		65	75		85				
Residential-Single Family, Duplex, Mobile Homes	45										
Residential-Multiple Family, Dormitories, etc.	45										
Transient Lodging	45										
School Classrooms, Libraries, Churches	45										
Hospitals, Nursing Homes	45										
Auditoriums, Concert Halls, Music Shells	35										
Sports Arenas, Outdoor Spectator Sports											
Playgrounds, Neighborhood Parks											
Golf Courses, Riding Stables, Water Rec., Cemeteries											
Office Buildings, Personal, Business and Professional	50										
Commercial-Retail, Movie Theaters, Restaurants	50										
Commercial-Wholesale, Some Retail, Ind., Mfg., Util.											
Manufacturing, Communications (Noise Sensitive)											
Livestock Farming, Animal Breeding											
Agriculture (except Livestock), Mining, Fishing											
Public Right-of-Way											
Extensive Natural Recreation Areas											

*Due to exterior sources (Source: Bolt, Beranek, and Newman, Inc., 1974)