

5.14 Population and Housing

5.14.1 Environmental Setting

Population

Population data is limited for the unincorporated area of Shasta County where the proposed project would be located; however, an estimate of population change within unincorporated Shasta County, which includes the unincorporated communities of Happy Valley, Olinda, and Igo, and the surrounding area, is available for 2010 to 2017 by forecast. Additional data for the county and its unincorporated areas was obtained using population estimates for cities, counties, and state from the California Department of Finance and by subtracting the population within incorporated cities from the county total; the difference was estimated to be the population of unincorporated areas by year.

The California Department of Finance data also shows the annual percentage change for population minus exclusions (exclusions include residents on federal military installations and group quarters residents in state mental institutions, state and federal correctional institutions, and veteran homes) in unincorporated areas in Shasta County decreased approximately (0.1) percent from 2015 to 2016 (CDF 2017). Table 5.14-1 shows population patterns for the city of Anderson, city of Redding, city of Shasta Lake, Shasta County unincorporated areas, and Shasta County as a whole from 2013 to 2016.

Table 5.14-1 Population Trends in Shasta County (Estimate 2013-2016)

Year	Population	Change in Population from 2013	Percent Change from 2013 (rounded to nearest 0.5%)
City of Anderson			
2013	10,359	0	-
2014	10,442	83	1%
2015	10,494	135	1.5%
2016	10,423	64	0.5%
City of Redding			
2013	90,192	0	-
2014	90,461	269	0.5%
2015	90,678	486	0.5%
2016	90,341	149	0%
City of Shasta Lake			
2013	10,355	0	-
2014	10,390	55	0.5%
2015	10,434	79	1%
2016	10,356	1	0%
Shasta County, Unincorporated Areas			
2013	67,755	0	-
2014	67,774	19	0%
2015	67,706	-49	0%
2016	67,112	-643	-1%
Shasta County			
2013	178,661	0	-
2014	179,067	406	0%
2015	179,312	651	0.5%
2016	178,232	-429	0%

Source: CDF 2017.

1 The California Department of Finance provides a trend line showing population change from a historical
2 context year for years 2010 to 2016. The total population of unincorporated Shasta County decreased by
3 154 to 67,112 from 2010 to 2016, as shown below in Figure 5.14-1.
4

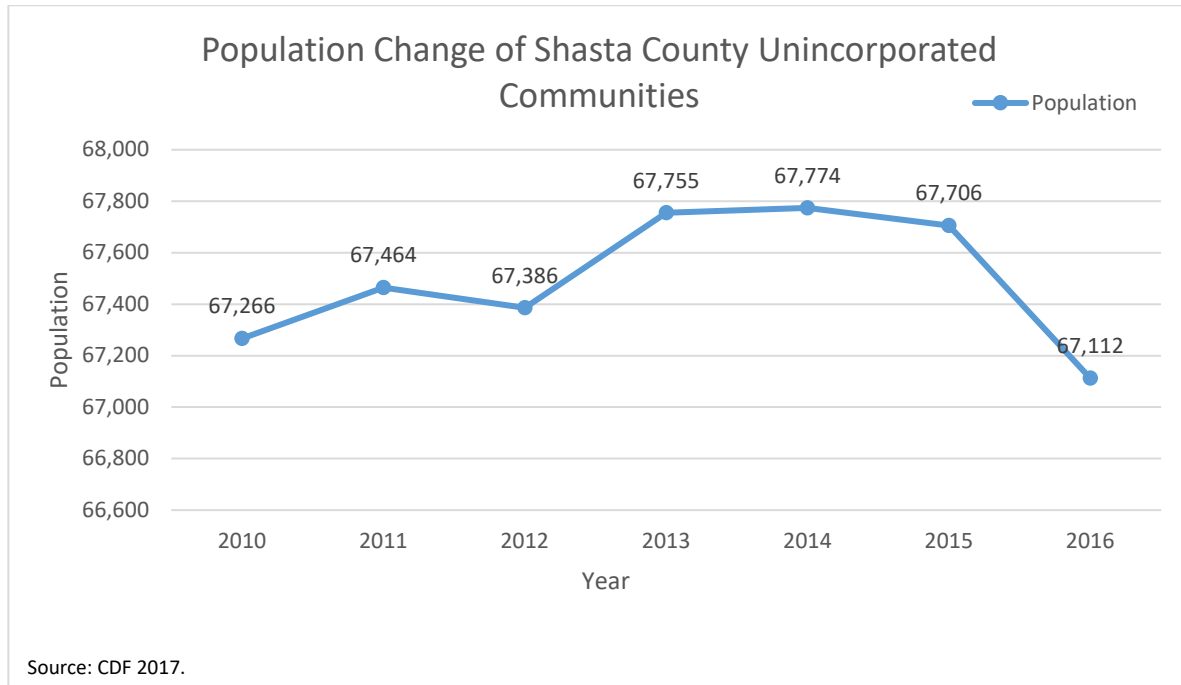


Figure 5.14-1 Population Change of Shasta County Unincorporated Communities.

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6 **Housing**

7 A housing unit is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as a house, apartment, mobile home, group of
8 rooms, or single room that is occupied (or if vacant, is intended for occupancy) as separate living quarters.
9 Separate living quarters are those in which occupants live and eat separately from any other person in the
10 building and that have direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall. The
11 occupants may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any
12 other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements (U.S. Census Bureau 2017).
13

14 The Housing Element of the Shasta County General Plan addresses the housing needs of residents within
15 the unincorporated areas of the county, including Happy Valley, Igo, and the Olinda unincorporated
16 communities. According to the Shasta County General Plan Housing Element, in 2000, there were
17 approximately 24,560 households within the unincorporated portion of Shasta County, which represented
18 approximately 39 percent of all households in the county (Shasta County 2004). Furthermore, despite an
19 increased number of households between 1990 and 2000, the average household size in the county
20 declined slightly during this period. Thus, overall household growth has been slightly outpacing
21 population growth.
22

23 **Future Housing Needs**

24 The State Department of Housing Community Development (HCD) determines housing construction
25 needs for the state based on projected growth in population, employment, and households. Regional
26 Councils of Government allocate housing needs among cities through the Regional Housing Needs
27 Allocation (RHNA), a state-mandated process devised to distribute planning responsibility for housing
28 need throughout the State of California. The regional housing needs by income category for the

1 unincorporated portion of Shasta County, as shown by Table 5.14-2, is allocated by the HCD and
2 currently covers a time period from 2014-2019.

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4
5 **Table 5.14-2 Unincorporated Shasta County**
6 **Housing Allocation by Income**
7 **Category (2014–2019)**

Income Group	Housing Shares (units)
Very-Low	189
Low	117
Moderate	128
Above-Moderate	321
Total	755

8 Source: SCPD 2012.

9
10 Shasta County Housing Community Development adopted its final RHNA plan in June 2012 for the
11 planning period of January 2014 through June 2019. Housing allocation needs for the unincorporated
12 communities are not subdivided from this. Based on the Shasta County Local Governments’ 2012
13 Regional Housing Needs, the unincorporated areas of the county have been allocated a total of 755 units.
14 The unincorporated area’s allocation of very low income units (25.0 percent) is nearly the same as the
15 county average (24 percent), and the allocation of above-moderate income units (43 percent) is similar to
16 the county average (43 percent). (SCPD 2012)

17 **5.14.2 Regulatory Setting**

18 **Federal**

19 There are no federal regulations applicable to the proposed project with respect to population and
20 housing.

21 **State**

22 There are no state regulations applicable to the proposed project with respect to population and housing.

23 **Local**

24 **Shasta County General Plan.** The Housing Element of the Shasta County General Plan provides policy
25 direction for overall housing for the county. The purpose of Shasta County’s General Plan Housing
26 Element includes addressing the housing needs of residents within unincorporated areas of the county.
27 Since the proposed network infrastructure would be installed in utility easement within public right-of-
28 way, the proposed project would not directly affect existing residential use and land zoned to
29 accommodate such uses. Therefore, no conflicts with estimated population and housing policies are
30 anticipated.

31 **5.14.3 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation**

32
33 The impact analysis below identifies and describes the proposed project’s potential impacts on population
34 and housing within the proposed project area. Potential impacts were evaluated according to significance
35 criteria based on the checklist items presented in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and listed at the
36 start of each impact analysis section below. Both the construction and maintenance/operations phases
37 were considered; however, because the construction phase could result in physical changes to the
38 environment, analysis of construction phase effects warranted a detailed evaluation.

1 **Applicant Proposed Measures**

2 The applicant has not incorporated APMs to specifically minimize or avoid impacts on population and
3 housing. A list of all project APMs is included in Table 4-2 in Chapter 4.

4
5 **Significance Criteria**

6 Table 5.14-3 describes the significance criteria from Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines’ population
7 and housing section, which the California Public Utilities Commission used to evaluate the environmental
8 impacts of the proposed project.
9

Table 5.14-3 Population and Housing Checklist

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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a. Would the project induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

The proposed project would involve installation of telecommunications infrastructure—including over 80,000 feet of fiber optic cable and seven equipment cabinets—to provide high-speed internet service to the communities of Igo, Olinda, and Ono in Shasta County. The proposed project components do not include construction of residential, commercial, or other land uses that would directly increase population. Construction is anticipated to last 60 to 120 days, and work would occur in phases, with some overlap in work activity. For any given portion of the proposed alignment, directional boring would occur prior to that portion being plowed or trenched. A splice crew would follow and connect portions of fiber-optic line together. Following construction of a portion of the alignment, a crew would perform site clean-up and surface restoration. Thus, construction crews are expected to be composed of a maximum of 22 people on site at any given time. Due to the short duration of construction and the number of workers, it is expected that construction jobs would be filled primarily by local or regional residents. For these reasons, construction of the proposed project would not induce substantial population growth in the area. Once in operation, maintenance activities associated with the proposed project would occur only occasionally and require few personnel, such as TDS technicians at the DLC sites to check on equipment and connect or disconnect customers. As described in Chapter 4.0, Project Description, the project’s objective is to make affordable broadband Internet services available to currently underserved areas within the proposed project area. While the proposed project is meant to serve existing residents, an extension of infrastructure could indirectly accommodate future growth by providing new telecom infrastructure to an area that previously did not have access. Therefore, the proposed project would be less than significant under this criterion.

Significance: Less than significant.

1 **b. *Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the***
2 ***construction of replacement housing elsewhere?***
3

4 Installations associated with the proposed project would occur along Shasta County roads and some
5 private roadways and would not displace any people or existing housing. Accordingly, the
6 implementation of the project would not require the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.
7 Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact under this criterion.
8

9 **Significance: No impact.**

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11 **Mitigation Measures**

12 Because all population and housing impacts related to the proposed project would be nonexistent, no
13 mitigation measures are required.
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