

PUBLIC NOTICE

***Unified Program:
Application for Recertification of the Marin County as a Certified
Unified Program Agency***

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) Unified Program, on behalf of the Secretary for Environmental Protection (Secretary), is holding a public hearing regarding the application for recertification of Marin County (County) as a Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA).

BACKGROUND

The County submitted an application for certification dated April 15, 1996, to CalEPA to become a CUPA. Effective March 1, 1997, CalEPA certified the County as the CUPA with Marin County Department of Public Works (MCPW) as the implementing agency.

As a result of the City of San Rafael CUPA's request to CalEPA to withdraw its certification in 2005, the County was designated as the CUPA for the geographical area of the City of San Rafael, which became effective on March 17, 2006.

On April 21, 2026, the County notified CalEPA of its request and on June 29, 2026, the County submitted an application for recertification to transfer implementation of the Unified Program from MCPW to the Marin County Fire Department (MCFD) (Application for Recertification). The stated reason for the change is "to align CUPA administration with Marin County Fire Department functions related to fire prevention, hazardous materials regulation, and hazardous materials emergency response. The transition does not create a new CUPA jurisdiction, transfer any program element to another agency, or remove any existing CUPA responsibility." "This transition is administrative in nature and is intended to improve organizational alignment within the County's public safety and regulatory framework."

If approved by CalEPA, the administrative and operational changes resulting from the transfer of responsibilities would include:

- Staff would report within the Fire Department structure,
- A change to the County's letterhead, logos, administrative references, templates, and public communications.
- Integration of billing and budgeting practices.
- Review and amendment of local ordinances, as needed.
- Review and amendment of the Inspection and Enforcement Plan, that is required by California Code of Regulations, title 27, section 15200, and other administrative documents.

The County Board of Supervisors approved the transfer of responsibilities from MCPW to MCFD on November 18, 2025. The County Board of Supervisors' action, authorizes MCFD to assume all Unified Program responsibilities. The proposed date of transfer of responsibilities is July 1, 2026. As part of the County Board of Supervisors' approval, the CUPA staff transferred to MCFD in its entirety, effective July 1, 2026.

As part of its review of the Application for Recertification, CalEPA Unified Program, on behalf of the Secretary, will hold a public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING AND WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

The Application for Recertification of Marin County CUPA public hearing will be held virtually, and recorded, via Zoom on:

Thursday, July 30, 2026, at 11:00 AM, using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83643402894?pwd=Gk5AbGhN2P2qVXByVhbqjP72jMvWKT.1>

Any person may present comments relevant to the Application for Recertification.

- To speak at the virtual public hearing, register prior to the hearing by sending an email to CUPA@calepa.ca.gov using the subject line "Marin County CUPA Public Hearing" indicating they wish to speak during the hearing, including first and last name. Registered people will be heard in the order of registration. People who did not register will be given an opportunity to speak once all registered people have been heard. Oral comments and statements will be limited to 3 minutes per person.
- Written comments must be received by CalEPA no later than 5:00 pm on Thursday July 30, 2026. Written comments must be submitted

by e-mail to CUPA@calepa.ca.gov. Please use the subject line "Marin County Application for Recertification."

To request additional special accommodations, please contact Jennifer Rohde, Executive Assistant, Unified Program, CalEPA, at (916) 322-2155 or by email at Jennifer.Rohde@calepa.ca.gov before the hearing.

The CalEPA Unified Program, on behalf of the Secretary, shall consider oral and written comments received as part of the public hearing and public comment period in the determination of whether to approve or disapprove the Application for Recertification. The final decision to Approve or Disapprove the Application for Recertification shall be issued in writing to the County.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS

Procedural inquiries, requests for documents related to the proposed recertification including the Application for Recertification, and requests for more information may be directed to the CalEPA Unified Program:

Steven Gailey
Senior Environmental Scientist
(916) 318-8157
Steven.Gailey@calepa.ca.gov