



**MENDOCINO  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
367 North State Street~Suite 206~Ukiah~California~95482

PHILLIP J. DOW, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Telephone 707-463-1859  
Fax 707-463-2212  
www.mendocinocog.org  
mcog@mendocinocog.org

March 5, 2012  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
End Date: March 11, 2012

**To: Mendocino County News Media**

**Contact:** Phil Dow, Executive Director, Mendocino Council of Governments, 463-1859

### **Community Meeting to Receive Public Input on the Proposed Refinement to Gualala Downtown Design Plan**

A public meeting has been set to receive public input on a proposed refinement to the Streetscape Plan component of the Gualala Downtown Design Plan. It will be held at the Gualala Community Center, 47950 Center Street, Gualala, on Saturday, March 10 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

A modified Streetscape plan has been proposed in order to proceed with project implementation without adversely affecting local business. A committee led by local businessman Robert Juengling has been meeting since June 2011 to study obstacles to implementation and develop a viable alternative. Committee participants have included downtown business and property owners, Fifth District Supervisor Dan Hamburg, Mendocino Council of Governments Director Phil Dow, and Mendocino County Department of Planning and Building Services Interim Director Roger Mobley.

Keith Gurnee, of RRM Design Group, will lead the meeting, assisted by Robert Juengling and Phil Dow. Under contract with Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG), Mr. Gurnee developed the existing Downtown Design Plan after extensive public outreach and citizen participation. It was accepted by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors in 2009.

After introductions, Mr. Gurnee will explain the proposed changes and the impacts of these changes. The most significant proposed changes are: (1) a reduction in minimum street cross section from 64 feet to 60 feet, (2) elimination of a continuous planting strip between the pedestrian walkway and the travel lanes, (3) identification of an alternative to bike lanes on

both sides of the highway, and (4) a plan for phased construction that would allow continued on-street parking adjacent to parcels where parking is in deficit. Displays that depict the proposed refinement will be available for public review. A Question and Answer period will follow Mr. Gurnee's presentation. Comment cards will be provided to ensure that all comments will be considered.

MCOG expects to have the refined plan completed by June. RRM Design Group and their sub-consultant W-Trans are also under contract to produce a Project Study Report for this project. The Project Study Report will provide information regarding project scope, schedule, and cost that is necessary to seek funding for implementation of the Streetscape Plan. MCOG hopes to have the project ready for grant funding in 2014 in order to begin the environmental review phase in 2017.

Those unable to attend the meeting will be able to review the displays and a summary of the proposed changes to be posted on March 9, 2012 on the Mendocino Council of Governments website: [www.mendocinocog.org](http://www.mendocinocog.org). Comments on the plan refinements should be directed to Phil Dow at [dowp@dow-associates.com](mailto:dowp@dow-associates.com) by March 23, 2012.

\* \* \* \* \*