
TOWN OF LOOMIS GENERAL PLAN PUBLIC HEALTH SAFETY AND NOISE ELEMENT

PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND NOISE ELEMENT COMMITTEE

**MEETING #1
MARCH 17, 2021**



AGENDA

- » **Introductions and Available Documents**
- » **Element Overview**
- » **Setting Review**
- » **Approach to the General Plan Update**
- » **Schedule**
- » **Discussion**



INTRODUCTIONS AND AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS



INTRODUCTIONS

- » **Town Staff**
- » **Consultant Staff**
- » **Committee Members**



AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

» **General Plan Update**

» <https://loomis.ca.gov/2020-general-plan-update/>

» **Public Health & Safety Setting:**

» <https://loomis.ca.gov/documents/public-health-and-safety/>

» **Noise Setting:**

» <https://loomis.ca.gov/documents/noise-setting/>



ELEMENT OVERVIEW



ELEMENT OVERVIEW

» **Mandatory element of the General Plan**

» **Addresses:**

- » **Seismic risk**
- » **Flooding**
- » **Wildland and urban fire**
- » **Hazardous materials**
- » **Noise**



EXISTING SAFETY GOALS

- 1. Reduce risks associated with natural and man-made hazards through compliance with State and Federal safety programs.**
- 2. Reduce the risks associated with wildland and urban edge fires in the Town's rural areas.**
- 3. Reduce the potential for and damage resulting from storm flooding hazards within the community.**
- 4. Reduce the risk of adverse effects associated with geologic or seismic instability.**



STATE LAW CHANGES

- » **State laws since 2007 address:**
 - » **Flooding**
 - » **Fire risk**
 - » **Climate adaptation and resiliency**
 - » **Emergency evacuation routes for residential developments**
 - » **Updating climate resiliency information with each Housing Element or Local Hazard Mitigation Plan**
 - » **Evacuation route capacity under a range of emergency scenarios**



STATE LAW CHANGES

Recent statutes require local governments address the following within their Safety Elements (as applicable):

- » **AB 162, 2007 - Flooding**
- » **AB 3065 and SB 1241 - Very High Fire Hazard Zones**
- » **AB 379, 2015 –climate change adaptation and resiliency**
- » **SB 99, 2019 - evacuation routes**
- » **SB 1035, 2018 - climate resilience and more frequent updating of information**
- » **AB 747, 2019 - evacuation routes**



FLOODING HAZARDS

The Safety Element is required to protect the community from “unreasonable risks of flooding”

- » avoid or minimize flood risks for new development**
- » avoid new development in a floodplain**
- » protect essential public facilities during flooding**
- » locate new essential public facilities outside of flood zones**



WILDLAND FIRE HAZARDS

The Safety Element is required to protect the community from “unreasonable risks of wildfire”

- » avoid or minimize fire risks for new development**
- » locate new essential public facilities outside of fire hazard zones**
- » ensure safe access for emergency response vehicles, visible street signs, and water supplies for structural fire suppression**



CLIMATE ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

The Safety Element is required to address climate adaptation and resiliency, particularly related to flooding and wildfire

- » the types of assets, resources, and populations that will be sensitive to various climate change exposures**
- » the ability to deal with the impacts of climate change**
- » historical data on hazards, areas that are vulnerable, and sites that have been repeatedly damaged**
- » existing and planned development in identified at-risk areas**



EXISTING NOISE GOALS

- 1. To protect Town residents and workers from the harmful and annoying effects of noise.**
- 2. To mitigate the effects of noise created by roadway traffic and non-residential land uses while discouraging the construction of sound walls.**
- 3. To maintain and where possible enhance the quiet, rural ambiance of the Town.**
- 4. To minimize the noise effect of railroad operations on residential uses and other sensitive land uses.**



EXISTING NOISE POLICIES

» Acceptable Transportation Noise Levels

Table 8-3 - Maximum Allowable Noise Exposure

Noise Sensitive Land Use	Outdoor Activity Areas ¹	Interior Spaces	
	dBA L _{dn}	dBA L _{dn}	dBA L _{eq}
Residential	65	45	--
Transient Lodging	65	45	--
Hospitals, Nursing Homes	65	45	--
Theaters, Auditoriums, Music Halls	--	--	35
Churches, Meeting Halls	65	--	40
Office Buildings	--	--	45
Schools, Libraries, Museums	--	--	45
Playgrounds, Neighborhood Parks	70	--	--

¹ Where the location of outdoor activity areas is unknown, the exterior noise levels standard shall be applied to the property line of the receiving land use.

² Where it is not possible to reduce noise in outdoor activity areas to 65 dB L_{dn}/CNEL or less using a practical application of the best-available noise reduction measures, an exterior noise level of up to 70 dB L_{dn}/CNEL may be allowed provided that available exterior noise level reduction measures have been implemented and interior noise levels are in compliance with this table.



EXISTING NOISE POLICIES

» Acceptable Non-Transportation Noise Levels

Table 8-4 - Noise Standards for Short Duration Events Near Residential Areas

Noise Sensitive Land Use	Duration of Sound (minutes per hour)	Standard	
		Day/Evening (7am – 10pm) dB	Night (10pm – 7am) dB
All Residential	30 - 60	50	40
	15 - 30	55	45
	5 - 15	60	50
	1 - 5	65	55
	Less than 1 minute	70	60

¹ If the offensive noise contains a steady, audible tone (such as a screech or hum), or is a repetitive noise such as hammering, or contains speech or music, the standard limits shown shall be reduced by 5 dB.

² Source: State of California Model Community Noise Control Ordinance.



GENERAL PLAN REQUIREMENTS - NOISE

Identify and appraise noise problems from:

- » **Highways and freeways.**
- » **Primary arterials and major local streets.**
- » **Passenger and freight online railroad operations and ground rapid transit systems.**
- » **Aviation**
- » **Industry**

Noise contours to guide land use planning.

Solutions for existing and foreseeable noise problems.

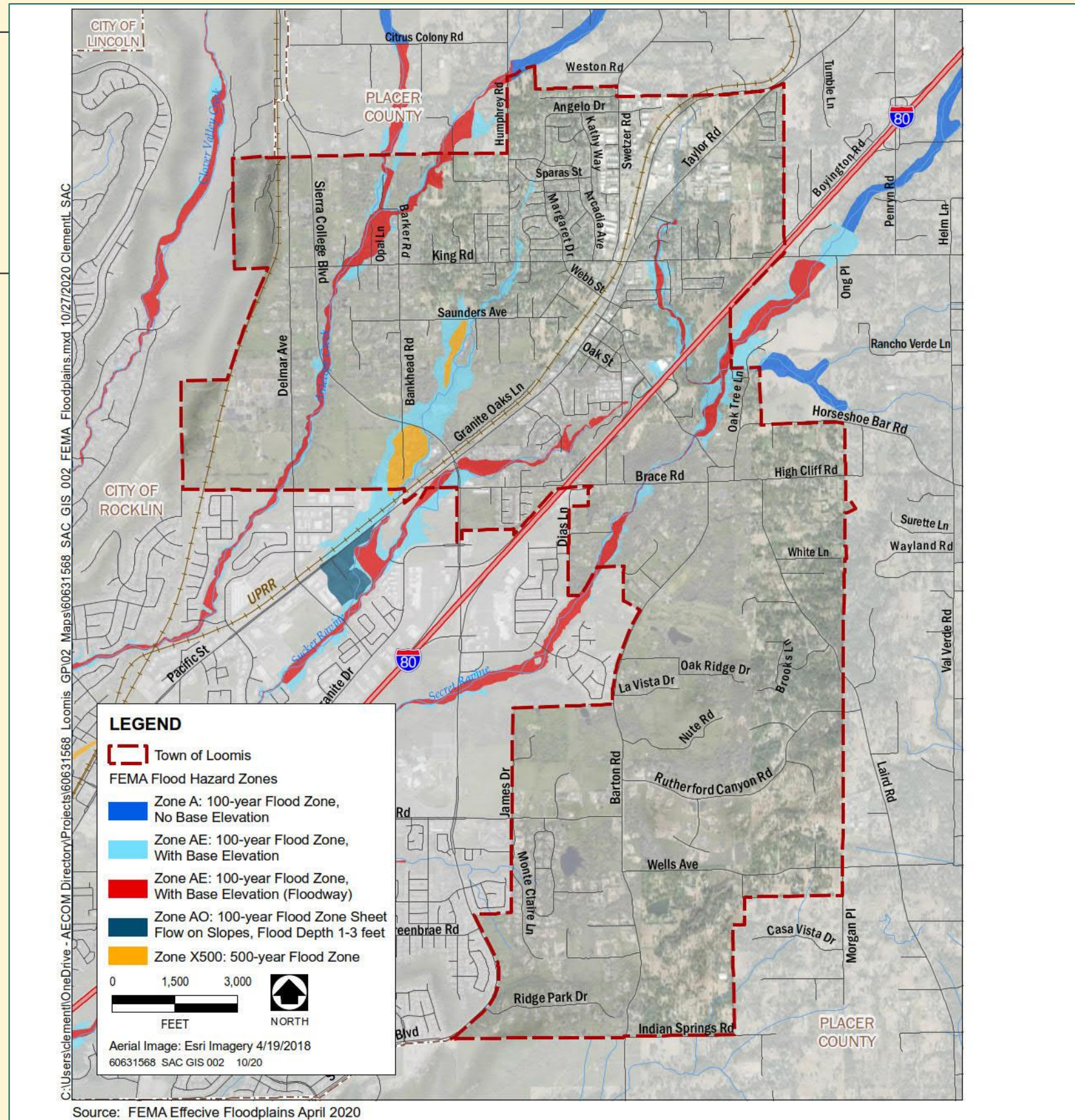


SETTING



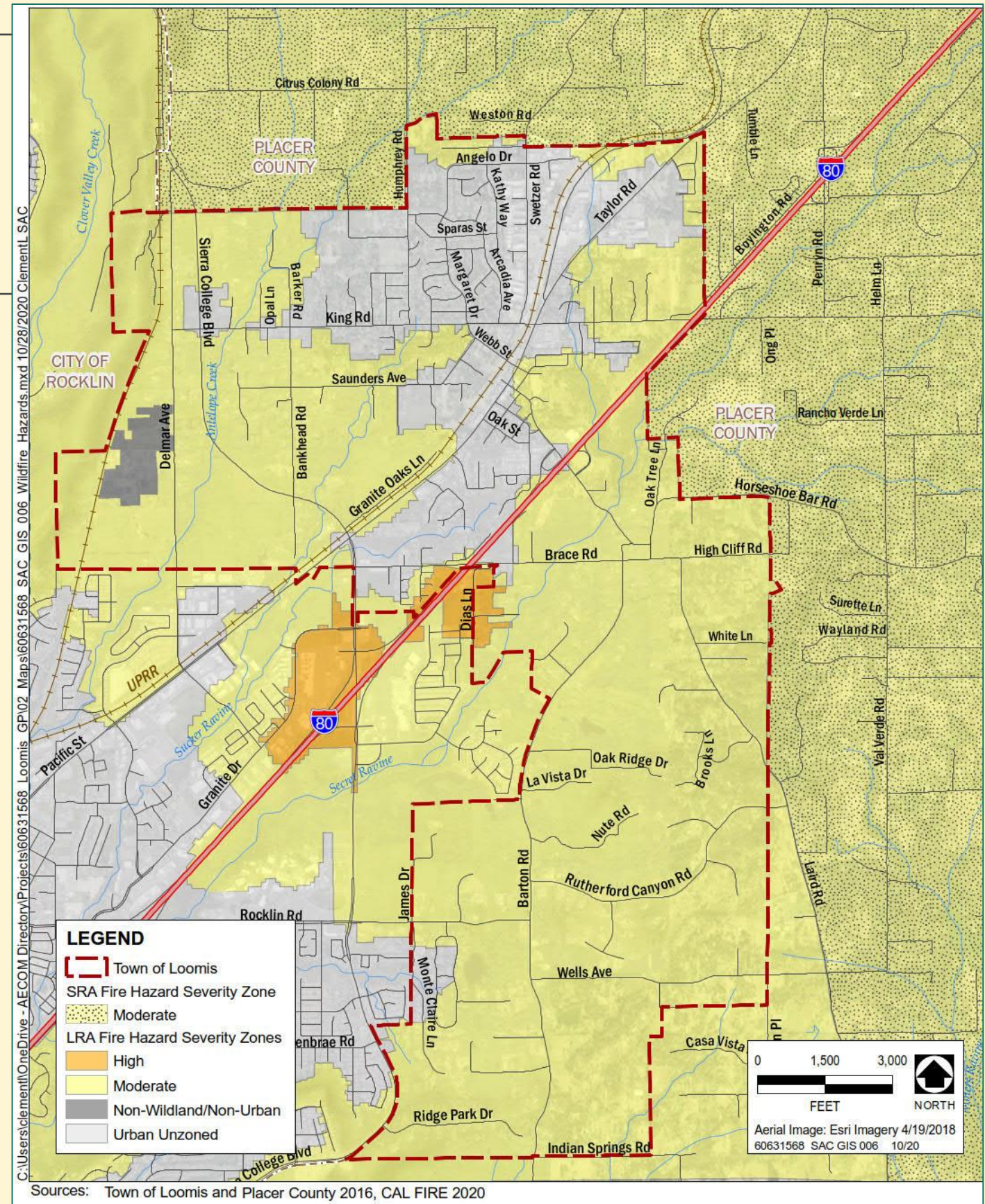
FLOOD RISK

- » FEMA 100-year and 500-year flood zones
- » Updated with the Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- » Adopted by FEMA in 2018



WILDLAND FIRE

- » NO Very High Wildfire Hazard Severity Zones
- » Small High Fire Hazard Severity Zones
- » Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zones in and Adjacent to the Town
- » Updated recently as a part of Placer County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan



CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITIES

Adaptation: adjustment that reduces harm or exploits benefits from climate change.

Resilience: the capacity to prepare for disruptions, to recover from shocks, and to adapt and grow from a disruptive experience.

Increased Frequency + Intensity of Drought

Increase Frequency + Intensity of Extreme Heat Events

Increased Wildfire

Increased Flooding Frequency + Intensity

Reduced Fog

Increased Transmission of Disease

Increased Pests + Diseases in Agriculture + Forestry

Increased Extreme Weather Events



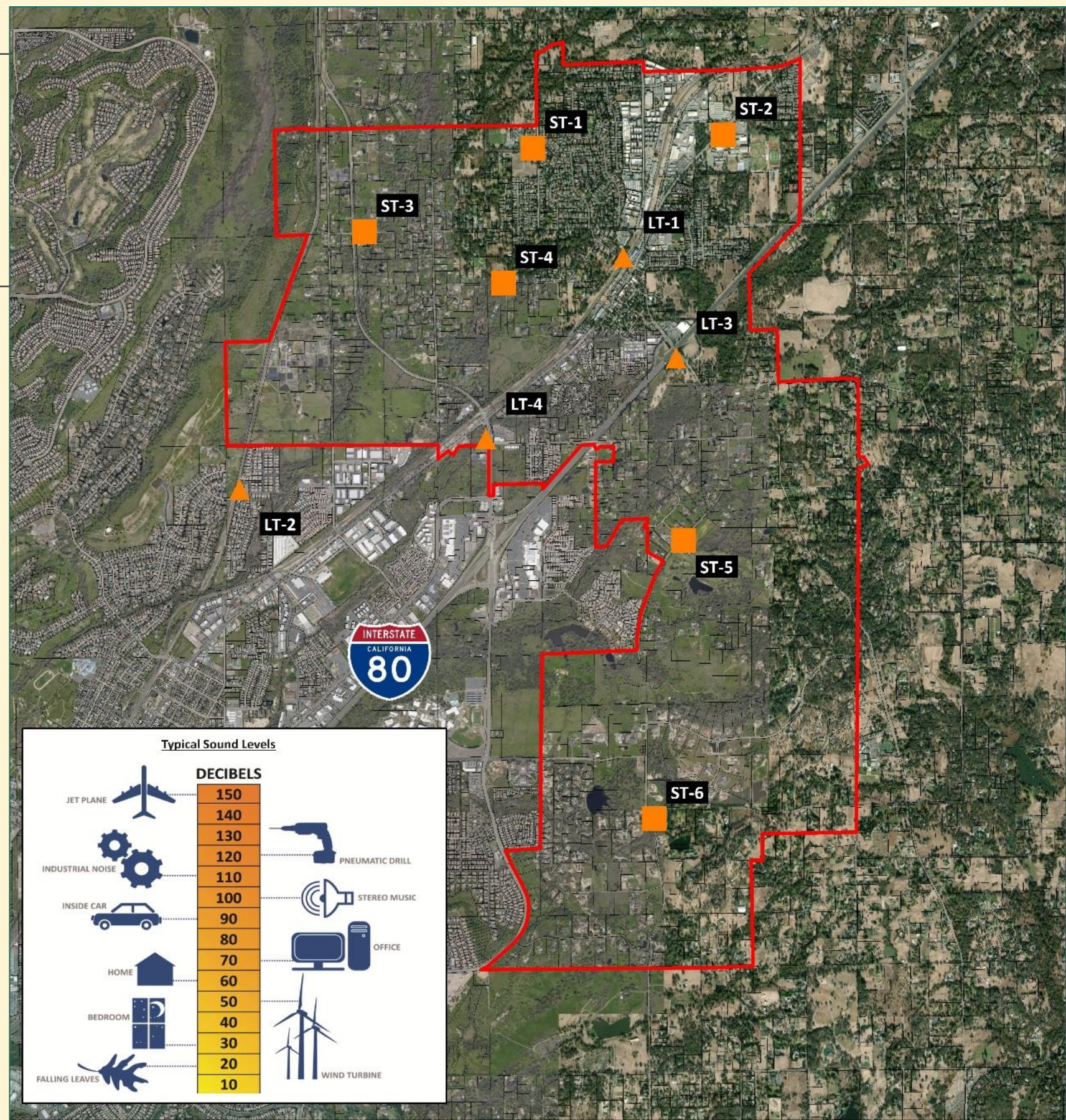
OTHER HAZARDS

- » **Seismic – no active faults nearby, low level of ground shaking**
- » **Liquefaction – generally low risk**
- » **Subsidence – no substantial issues**
- » **Lateral spreading where the groundwater table is high (adjacent to Antelope Creek, Secret Ravine, and Sucker Ravine)**
- » **Climate changes – drought, extreme heat, wildfire, flooding, fog, human health hazards**



NOISE INVENTORY

- » Short-term + long-term measurements
- » Representative locations
- » Key noise sources
- » “Calibrate” model
- » Assess future conditions



NOISE INVENTORY – 24-HOUR MEASUREMENTS

Table 6: Existing Continuous 24-Hour Ambient Noise Monitoring Results

Site	Location	L _{dn} (dBA)	Measured Hourly Noise Levels, dBA Low-High (Average)					
			Daytime (7:00 am – 10:00 pm)			Nighttime (10:00 pm – 7:00 am)		
			L _{eq}	L ₅₀	L _{max}	L _{eq}	L ₅₀	L _{max}
LT-1	UPRR at Webb St.	73	75	55	93	56	51	72
LT-2	UPRR at Gayaldo Park	66	58	43	70	60	43	73
LT-3	Interstate 80	75	71	69	85	68	61	84
LT-4	Sierra College Boulevard	64	62	58	80	56	48	74

Source: Saxcelby Acoustics, 2020.



NOISE INVENTORY – SHORT-TERM MEASUREMENTS

Table 5: Existing Short-Term Community Noise Monitoring Results

Site	Location	Time ¹	Measured Sound Level, dB			Notes
			L _{eq}	L ₅₀	L _{max}	
ST-1	H. Clarke Powers Elementary School	11:31 am	57	42	73	Primary noise source is Humphrey Ave.
ST-2	Del Oro High School	11:09 am	67	59	83	Primary noise source is traffic on Taylor Rd.
ST-3	Sierra College Blvd. and King Rd.	11:52 am	71	67	82	Primary noise source is Sierra College Blvd. Train horn audible in background.
ST-4	Saunders Rd.	12:10 pm	54	42	72	Background noise due to Sierra College Blvd./ Taylor Rd. Natural sounds such as birds and insects. L _{max} due to passing mail truck on Saunders Rd.
ST-5	Barton Rd. – Indian Creek Country Club	9:41 am	66	53	82	Primary noise source is traffic on Barton Rd. Secondary Noise sources include activity at the Indian Creek Driving Range, HVAC noise from the Secret Ravine Winery, and natural sounds such as bird and insect noise.
ST-6	Barton Rd. and Wells Ave.	9:19 am	70	65	83	Primary noise source is Barton Rd. Secondary noise source is Wells Ave.

¹ All community noise measurement sites have test durations of 10:00 minutes
Source: Saxelby Acoustics, 2020.



NOISE INVENTORY — RAILROAD NOISE

Table 4: Approximate Distance to Railroad Noise Contours

Train Source	Ldn, at 100 feet	Distance to Ldn contour (feet)		
		70	65	60
Union Pacific (freight) – with warning horns	71.2 dBA	120	259	558
Union Pacific (freight) – without warning horns	61.9 dBA	29	62	134

Assumes 7.5 freight trains daily evenly distributed between daytime and nighttime hours.



APPROACH



GENERAL PLAN UPDATE APPROACH

» **Review existing goals, policies, and implementation measures**

- Keep those that are relevant as written
- Modify those that need minor updates
- Delete those that are complete, not relevant, or non-compliant
- Move and reference those that belong in another Element to reduce duplication.

» **Reorganize the goals, policies, and implementation measures with a numbering system.**

- #Goal
 - #.#Objective
 - #.#.# Policy
 - #.#.#.#Implementation Measure
- Every goal will have at least one objective, policy, and implementation measure and every objective will have at least one policy and implementation measure.



POLICY REVIEW

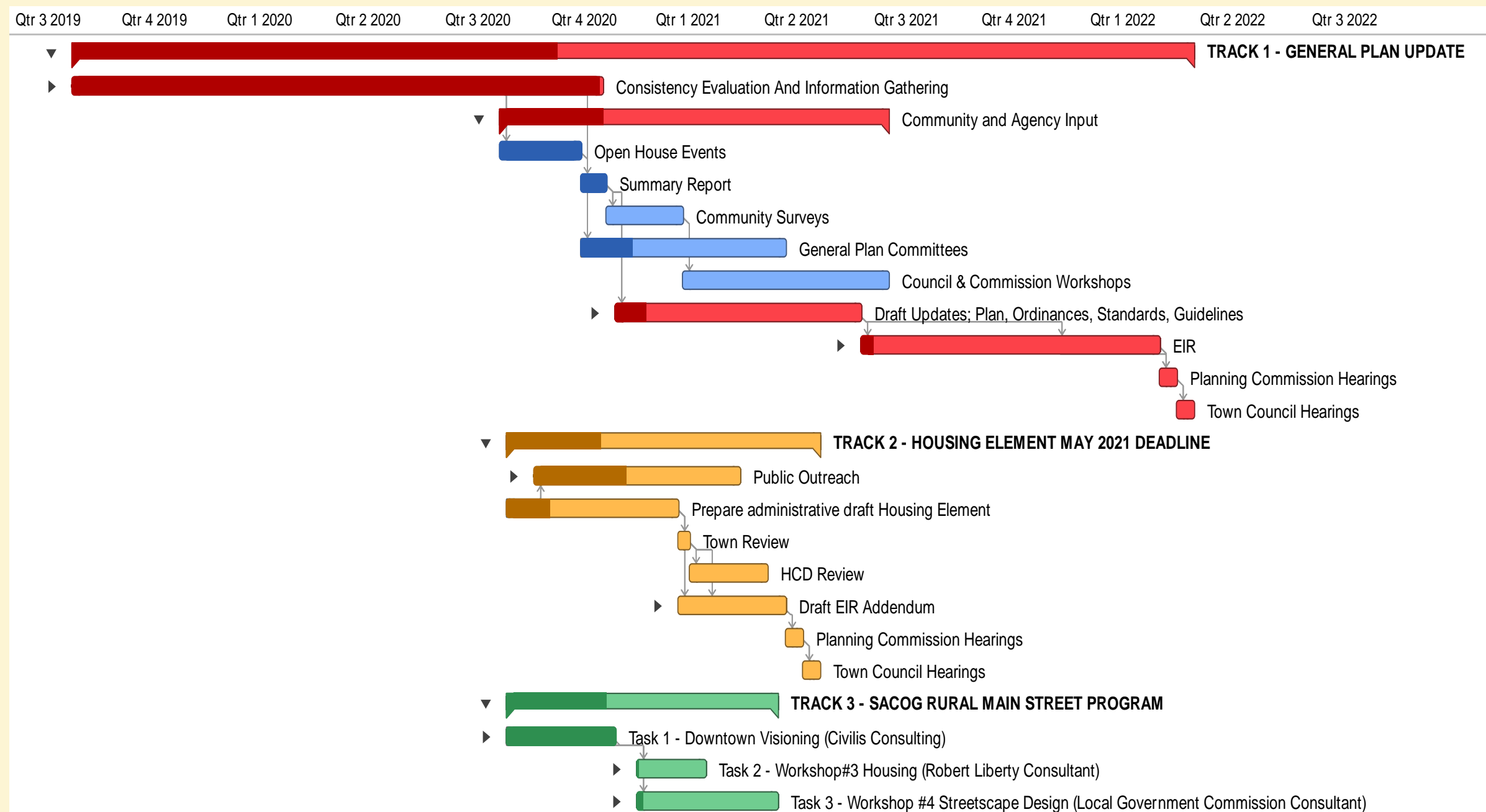
- » Has this policy/program been effective?
- » Should existing policies/programs be strengthened?
- » Is the language clear?
- » Are there issues not addressed that should be?
- » Is the content no longer relevant?
- » What policy updates are required as a result of recent State law?



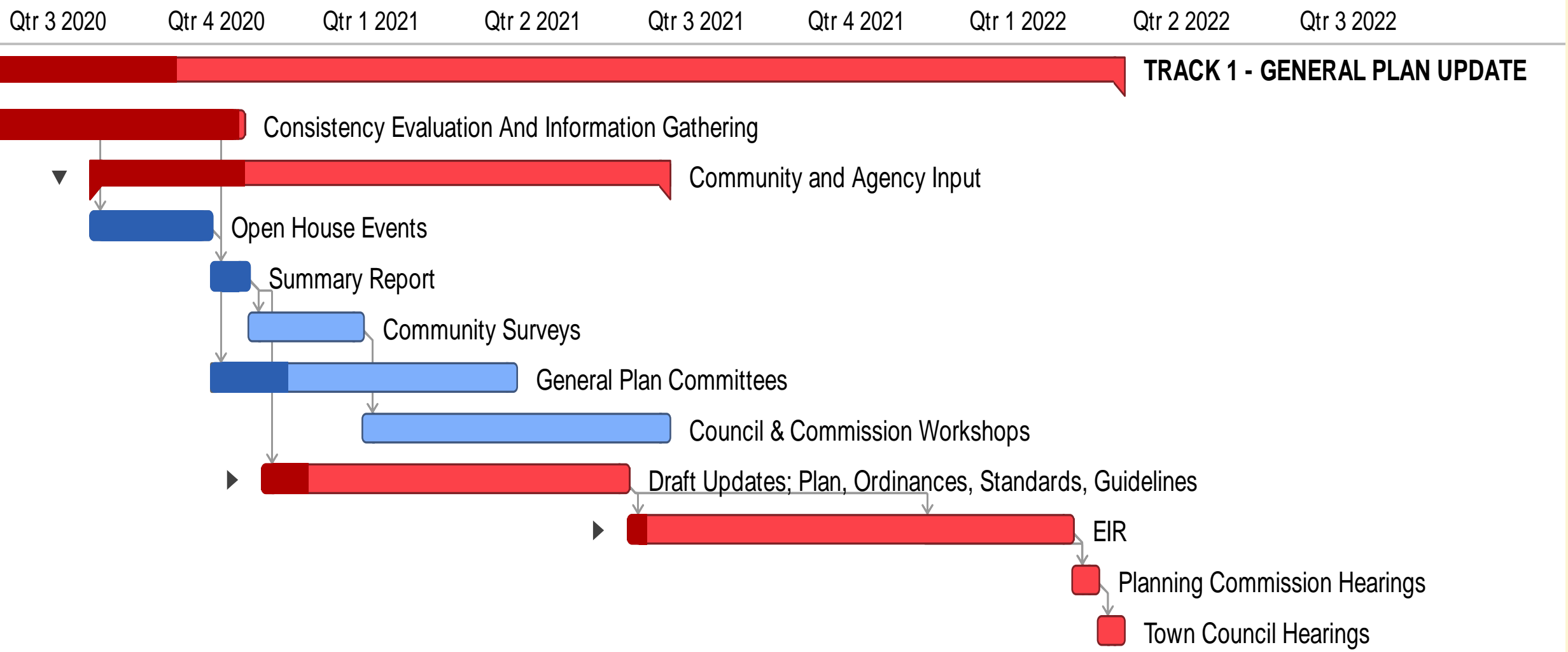
SCHEDULE



PROJECT SCHEDULE



PROJECT SCHEDULE



NEXT STEPS

» Review the Setting

- <https://loomis.ca.gov/2020-general-plan-update/>

» Review the existing Element

- Identify key issues and important trends
- Pose questions related to the existing General Plan content
- Suggest topics where revisions would be appropriate

» Identify key issues for Loomis for this General Plan Update

» Submit comments

- GPUpdate@loomis.ca.gov

» Next Public Health, Safety & Noise Committee Meeting:

- April 21st at 6 PM.



QUESTIONS?

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DISCUSSION



DISCUSSION



Any questions regarding required scope of the goals, policies, objectives, and feasible implementation measures ?

What are your biggest concerns related to public health and safety in Loomis?

What new and emerging hazard conditions do you consider most relevant?

As the climate changes, are you concerned that certain hazards will become more severe?

What should the Town do in the General Plan to help reduce fire risk?

