NOTICE OF PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING
FOR CONSIDERATION AND RECOMMENDATION
TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
DRAFT VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED
IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that consistent with Senate Bill (SB) 743, the City of Petaluma proposes to establish vehicle miles traveled (VMT) as the metric to be used for transportation analyses subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), adopt a VMT significance threshold, and adopt local VMT Implementation Guidelines to guide transportation analyses subject to CEQA. The Draft SB 743 VMT Implementation Guidelines and Attachments thereto are available for review in electronic format only due to the closure of City Hall consistent with Executive Order No. N-29-20 from the Executive Department of the State of California and the Sonoma County Health Official Orders No. C19-03 and C19-05. An electronic copy of the document may be viewed on-line at https://cityofpetaluma.org/vmt/.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Petaluma is implementing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) as the CEQA transportation analysis metric, as required by SB 743, and has prepared draft VMT Implementation Guidelines to establish VMT metrics, methodology, thresholds, screening criteria, and mitigation options. These Guidelines are the culmination of Petaluma’s VMT Technical Advisory Committee that has worked with Fehr & Peers, the City’s traffic consultant in developing local guidelines for Petaluma.

LOCATION: Citywide, Petaluma, Sonoma County, California

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: As an activity undertaken to achieve conformity with State law and since the City underwent a public process to develop VMT thresholds of significance (15064.7(b)), metrics and methodology, screening, and mitigation options, the Draft VMT Implementation Guidelines is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), since it does not meet the definition of a project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(a)), and does not constitute an activity because there are no direct or indirect physical impacts on the environment (CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2)).

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DATE/TIME: Tuesday, May 25, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION: Consistent with Executive Order No. N-29-20 from the Executive Department of the State of California and the Sonoma County Health Official Orders No. C19-03 and C19-05, the Planning Commission meeting will not be physically open to the public and all Planning Commissioners will be teleconferencing into the meeting via Zoom.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: The Planning Commission will receive a staff report, consider all public testimony, provide input on the Draft VMT Implementation Guidelines, and decide whether to adopt a resolution recommending that City Council adopt the VMT Implementation Guidelines.

HOW TO OBSERVE AND PARTICIPATE: Members of the public may participate and provide public comments to teleconference meetings as follows:

- Written public comments may be submitted by email to oervin@cityofpetaluma.org up to 2 hours prior to the meeting start (May 25, 2021 at 5:00 pm). These public comments will be provided to Planning Commissioners and uploaded onto the City’s website in advance of the meeting.
- Spoken public comments will be accepted through the teleconference meeting only. To address the Planning Commission during the live meeting, please find the meeting-specific link to the Zoom meeting included on the agenda for the May 25, 2021 Planning Commission meeting that will be posted on the City’s website.
- All Planning Commission meetings are televised via Petaluma Community Access broadcasts on Comcast and Petaluma’s local channels 26, 27, and 28. With AT&T U-Verse, PCA’s channels are accessible through channel 099. Local channels are not currently available on Satellite/DISH Networks.
FOR MORE INFORMATION: You may contact Olivia Ervin, Principal Environmental Planner at (707) 778-4556 or oervin@cityofpetaluma.org regarding additional information. Consistent with the State Executive Office’s and Sonoma County’s Shelter-In-Place Orders, Petaluma City Hall is closed to the public. Staff will make every effort to provide digital copies of information about this project in response to individual requests to the phone number or e-mail provided above. Relevant information may also be viewed at https://cityofpetaluma.org/vmt/.

Efforts will be made to accommodate persons with disabilities. The City Manager’s office must be notified at (707) 778-4345 within 5 days from date of publication of this notice if you need special accommodations.  

For accessible meeting information:  
Please call (707) 778-4360 or  
TDD (707) 778-4480

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you require special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at (707) 778-4360 (voice) or (707) 778-4480 (TDD). Translators, American Sign Language interpreters, and/or assistive listening devices for individuals with hearing disabilities will be available upon request. A minimum of 48 hours is needed to ensure the availability of translation services. In consideration of those with chemical sensitivities or other environmental illness, it is requested that you refrain from wearing scented products.