



Date: August 26, 2016

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager 

From: Amy J. Bodek, Director of Development Services

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council



Subject: **Update of the General Plan Land Use Element**

In November 2015, the City Council was provided with an update memo addressing Climate Change, including the update of the General Plan Land Use Element (Land Use Element) and the creation of a climate action plan. These efforts have continued, and the update of the Land Use Element is nearing completion. This memo outlines the outreach efforts for bringing the General Plan process to completion and provides an update on the climate action front and a preview of those efforts to come.

The update of the Land Use Element dates back to 2006 with a City effort, known at the time, as Long Beach 2030, which was interrupted by the Great Recession, but not before staff completed extensive outreach including focus groups, large and small group meetings, surveys and extensive background research. Efforts to complete the plan resumed in earnest in 2014, and a draft plan has been released to the public. The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be released in early September for a 60-day review period, and the plan will be reviewed by the Planning Commission on December 1, 2016. It is expected that the City Council will be asked to act on the plan and the EIR during the first quarter of calendar year 2017.

Due to the gap in time between the initiation of this plan update and today, Development Services staff will be holding both small group meetings and a Citywide workshop to facilitate public input on the plan. While many meetings have already occurred, upcoming meetings include:

September 7	Coalition of Business Associations
September TBD	Wilmore City Heritage Association
September TBD	California State University Long Beach Students
September 7	Long Beach Rotary
September TBD	Long Beach Chamber of Commerce
October TBD	Cal-Heights Neighborhood Association
October 1	Belmont Heights, Rose Park, Rose Park South and Hellman Historic Districts

In addition to these small group meetings (where staff gives a presentation at a regularly scheduled gathering) staff will be conducting a broadly-noticed, Citywide, open-house style workshop in late October at a date and time to be determined.

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Completion of the update of the Land Use Element is a precursor to preparing a detailed climate change and adaptation planning document. The Department is currently reviewing responses to an RFP for a new Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, and expects to bring that contract to City Council for award and funding prior to the end of the calendar year. Work will begin on the Climate Action Plan upon the City Council's approval of the Land Use Element.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Christopher Koontz at (562) 570-6288.

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