



Date: June 12, 2019

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager *T.H.W.*

From: Linda F. Tatum, Director of Development Services *LT*

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Land Use Element (LUE) PEIR Recirculation for Public Review**

On March 6, 2018, the City Council adopted a final set of land use and height maps for the General Plan Land Use Element (LUE) update, which was ten years in the making. Since that time, staff has been working to update the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the LUE and its companion Urban Design Element (UDE), pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA requires recirculation of an EIR when significant new information is added after public notice is given of the availability of the Draft EIR, but before the certification of the EIR. In this instance, recirculation is required due to the substantial changes made to the LUE maps after the first PEIR was circulated for public review in 2016.

Updating the PEIR has involved revising the project description to reflect the City Council changes to the LUE text and maps and working with technical experts in transportation modeling, population forecasting, greenhouse gas emissions, and more to update the analyses of the proposed LUE, for the purposes of CEQA review and disclosure. This included remodeling existing and future conditions for 88 intersections throughout Long Beach, updating forecast models related to air quality, and conferring with other agencies, such as the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), to gain consensus on these methodologies.

The revised PEIR, including the draft LUE and UDE, which are the basis for the PEIR, will be distributed for public review and comment starting in mid-June. All prior commenters will be notified of its availability. These documents will be available online, and hard copies will be available at all local libraries, and at the Planning Bureau Office. The PEIR will be available for public review and comment for 60 days, longer than the mandatory 45-day review required by CEQA. Once the comment period has closed, each comment received from the public or other agencies will be reviewed and responded to in writing, pursuant to CEQA. Subsequent to this process, staff will bring the matter back to the Planning Commission for recommendation and then to the City Council for certification of the revised Final Environmental Impact Report (which includes all public comments and responses to those comments). Depending on the number of comments received, it is anticipated this action will come before the City Council in October 2019.

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If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Patricia Diefenderfer, Advance Planning Officer, at (562) 570-6261 or patricia.diefenderfer@longbeach.gov.

LFT: CK: PAD: AS
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